

MEDFORD AREA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

DATE ADOPTED: November 19, 2015 FILE SECTOR: SUPPORT SERVICES
DATE REVISED: October 30, 2023 POLICY TITLE: UNMANNED AERIAL
VEHICLES ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

The policy for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) or drones focuses on public safety and the facilitation of event planning and administration. The use of drones/UAVs for any purpose may be permitted at outdoor events only, provided the following conditions and requirements are satisfied:

- A. Drone operation at events requires Certificate of Authorization (COA)—or the necessary 333 Exemption—as issued by the Federal Aviation Association (FAA) when required by law, advanced written consent (at least 24 hours) from the WIAA executive office, as well as approval of host facility event management.
- B. A signed agreement holding the ownership and operators of event facilities and the District harmless from any claims of harm to individuals or damage to property. In addition, UAV operators must provide event management proof of insurance with liability limits of not less than \$1 million that identifies the WIAA and its member school as additionally insured.
- C. UAV controllers must maintain line of sight at all times during operation and are prohibited from flying UAVs over playing surfaces, seating and spectator areas where and when people are present, as well as event parking areas where and when people and vehicles are present.
- D. UAV controllers and their employers are responsible for ensuring operators are trained in the use of the drone that they operate. UAV operators must be aware of the risks that include, but not limited to, personal injury and property damage caused by the UAV as a result of weather, operator error or judgement, and failure of device systems and equipment.
- E. When recording or transmitting visual images, UAV controllers must avoid areas reasonably considered private in accordance with social norms. These areas include, but are not limited to, restrooms, locker rooms, individual residences and health treatment rooms. In Wisconsin, it is a misdemeanor to use a drone to “photograph, record, or otherwise observe another individual in a place where the individual has a reasonable expectation of privacy.” (Wis. Stat. §942.10).

Medford Area Public School District shall refuse admission to any individual or group attempting or intending to use a UAV without authorization. Event host managers are authorized to suspend play, if necessary, to remove and confiscate any authorized or unauthorized use of a UAV in prohibited areas during events. Failure to follow this policy may result in District sanctions, as well as local, state and federal penalties if applicable. This policy will be updated as deemed necessary to reflect changes in administrative policies, as well as federal, state and local regulations.

Drone Requirement Checklist at Events:

- ☐ FAA approval with Certificate of Authorization or necessary 333 Exemption
- ☐ District Staff approval
- ☐ Venue host administration approval
- ☐ Proof of insurance as required by this policy
- ☐ Statement that the operators are trained in the use of the UAV

CROSS REFERENCE: District Safety Response Plan, EBC, KG

LEGAL REFERENCE: Wis. Stat. §114.04, §175.55, §175.55(1)(a), §175.55(2) §942.10,