



Colegio Internacional Puerto La Cruz
Board of Directors
Policy Manual



Table Of Contents

1.000 **School**

- 1.100 Our Mission
- 1.101 Our Vision
- 1.102 Our School
- 1.104 Expected School-wide Learning Results
- 1.105 American School Character And Ambiance
- 1.106 Moral And Ethical Standards
- 1.107 Education Of The Whole Person
- 1.108 Interaction With The Community
- 1.200 Administrative Organization
- 1.201 Grade Structure
- 1.202 School Year
- 1.203 Extended School Year
- 1.204 School Day
- 1.205 Emergency Closings/Make-Up Of Closing Days
- 1.300 Tax Status

2.000 **Governance**

- 2.101 Power Delegated To The Board
- 2.102 Board Of Directors Powers And Duties
- 2.103 Board Members/Officers
- 2.104 Board Committees
- 2.105 Advisory Council
- 2.106 Regular Board Meetings
- 2.107 Executive Sessions
- 2.108 Special Board Meetings
- 2.109 Organizational Meetings
- 2.110 Board Member Orientation
- 2.111 Election Of Board Members
- 2.112 Board Resignation
- 2.113 Vacancies On The Board
- 2.114 Board Member Removal From Office
- 2.115 Board Member Ethics
- 2.116 Board Member Conflict Of Interest
- 2.117 Board Member Compensation And Expenses
- 2.118 Individual Board Member's Authority
- 2.119 Notification of Board Meetings
- 2.120 Board Agenda
- 2.121 Agenda Preparation, Format, And Dissemination
- 2.122 Minutes
- 2.123 Voting Method

- 2.124 Release Of Meeting Information
- 2.125 Public Attendance At Board Meetings
- 2.126 Rules Of Order
- 2.127 Quorum
- 2.128 Board Policy Development
- 2.129 Preliminary Development Of Draft Policies
- 2.130 Temporary Exceptions To Policy
- 2.131 Policy Review And Evaluation
- 2.132 Policy And Dissemination
- 2.133 Administration In Policy Absence
- 2.134 Policy Codification System
- 2.200 Board-Superintendent Relationship
- 2.201 Board Review Of Administrative Procedures
- 2.300 Board's Legal Counsel

3.000 Superintendent

- 3.100 School Superintendent's Powers And Responsibilities
- 3.101 Superintendent's Selection And Appointment
- 3.102 Evaluation Of The Superintendent
- 3.103 Responsibility When The Superintendent Is Off Campus

4.000 Fiscal Policies

- 4.100 Accounting System
- 4.101 Fiscal Year
- 4.102 Authorized Signatures
- 4.103 Depository Of Funds
- 4.104 Budget Preparation And Schedules
- 4.105 Periodic Budget Review
- 4.106 Purchasing Authority
- 4.107 Purchasing Procedures
- 4.108 Bids And Quotations
- 4.109 Vendor Relations And Sales Calls
- 4.110 Disbursement Of Funds, Approval Of Payroll And Bills
- 4.111 Line Item Transfer Authority
- 4.112 Payroll Procedures
- 4.113 Expense Reimbursements
- 4.114 Funding Sources
- 4.115 Payment Of Tuition And Fees
- 4.116 Non-Payment Of Tuition And Fees
- 4.117 Refund Of Tuition And Fees
- 4.118 Book Fees And Rental Fees
- 4.119 Miscellaneous Fees
- 4.120 Dependent Tuition for Teachers
- 4.121 Insurance Management

- 4.122 Insurance Coverage
- 4.123 Income From Sources Other Than Tuition Aid And Grants
- 4.124 Gifts And Requests
- 4.125 Audits
- 4.126 Inventories
- 4.127 School Property Disposal Policy and Procedures
- 4.128 Cash In School Buildings
- 4.129 Financial Reserves
- 4.130 Criteria For Payment of Corporate and Non-corporate Tuition Fees

5.000 Professional Staff

- 5.100 Staffing Philosophy And Goals
- 5.101 Professional Staff Recruitment And Selection
- 5.102 Professional Staff Positions And Qualifications
- 5.103 Professional Staff Assignments
- 5.104 Staff Ethics
- 5.105 Personnel Records
- 5.106 Facilities For Professional Staff
- 5.107 Staff Housing
- 5.108 Professional Staff Time Schedule
- 5.109 Professional Staff Meetings
- 5.110 Professional Staff Vacations And Holidays
- 5.111 Professional Staff Sick Leave
- 5.112 Professional Staff Personal Leave
- 5.113 Professional Staff Maternity Leave
- 5.114 Professional Staff Bereavement Leave
- 5.200 Professional Staff Termination
- 5.201 Grievance Policy
- 5.300 Professional Staff Duty Assignment
- 5.301 Development Of Staff
- 5.302 Employee Conflict Of Interest
- 5.303 Tutoring For Pay
- 5.304 Local Hire Pay Status
- 5.305 Conversion To Local Hire Status
- 5.306 Force Majeure Situations
- 5.307 Spouses Of Board Members
- 5.308 Professional Staff Arrangement For Substitutes
- 5.400 Community Activities Involving Staff
- 5.401 Political Activities
- 5.402 Smoking
- 5.403 Staff Visas And Work Permits
- 5.404 Staff Health And Safety
- 5.405 Staff Gifts And Solicitations
- 5.406 Staff Physical Examinations

- 5.407 Communicable Diseases
- 5.408 Equal Opportunity Employer
- 5.500 Child Protection

6.000 **Support Staff**

- 6.100 Support Staff Recruitment And Selection
- 6.101 Support Staff Orientation
- 6.102 Support Staff Compensation
- 6.103 Overtime Pay
- 6.104 Support Staff Time Schedule And Workload
- 6.105 Support Staff Vacations And Holidays
- 6.106 Tuition Relief Policy for Teacher Aides and Support Staff

7.000 **Students**

- 7.101 Student Welfare And Safety
- 7.102 Supervision Of Students
- 7.103 Students Leaving School Grounds
- 7.104 Transportation
- 7.105 Smoking By Students
- 7.106 Dangerous Items
- 7.107 Suspension Of Students
- 7.108 Married Students/Pregnant Students
- 7.109 Fines And Charges
- 7.110 Student Complaints And Grievances
- 7.111 Students' Exposure to Hazardous Materials
- 7.200 Preferential Conditions For Admissions
- 7.201 Entrance Age: Pre-School, Pre-Kinder, and Kindergarten
- 7.202 Entrance Age: First Grade
- 7.203 Proof Of Birth Date
- 7.204 Proof Of Immunization
- 7.205 Grade Placement
- 7.206 Attendance/Absences
- 7.207 Acceptance Of Records From Other Schools
- 7.208 Student Transcripts
- 7.209 Independent Study And Distance Learning
- 7.210 Student Publications
- 7.300 Teaching Controversial Issues
- 7.400 Dress Code
- 7.401 Student Employment By The School
- 7.402 Contests For Students
- 7.403 Solicitations

8.000 **Physical Plant**

- 8.100 Facilities

- 8.101 Facility Maintenance
- 8.102 Facility Repairs
- 8.103 Security And Key Control
- 8.104 Fire Prevention And Drills
- 8.105 Emergency Plans
- 8.106 Bomb Threats
- 8.107 Emergency Closing
- 8.108 Accident Prevention And Reports
- 8.109 Student Transportation In Non-School Vehicles
- 8.110 Student Transportation Insurance And Liability
- 8.200 Food Service

9.000 **Curriculum**

- 9.100 Curriculum Development
- 9.101 Grouping For Instruction
- 9.102 Report Cards And Conferences
- 9.103 Student Awards And Recognition
- 9.104 Graduation Requirements
- 9.105 Services For Exceptional Children
- 9.106 Religious Instruction
- 9.107 Field Trips And Excursions
- 9.108 U.S. Program
- 9.109 Evaluation Of Instructional Program
- 9.110 Library/Media Materials Selection And Adoption
- 9.111 Extra Curricular And Athletic Programs
- 9.112 Homework

10.000 **Community**

- 10.100 Community Resources
- 10.101 U.S. Accrediting Agencies
- 10.102 In-service Education/Student Teachers/Research And Consultation
- 10.103 Regional And International Associations and Organizations
- 10.104 Cooperative Programs With National Schools
- 10.105 Host Country Schools, Colleges, and Universities
- 10.106 U.S. Schools, Colleges, And Universities
- 10.107 Local Education Agencies and School To School Programs
- 10.108 Adult Education
- 10.109 School Volunteers
- 10.110 Host Country Law Enforcement Agencies Relations

Section 1 - School

1.100

Our Mission

Inspiring students to develop a lifelong passion for learning and social responsibility while teaching critical thinking and effective communication skills.

CIPLC Students:

- Achieve academic excellence through a U.S. curriculum
- Act with integrity and make responsible choices
- Appreciate cultural and individual differences
- Challenge themselves in a wide variety of co-curricular activities

Adopted: August 2010

Reviewed: August 2014

Reviewed: October 2016

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: August 2023

1.101

Our Vision

To be the premier provider of an internationally focused education in Latin America.

Adopted: August 2010

Reviewed: August 2014

Reviewed: October 2016

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: August 2023

Our School

CIPLC is a Pre-School through Grade 12 school that emphasizes a rigorous college preparatory education, rich in the humanities, mathematics, sciences, arts, and physical education. We believe that students grow and develop best in an atmosphere that is respectful, safe, and welcoming. Our school understands and values diversity and multiculturalism. We believe that education is a shared responsibility among students, parents, and teachers. We are dedicated to providing students with the skills, knowledge, and values necessary to be caring, productive, and successful individuals.

All courses at CIPLC, with the exception of Spanish, are taught in English. An American school character is maintained, with US compatible curriculum and educational materials used at all levels of the school as well as North American methodologies. We strive to maintain small class sizes of 15-20 students taught by a majority of North American trained and certified teachers to enhance academic excellence. Our educational program will permit students transferring into and out of CIPLC to maximize their educational and social development while living in Venezuela.

Adopted: August 2010
Reviewed: November 2015
Revised: December 2015
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

Expected School-wide Learning Results (ESLRs)

CIPLC Strives to Develop Critical Thinkers Who:

- ☐ Approach problems with confidence and determination.
- ☐ Use a variety of resources to gain information and knowledge.
- ☐ Analyze, evaluate, synthesize, and communicate information and knowledge.
- ☐ Transfer knowledge and skills to situations outside of the classroom.
- ☐ Use their critical thinking skills and knowledge to weigh the validity of their learning.
- ☐ Value the process as well as the product

Effective Communicators Who:

- ☐ Can clearly express and interpret ideas through speaking, reading, writing, and listening
- ☐ Are proficient in a second language.
- ☐ Use technology to enhance communication.
- ☐ Appreciate and reflect artistic and creative expression.
- ☐ Practice appropriate social skills.

Socially Responsible Citizens Who:

- ☐ Have a positive impact on both their local community and the larger global community
- ☐ Are self-motivated and self-directed to meet their full potential.
- ☐ Act with fairness, sensitivity, and courtesy to others.
- ☐ Act with integrity, seek to distinguish between right and wrong, and make responsible choices.
- ☐ Cooperate and show respect for themselves, others, for others' property and for the environment.
- ☐ Contribute productively as individuals and as members of groups.
- ☐ Take responsibility for their actions.
- ☐ Serve others and the community.
- ☐ Are caring stewards of the environment.
- ☐ Exercise their civic duties.

Adopted: August 2010

Reviewed: October 2016

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

1.105

American School Character And Ambiance

An American school character and ambiance will be maintained, with US compatible curriculum and educational materials used at all levels of the school. Development of English language skills will be emphasized at all levels and promoted in all school activities and extracurricular events.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: October 2016

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

1.106

Moral and Ethical Standards

High moral and ethical standards, the qualities of integrity and fairness, and concern for self and the needs and dignity of others, will be evident among all students and school staff.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: October 2016

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

1.107

Education Of The Whole Person

The school will provide the academic training, values, and tools that are essential prerequisites for higher education or employment in a competitive world. We will replace rote instruction, based on the mere memorization of facts for their own sake, with analytical skills, interpretation, expression, and application of knowledge in new situations, in short, with learning how to learn.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: October 2016

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

1.108

Interaction With The Community

The school will be recognized as an educational institution that maintains strong ties with the community, particularly organizations, groups, families and individuals with strong international interests, through its students, teachers, staff, and activities. The school will be a focal point for the foreign community and a facilitator in the arrival of expatriates.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: October 2016

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

1.200

Administrative Organization

Governance of the school originates with the Board of Directors. The administration of this governance is organized according to the following: **See Attachment "A" CIPLC Organizational Chart.**

Adopted: August 2010

Reviewed: October 2016

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

1.201

Grade Structure

For purposes of clarification the following grade structure will be utilized:

Early Childhood	Pre-School, Pre-Kinder, Kindergarten
Elementary School	Grades 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Middle School	Grades 6, 7, 8
High School	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: October 2016

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

1.202

School Year

The School instructional year shall consist of not less than 180 teaching days. The school year will commence in August and close in late May or early June.

The Superintendent shall develop a school calendar and submit it to the Board of Directors for approval.

Adopted: August 2012

Reviewed: October 2016

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

1.203

Extended School Year

In the event that the completion of the full complement of teaching days stipulated in the calendar is not possible, the Board shall authorize an extension of that calendar to include Saturday classes and/or extra school days in order for the Cognia/AdvancEd requirements to be met, unless given consideration and waived by Cognia/AdvancEd under extraordinary conditions.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: October 2016

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

1.204

School Day

The administration shall arrange and schedule the school day so as to offer the greatest educational return for time spent, within the limitations of school facilities.

To attain optimum time use for each student, variations in the daily schedule may be arranged to enable individual students or groups of students to receive special instruction.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: October 2016

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

1.205

Emergency Closings/Make-Up Of Closing Days

The Superintendent is authorized to announce the closing of school if actual or potential hazards threaten the safety and well-being of students and/or employees. The decision to close the school shall be made by the Superintendent or his designee upon consultation with the President of the Board of Directors (when feasible), professional staff, and/or other community agencies responsible for the safety and well-being of the community

Instructional days lost due to emergency closing may be rescheduled through extended days in order to fulfill all teaching day requirements, as required by Cognia/AdvancEd.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: October 2016

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

1.300

Tax Status

CIPLC is a Foundation and shall remain a non-profit organization, exempt from taxes applied to profit-centered corporations.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: October 2016

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

Section 2 - Governance

2.101

Power Delegated To The Board

The Board of Directors shall have full and ample power and authority to carry out the responsibilities delegated to it. As such, it is endowed with all the authority of a general legal representative to perform all functions of the Foundation.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: January 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

2.102

Board Of Directors Powers And Duties

The Board of Directors provides broad direction for the management and control of the school as a whole, through the establishment of basic policies. In order to perform these functions, the Board delegates the day-to-day administration of the school and the implementation of approved policies to the Superintendent.

The Board of Directors shall establish general policies pertaining to:

- a. Organization of the school
- b. Curriculum and instruction
- c. Employee classification/compensation
- d. Admission requirements/procedures
- e. Employee relations
- f. Fees and tuition
- g. Overall administration of the school

The specific duties of the Board shall include, but not be limited to:

- a. Establishment of specific policies for the school in keeping with the best interests of the students, staff, and parents in accordance with Cognia/AdvancEd requirements.
- b. Hiring of a qualified Superintendent, the definition of his/her duties, and the providing of full support of him/her in the discharge of those duties.
- c. Approval of the school Educational Program.
- d. Presentation of an annual operating budget to parents and other interested parties.
- e. Recommendation of all school tuition and fees for implementation.
- f. Approval of an annual salary schedule for instructional personnel.
- g. Provide for an annual audit of the school's books by an independent outside auditor.
- h. The employment and dismissal of instructional personnel upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.
- i. The expulsion of students upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.
- j. The duty to act upon scholarship applications in accordance with established policy.
- k. The selection of special committees from among its members or the members of the Foundation.
- l. The right to fill vacancies on the Board caused by the resignation of current members.

The Board relies upon the Superintendent to execute its policies and to administer its programs. In order to review the performance of the Superintendent and to determine the progress of the school in achieving objectives and implementing policies and programs, the Board shall require the Superintendent to present frequent reports on:

- a. The progress in implementing educational programs.
- b. The results and implications from the application of any standardized tests.
- c. Significant student, administrative, or teacher problems.
- d. The financial status of the school.
- e. The status of any approved projects.
- f. The status of relations between the school and teachers, public, and governmental authorities.

Adopted: June 2003
Revised: January 2017
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

2.103

Board Members/Officers

The Board of Directors shall consist of five (5) members. The people who form the Board of Directors shall serve in their positions for one (1) year and may be reappointed for equal periods of time using the same process as Policy 2.111, without restriction to the number of years of service.

The Board of Directors consists of the following members:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- One At-large Member

See Attachment “B” At-Large Board of Directors Nomination Process for CIPLC as well as Incorporation Act International School Puerto La Cruz Foundation.

Adopted: January 2009
Reviewed: January 2017
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

2.104

Board Committees

Board members are expected to serve on committees and to provide additional help on projects as may be required.

In those cases where special knowledge might significantly contribute to a committee's efforts, the Board may appoint qualified non-Board members to the committee.

Committee Chairs are appointed by the President of the Board from members of the Board of Directors. The following are examples of typical ad hoc committees of the Board of Directors:

- Finance
- Policy
- Facilities

The Finance Committee may be formed to support the budget construction and review process. It is recommended that the committee shall have as a member a qualified individual who is not a member of the Board. The Superintendent will be a member of the Finance Committee.

The Policy Committee may be formed to develop and review Board policy and make final recommendations to the full Board.

The Facilities Committee may be formed to support annual review of the school facilities with the Superintendent. This committee shall make recommendations to the full Board as to necessary repairs and additions to the physical plant and grounds.

Adopted: January 2009
Revised: January 2017
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

2.105

Advisory Council

When conditions exist that indicate to the President of the Board of Directors that the long term direction the school requires an external review, the Board of Directors shall appoint an Advisory Council whose members shall consist of:

1. Current Board of Directors members
2. Former Board of Directors members
3. Other individuals deemed to have an interest in the school's well-being.

This Advisory Council shall meet at a time, place, and agenda as established by the current Board of Directors.

The primary purposes of the Advisory Council shall be to review progress, to discuss long-term direction, and to offer suggestions and advice.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: January 2017
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

2.106

Regular Board Meetings

The President shall ensure that the Board meets at least four (4) times in the course of each calendar year; normally these meetings are to be held at intervals of approximately once per quarter. Quorum for regular Board meetings shall be three (3) members. The Superintendent must be present at all Regular Board Meetings.

Adopted: January 2009

Reviewed: November 2015

Revised: December 2015

Revised: January 2020

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

2.107

Executive Sessions

Executive Sessions of the Board may be called by the President or by any Board member to discuss matters that are deemed sensitive within the operation of the school. All members must be notified in advance. Three (3) members will constitute a quorum. Such sessions may be called at any time.

Members of the Board and other persons present shall be duty-bound to keep all matters discussed in executive session confidential. Minutes will not be taken during Executive Sessions.

No official motions may be passed while in Executive Session.

Adopted: January 2009

Revised: January 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

2.108

Special Board Meetings

Special meetings of the Board may be called when deemed necessary and held in accordance with Cognia/AdvancED requirements.

The quorum for Special Meetings shall be three (3) members. All members must be notified in advance. The Superintendent must be present at all Special Board Meetings

Special meetings, with the exception of executive sessions, shall be open to the public and shall be guided by the use of an agenda, which shall be distributed to all Board members prior to the convening of the meeting.

No business other than that stated in the agenda of the meeting shall be transacted unless all members of the Board are present and agree to consider and transact other business.

Adopted: January 2009
Reviewed: November 2015
Revised: December 2015
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

2.109

Organizational Meetings

An organizational meeting of the Board shall be held as early as possible in the school year.

Objective: To orient Board members and review the Board goals for the year.

Adopted: August 2012

Reviewed: January 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

2.110

Board Member Orientation

The Superintendent is authorized by the Board of Directors to orient the new members of the Board by providing them with information and the appropriate documents on the following:

- a. The policies of the Board of Directors.
- b. The financial status of the school.
- c. General operational information of the school.
- d. Outstanding legal issues.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: January 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

2.111

Election Of Board Members

1. The members of the Board shall appoint a nominating committee to nominate candidates for positions on the Board of Directors. In selecting candidates, the following guidelines are suggested:
 - a. The Board will determine qualities and characteristics sought in the candidates.
 - b. The Board will determine the eligibility of candidates.
 - c. The Board members will, when in session, suggest candidates. These names will comprise a final list that will be voted upon by the Board, with a candidate being selected and nominated.
 - d. The potential candidate shall be interviewed and his/her willingness to serve confirmed.
 - e. All Board member candidates should agree, in writing, to adhere to the stated mission, vision, values, philosophy, and objectives of the school
 - f. All Board members will be required to sign an Ethics Policy.
 - g. All candidates are subject to approval by the Founding Member(s).
2. Due to the inherent conflict of interest involved, staff members shall not be eligible for membership on the Board.
3. The nominations shall be presented to the Founding Member(s) at the end of the year meeting.
4. Board members may be nominated from the floor at the Founding Member(s) meeting.
5. Voting procedures as outlined in this document are to be followed.
6. Directors-At-Large have a separate nomination policy

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: January 2017
Revised: October 2019
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

2.112

Board Resignation

Whenever possible, Board members who must resign should do so, in writing, at least thirty (30) days prior to their effective resignation date.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: January 2017
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

2.113

Vacancies On The Board

Whenever between formally held appointments, a Board vacancy occurs, the remaining members of the Board of Directors shall, by majority vote, appoint a successor to complete the remaining term. The Board shall take such action within 30 days of the date on which the position will be vacated.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: January 2017

Revised: October 2019

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

2.114

Board Member Removal From Office

In instances where there is a breach of the Board of Directors code of ethics, legal violations, or regulatory violations by a Board member, the President of the Board may request to remove a member of the Board of Directors from office. A vote will be called in a special session of the Board and a unanimous vote of the remaining Board members will be required to remove the member from office.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: January 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

2.115

Board Member Ethics

Board members are expected to take collective responsibility for decisions made by the Board.

Respect of the confidentiality of Executive Sessions is of paramount importance to the proper behavior and ethics of a member of the Board of Directors.

Board members should comport themselves in a manner that will promote the school as a whole and not those of an individual or of a small group within the school community.

See Attachment “C” Code of Ethics for CIPLC Board of Directors

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: January 2017
Next Review: 2021

2.116

Board Members Conflict Of Interest

Whenever purchases of supplies, equipment, or services shall be made from those companies wherein a member of the Board works or holds a proprietary interest, the Board shall be so informed.

If a member of the immediate family or any member of the Board shall be employed in any continuing capacity by the school, the Board shall be so informed. (See policy 2.111)

When any decision is taken concerning Board members as members of the school community, or when the Board perceives a possible conflict of interest, the member(s) shall be requested to absent themselves from the meeting. All discussions and decisions will be taken without their participation or vote.

The Board shall have the right to revoke any contracts or agreements that it deems are a conflict of interest involving Board members or their families and the school.

Adopted: June 2003
Revised: January 2017
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

2.117

Board Members Compensation And Expenses

Members of the Board of Directors shall receive no remuneration for serving on the Board.

Members of the Board shall be reimbursed for all reasonable and customary expenses incurred on behalf of the school when so authorized by the Board.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: January 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

2.118

Individual Board Members Authority

Members of the Board shall have authority only when acting as a Board legally in session. The Board shall not be bound in any way by any statement or action on the part of any individual Board member except when that statement or action is in pursuance of specific instructions of the Board.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: January 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

2.119

Notification Of Board Meetings

Board members and others who are expected to attend meetings shall be notified in ample time for them to make arrangements to attend, a minimum of seven (7) days being considered acceptable. Such notification shall be the responsibility of the President or his designee and shall include the time, place, and, in the case of special or executive sessions, the purpose for which the meeting has been called.

The school community will be informed of the date and time of all general Board meetings via the r CIPLC website, as well as other electronic means.

Adopted: January 2009
Reviewed: January 2017
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

2.120

Board Agenda

The following standardized agenda is to be used for all regular meetings of the Board of Directors.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of the Consent Agenda: Minutes
Correspondence
Superintendent Report
Treasurer Report
Committee Reports
Dashboard
- III. Comments from Members of the Community/Invited Guests
- IV. Action Items
- VII. Discussion Items
- VIII. Executive Session
- IX. Adjournment

Adopted: August 2009
Reviewed: December 2015
Revised: May 2017
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

2.121

Agenda Preparation, Format, And Dissemination

The Superintendent shall prepare an agenda for each board meeting in consultation with the President.

Items may be included in the agenda by the school administration, board members, staff members, students, and/or parents of students in the school.

Proposed items for inclusion in the agenda should be submitted to the Superintendent in writing at least seven (7) working days prior to the date of the meeting at which the item is to be discussed. The Superintendent shall prepare an information packet when necessary to accompany the agenda. The packet shall contain pertinent notes and documents relating to the items on the agenda.

The Board recognizes that subjects appropriate for discussion may arise before the meeting but after the information packets are distributed. The agenda shall permit the inclusion of such subjects, but the Board shall submit to the appropriate committee for study when there is not adequate time to study the relevant materials.

In such cases, the item shall be included in the agenda of the next regular meeting of the Board. Final action may be taken on such subjects in the meeting at which they are raised only if there is unanimous consent to suspend the rules.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: November 2015

Revised: December 2015

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

2.122

Minutes

Minutes shall be kept for all public meetings, and shall include not less than:

- a. A record of the time, date, and place of the meeting
- b. The members/officials present
- c. Decisions taken

All minutes shall be signed by the recording secretary and shall be approved or amended and approved at the next meeting of the Board.

The minutes of the Board constitute a legal record of Board actions, and should be clear, concise, and accurate. The minutes shall be kept, bound, and archived on campus by the Superintendent, who shall pass all materials on to the new Board Secretary and Superintendent.

The minutes of the Board shall be considered open information for the parents and teachers.

Adopted: January 2009
Reviewed: December 2015
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

2.123

Voting Method

Each member of the Board shall have one vote. Decisions taken by the Board shall be taken by voice vote unless a member of the Board requests a secret ballot.

Decisions shall be made by a simple majority of those members present at legally constituted meetings. In the case of a tie, the President shall decide the issue.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: December 2015

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

2.124

Release of Meeting Information

Informative reports dealing with the overall management of the school shall be made to parents and teachers by the Board and by the Superintendent at least once yearly. Such reports are to be presented at the General Assembly Meeting.

Adopted: January 2009

Reviewed: January 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

2.125

Public Attendance At Board Meetings

The meetings of the Board of Directors shall be open to parents and teachers. It is noted, however, that Board meetings are held to carry out the business of the school, and therefore are not public meetings, but rather meetings held in public.

As such, parents and teachers wishing to make requests, proposals, or other sorts of presentations to the Board are to submit such materials seven (7) working days in advance of the meeting to the Superintendent who will deal with them in accordance with the policies and regulations adopted by the Board.

The policies and regulations which refer to such matters are intended to allow the following:

1. To permit a fair and adequate hearing to those who request a meeting.
2. To allow the Superintendent to take administrative action or to make recommendations to the Board in accordance with the policies established by the Board.
3. The Board reserves the right to receive any presentation in Executive Session.
4. In case of emergency, regulations regarding prior notice may be suspended by vote of the Board.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: November 2015
Revised: December 2015
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

2.126

Rules Of Order

In the event of a question of order, the norms set down in Robert's Rules of Order shall be used as guides in decision-making.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: January 2017
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

2.127

Quorum

The quorum for all meetings of the Board shall be three (3) members.

Adopted: January 2009

Reviewed: December 2015

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

2.128

Board Policy Development

The policies of the Board of Directors of CIPLC shall serve as guidelines for the administrative and educational functioning of the school.

The policies shall be guided by the Mission Statement, Vision Statement, Philosophy and Objectives, and Ethics Policies.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: January 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

2.129

Preliminary Development Of Draft Policies

Proposals regarding school policies may originate from a variety of sources, depending upon need.

Policy suggestions, from any source, shall be presented to the Superintendent, who will review them with the Policy Committee. If approved, a preliminary draft shall be prepared by the Policy Committee and shall be presented to the full Board for their consideration and approval.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: January 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

2.130

Temporary Exceptions To Policy

The operation of any section of Board policy, not established by law or contract, may be temporarily suspended by a unanimous vote of Board members present at any regular or special meeting.

Adopted: August 2012
Reviewed: January 2017
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

2.131

Policy Review And Evaluation

In an effort to keep its written policies up-to-date so that they may be used consistently as a basis for Board action and administrative decision, the Board shall review its policies continuously with the aim of completely reviewing the policy manual every 3 years.

The Board shall evaluate how the policies have been executed by the school staff and shall weigh the results. It shall rely on the school staff, students, and the community for providing evidence of the effect of the policies that it has adopted.

The Superintendent is given the continuing commission of calling to the Board's attention all policies that are out of date or for other reasons appear to need revision.

The Board directs the Superintendent to review all policy and regulations manuals periodically for administrative updating and Board review.

Adopted: January 2009

Reviewed: January 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

Policy And Dissemination

Policies introduced and recommended to the Board shall usually not be adopted until a subsequent meeting. However, temporary approval may be granted by the Board in lieu of formal policy to meet emergency conditions or special events that will take place before formal action can be taken.

After written policies are formulated and adopted, copies shall be distributed to each Board member, to each staff member holding a copy of the school's policy manual, posted on relevant websites, and distributed to such other groups and individuals as the Board may direct.

Adopted: June 2003
Revised: January 2017
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

2.133

Administration In Policy Absence

In cases when action must be taken and the Board has provided no guidelines in policy for such action, the Superintendent shall have the power to act.

His/her decisions, however, shall be subject to review by the Board at its next regular meeting. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent to inform the Board promptly of such action and of the need for policy.

Adopted: June 2003
Revised: January 2017
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

2.134

Policy Codification System

The policies of the Board of Directors of CIPLC shall be codified in a standard format.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: January 2017
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

2.200

Board-Superintendent Relationship

The Board as an elected body accepts its authority and responsibilities as specific in this document.

In practice the Board delegates the authority of the Board to administer its policies to the Superintendent.

The Superintendent is the chief executive officer of the school and as such is the normal channel of communication between the Board and the school staff and community.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: January 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

2.201

Board Review Of Administrative Procedures

The Board reserves the right to review administrative procedures at its discretion, but it shall revise or veto such procedures only when, in the Board's judgment, they are inconsistent with policies adopted by the Board. The Board will be provided with copies of all procedures issued by the administration.

Procedures need not be reviewed by the Board in advance of issuance except as required by law or when strong community attitudes, or possible student or staff reaction, make it necessary or advisable for the procedure to have the Board's advance approval.

Before issuance, procedures shall be properly titled and coded, as appropriate, to subject and in conformance with the codification system selected by the Board.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: January 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

2.300

Board's Legal Counsel

The Board shall retain legal counsel as necessary to assist with school affairs in accordance with all applicable laws.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: January 2017
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

Section 3 - Superintendent

3.100

School Superintendent's Powers And Responsibilities

The Board of Directors recognizes the school Superintendent as its Chief Executive Officer and charges him/her with the administrative functions of operating the school.

The Superintendent shall be responsible only to the Board of Directors as an officially convened body.

The Superintendent's responsibilities are defined as follows:

1. The Superintendent, as Chief Executive Officer of the School, is directly responsible to the Board of Directors to implement and execute the policies of the Board of Directors.
2. The Superintendent shall assume responsibility for the development of the school in accordance with sound principles of organization, administration, supervision, instruction, plant management, and financial administration.
3. The Superintendent is responsible for presenting to the Board of Directors for approval, all major changes in the instructional program.
4. The Superintendent is responsible for informing the Board of Directors of the employment, probation, or dismissal of any personnel.
5. The Superintendent, together with the Treasurer of the Board, shall present the annual budget to the Board, by the April board meeting, for approval and adoption. The budget shall be presented for the next fiscal year (July 1 through June 30).
6. The Superintendent is responsible for maintaining positive relationships with the local, state, and federal governments and their agencies.
7. The Superintendent is to be present at all meetings of the Board of Directors, except when matters pertaining to his/her contract and evaluation are discussed.
8. The Superintendent shall prepare an annual school calendar, which will comply with the requirements of accrediting agencies with which the school is associated.
9. The Superintendent shall provide for the evaluation of all instructional staff.
10. The Superintendent shall assist in recommending and formulating Board policies.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

3.101

Superintendent's Selection And Appointment

The Superintendent shall have graduated from a recognized US institution of higher learning with at least a master's degree and a major in educational administration.

He/She shall have had at least 8 years experience in teaching and/or school administration.

Preference shall be given to candidates with experience overseas.

The Board of Directors shall require each candidate to supply credentials and professional references. The Board shall verify the credentials. If at all possible the Board shall obtain and verify first-hand references of the candidate.

The Board as a whole, rather than a committee, shall take part in the selection and appointment of a suitable candidate.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

3.102

Evaluation Of The Superintendent

The Superintendent shall present an annual performance plan to the Board of Directors at the second board meeting of the year. The plan will provide goals in the area of finances, administration, instructional development for students, development of staff, and personal development.

At the completion of the school year, the Superintendent shall present a written self-evaluation addressing the goals of this plan.

The Board of Directors shall discuss the self-evaluation with the Superintendent and will provide the Superintendent with a written evaluation based on the plan and the self-evaluation. Input from other members of the community may also be solicited for the purpose of the evaluation.

Adopted: June 2009

Reviewed: March 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

3.103

Responsibility When The Superintendent Is Off Campus

The Superintendent shall designate in writing to the Board a person on the staff who will be responsible for the functioning of the school when the Superintendent is off campus for an extended period.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

Section 4 – Fiscal Policies

4.100

Accounting System

The School accounts shall be maintained in accordance with Venezuelan Law and established accounting procedures. The Board of Directors considers the accounting system as the central tool whereby sound financial management may be exercised. The Superintendent, in consultation with the Treasurer and the Business Manager, shall be responsible for developing and maintaining accounting systems and reports which will provide the information necessary for guiding the fiscal management of the school.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.101

Fiscal Year

The fiscal year shall begin July 1 and end on June 30.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: May 2017
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

4.102

Authorized Signatures

All disbursements drawn on the Annual Operating Accounts require a double signature authorization.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: May 2017
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

4.103

Depository Of Funds

The Board of Directors shall designate banks as official depositories for all school funds. This decision shall be made according to the best financial advantage to the school including security of funds, investment returns, and services available.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.104

Budget Preparation And Schedules

The Superintendent and the Treasurer will develop yearly a budget schedule that shall include deadlines for the following:

1. Presentation and discussion of conceptual draft budget and approval of the Instructional Supplies line item: Nov-Dec Board Meeting.
2. Presentation and discussion of draft budget: Jan-Feb Board Meeting
3. Board approval of budget proposal: March-April Board Meeting
4. Tuition proposal presentation for parents if required: April/May
5. Formal presentation of budget to the Foundation for approval - May Annual General Assembly.

Adopted: August 2009

Reviewed: May 2017

Revised: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.105

Periodic Budget Review

The School budget is a financial plan based on the best information available at the time of its development. In order to be a truly functional tool, however, the budget must be regularly reviewed. Periodic reports shall be presented to the Board who shall compare actual status with the approved budget figures as well as interim financial statements as required by the Board.

Approved: June 2003

Reviewed: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.106

Purchasing Authority

The authority for purchasing is delegated to the Board of Directors through the approval of the annual operating budget. The Board of Directors delegates to the Superintendent the authority to purchase such books, supplies, equipment, and other materials as are required and permitted within the limits of the approved budget. The purchase of these items shall require no further approval by the Board of Directors except where dictated by Board policy, as in the case of goods and/or services requiring multiple bids.

Any unusual expenditure and/or all expenditures not within the budget shall be referred to the Finance Committee and the Board of Directors for approval.

See Attachment “D” Authority of Limitations.

Approved: June 2003

Reviewed: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.107

Purchasing Procedures

1. All purchases shall be made via written requisition on approved school forms. The school will accept no responsibility or make reimbursements for purchases made without the required form and authorization by the Superintendent.
2. Authorization of purchase orders shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent, his designee, or the Board. Authorization shall be valid only if made in writing.
3. Whenever possible and financially feasible, purchases will be made from local vendors.

Approved: June 2003

Reviewed: May 2017

Revised: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

Bids And Quotations

The Board of Directors will establish, in writing, the currency limit for purchases made without multiple bids.

1. Any purchase exceeding the limit established by the Board of Directors shall require multiple bids and/or quotations. It is the responsibility of the Superintendent, or his/her designee, to secure these quotations and purchase accordingly.
2. All expenditures exceeding the equivalent of US\$, as specified in the CIPLC Procurement and Contracting Procedure, shall be approved by the Finance Committee.

See Attachment “E” CIPLC Procurement and Contracting Procedure.

Approved: June 2003
Reviewed: May 2017
Revised: May 2017
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

4.109

Vendor Relations And Sales Calls

All negotiations and other contacts with vendors shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent. Vendors shall not visit classrooms or discuss/display their wares without prior authorization from the Superintendent. Vendors must sign in with security before entering campus.

The Superintendent reserves the right to purchase all items through vendors of its choice, although suggestions from the person requisitioning the materials are appreciated.

Approved: June 2003

Reviewed: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.110

Disbursement Of Funds, Approval Of Payroll, and Bills

The authority to approve the school payroll and the payment of bills lies with the Board of Directors, which delegates this authority to the Superintendent within the limits of established policy.

Approved: June 2003

Reviewed: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.111

Line Item Transfer Authority

The Superintendent is authorized to effect line item budget transfers from one major category to another if the transfer is in accordance with the amount specified in the Authority of Limitations (Attachment D), or less of the budget category and a projected excess is available.

In all other cases Board approval is required.

Approved: June 2003

Reviewed: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.112

Payroll Procedures

The Superintendent shall establish payroll procedures consistent with regulations established by Venezuelan Law.

1. Salaries shall be quoted and paid monthly.
2. Salary deductions for legally required benefits and taxes shall be made in accordance with Venezuelan Law.
3. All employees will be provided a revised Benefits Package as an attachment to their employment contract if revisions are made to their benefits.
4. Salary adjustments must be made in accordance with the budget approved by the Board of Directors.
5. Payment records should be kept according to tax and statutory requirements.

Approved: June 2003

Reviewed: May 2017

Revised: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.113

Expense Reimbursements

In order for any expenses to be reimbursed they must have the prior approval of the Superintendent and have been submitted to the Business Office. Expense reports must include a cover sheet listing dates, descriptions of expenses made, and the amount spent. Each expense noted should have a receipt document attached to the report.

The members of the Board of Directors may be reimbursed, in accordance with the above policy, for expenses incurred in performance of Board duties as specified in policy.

All reimbursements shall be made as soon as possible. All expense reimbursements are subject to the final approval of the Superintendent and/or the Board of Directors.

Approved: June 2003
Reviewed: May 2017
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

4.114

Funding Sources

The Board is responsible for the financial health of the school. This responsibility includes the establishment of appropriate tuition levels, the setting of fees, and external fund raising.

Approved: June 2003

Reviewed: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.115

Payment Of Tuition And Fees

1. Tuition and capital fees are payable on the established date.
2. Fees are quoted in Bolivares Fuertes or US dollars.
3. Fees may be payable in local or foreign currency, or a combination of these, as decided upon by the Board of Directors.

Approved: January 2009
Reviewed: November 2015
Revised: December 2015
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

4.116

Non-Payment Of Tuition And Fees

For families who are in arrears on their tuition payments, the Superintendent shall employ all means possible to attempt to reclaim those funds.

Families who are in arrears will not be allowed to re-enroll for the following academic semester until their debt has been cleared. Financial obligations shall refer to all tuition, fees, and/or value of school property in the student's or parent's possession.

School records cannot be released to families who have outstanding debts to the school.

Adopted: August 2012

Reviewed: May 2017

Revised: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.117

Refund Of Tuition And Fees

In the case of a student's early withdrawal, tuition will be prorated on a semester basis at 50% of annual tuition. The following schedule will be followed concerning all refunds:

- Within one week attendance of the semester – 100% refund of semester fees
- Between one and two weeks attendance of the semester – 90% refund of semester fees
- After two weeks attendance of the semester– No refund of current semester
- Registration fees are non-refundable

If a student is asked to leave the school for behavior, academic, or other reasons the Board of Directors may prorate a refund.

In the event that the School is closed due to "force majeure", refunds shall be limited to funds available after the School settles its other financial liabilities as detailed in Board policy.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: May 2017
Revised: May 2017
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

4.118

Book Fees And Rental Fees

Books and workbooks necessary for the school program shall be supplied to the students by the school. Children should not be asked to spend money for extra materials without the permission of the Superintendent.

It is the responsibility of the Superintendent to oversee the distribution of supplies and of the classroom teachers to discourage indiscriminate waste on the part of students.

The Superintendent shall assess students for the full replacement value of all equipment that is lost, damaged, or destroyed by carelessness.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.119

Miscellaneous Fees

The Superintendent shall have the power to charge any non-tuition miscellaneous fees.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: May 2017

Revised: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.120

Dependent Tuition for Teachers

Foreign and Local Hire full time teaching staff shall have all tuition and fee charges waived for one dependent per teacher, if not normally paid for by a company. For part-time teachers, fee waivers are prorated.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: 2015

Revised: May 2015

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.121

Insurance Management

The school shall maintain adequate levels of insurance against losses through fire, theft, accidents, liability, and other risks as the Board of Directors sees fit. The Superintendent shall determine appropriate levels and annually review all coverage with the Board.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.122

Insurance Coverage

The following categories of insurance shall be carried as approved by the Board of Directors in the budget. It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent to ensure that all necessary policies are in order at all times.

- a. Fire - all contents of the school and buildings
- b. Theft - all contents of the school
- c. Civil responsibility - all employees
- d. Automobile – all school vehicles
- e. Directors and Officers Liability Insurance – Administration and Board of Directors
- f. Student personal accident
- g. Earthquake – all contents and school buildings

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: May 2017

Revised: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.123

Income From Sources Other Than Tuition **Aid And Grants To The School**

The Board shall accept funds from foundations and/or private sources, complying with the conditions and use of grant funds. (See also Policy 4.124)

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.124

Gifts and Requests

Any gifts presented to the school should be accompanied by a letter from the donor for recognition by the Board of Directors.

The following criteria must be satisfied if the gift is to be deemed acceptable.
The gift in question must:

1. Be consistent with stated mission, goals, and objectives of CIPLC,
2. Place no restrictions on the school program,
3. Not require the endorsement of any business, service, product, or organization,
4. Not in any way lead to conflicts of interest or improper influences,
5. Not in any way influence current or future decisions regarding admission, retention, promotion, or dismissal of any student.
6. Not lead to unacceptable costs to the school,
7. Not be in conflict and comply with any provision of Venezuelan Law or CIPLC School Policy, including Tax and Anticorruption
8. Not be in violation of school/business ethics.
9. Be accompanied by a signed "CIPLC Gift Agreement" form.

A letter of appreciation signed by the President of the Board shall be sent to the donor of the gift.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: November 2015
Revised: December 2015
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

4.125

Audits

The Board of Directors shall provide for the annual audit of the school's financial records by independent, outside auditors.

The Board of Directors shall change auditors every three (3) years.

Audits must follow the General Accepted Accounting Practices (GAAP)

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: 2015

Revised: May 2015

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.126

Inventories

The Superintendent shall be responsible for maintaining a central control of all supplies, materials, furniture, and equipment in the school.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.127

School Property Disposal Policy and Procedures

It shall be the policy of the Board of Directors to dispose of all equipment, materials, and supplies no longer required to accomplish the objectives of the school.

The disposal of such items shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent. When possible to do so, such items shall be sold and the funds deposited in the general school account.

When the items in question have no resale value of any consequence, they are to be donated to a charitable organization that can use them.

The Superintendent shall notify the Board of all disposals upon request. Records of the disposal of items shall be maintained for five (5) years.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.128

Cash In School Buildings

Cash in excess of regular petty cash funds should not be kept at school. Such funds shall, whenever possible, be deposited in the appropriate accounts the same day they are received. Funds not able to be deposited the same day received will be kept in the school safe.

At the discretion of the Superintendent, in times of uncertainty, an emergency US dollar cash reserve can be kept on campus in the school safe. This amount is not to exceed US \$6,000 cash, unless otherwise stipulated by the Board of Directors.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: May 2017

Revised: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

Financial Reserves

To ensure seamless operation during times of financial stress (force majeure, natural disaster, extreme loss of enrollment, etc.) a financial reserve shall be developed. The Board has set as an objective to accumulate assets to cover emergency operating expenses equivalent to approximately three months of operating expenses and non-discretionary liabilities.

Reserve funds are to be invested in a thoughtful and prudent manner so as to preserve and enhance CIPLC's ability to provide for the achievement of its objectives. Oversight of the funds is the responsibility of the Finance Committee, which is appointed by the Board of Directors. The Finance Committee may appoint investment advisors as required.

CIPLC cash reserves will be categorized and funded as:

Non-discretionary: This fund should have sufficient capital for approximately three month's operating funds and coverage for all local liabilities. This fund is to be kept in US dollars.

Discretionary: This fund amount is decided by the Board of Directors and is used for operational costs or capital requirements.

Adopted: May 2010

Reviewed: May 2017

Revised: May 2017

Reviewed: December 2020

Next Review: 2023

4.130

Criteria For Payment of Corporate and Non-corporate Tuition Fees

The primary objective of the school is to provide education to the children of employees of the international companies working in the area for the execution of projects related to the oil industry as described in the School Incorporation Act (ACTA).

Therefore, all students will pay the Corporate fee unless an exception is granted based on the criteria below.

Criteria to qualify for an exception to the Corporate fee structure (the "Individual" fee):

The parents or guardians responsible for payment who fulfill all of the following criteria will be considered under the "Individual" fee structure:

- i. The individual is employed by a company whose main office is domiciled in Venezuela; **and**,
- ii. The individual is not in the country (hired by a foreign company) for the express purpose of providing a fixed term of service; **and**,
- iii. The individual is a Venezuelan citizen, or has permanent resident status; **and**,
- iv. The individual is responsible for the school fees and the company doesn't pay the school fees totally or partially, directly or indirectly.

Approved: April 2017
Reviewed: December 2020
Next Review: 2023

Section 5 – Professional Staff*

(*Professional staff is defined as teachers, counselors and administrators.)

5.100

Staffing Philosophy And Goals

The Board of Directors recognizes that one of the most important resources in the development of a quality educational program is a qualified and dedicated staff. The Board of Directors is committed to recruiting and maintaining the best staff possible to achieve its mission.

Specifically, the Board of Directors is accountable for the following staffing goals:

1. To recruit, select, and hire the most qualified people to staff the school.
2. To develop and maintain a compensation program which will attract and retain the best employees.
3. To provide for an evaluation program geared to the positive development and improvement of staff performance.
4. To develop and maintain an in-service training program for all employees which will assist them in improving performance.
5. To recognize the need for meaningful human relationships between staff, the Board, and parents in attaining maximum staff performance and satisfaction.
6. To utilize personnel as effectively and economically as possible to achieve the overall school goals.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2024

5.101

Professional Staff Recruitment And Selection

It is the Superintendent's responsibility to screen all applicants for positions at the school, using educational credentials, professional reference checks, appropriate experience, and professionalism as guides in selecting those people who, in his/her opinion, will provide the best learning environment for our students.

It is the Superintendent's responsibility to thoroughly vet all applicants in accordance with child protection guidelines, including law enforcement agency (police, FBI, etc.) background checks.

The Board of Directors will authorize appropriate recruiting trips. In such instances, the Superintendent shall be authorized to offer and sign teacher contracts.

See Attachment "F" Foreign Hire Process and Policy and Attachment "G" Local Hire Process and Policy.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2024

5.102

Professional Staff Positions And Qualifications

The Superintendent shall prepare, for Board approval, a staffing plan designed to adequately fulfill the instructional needs of CIPLC. Although the Superintendent has full authority to change and reassign duties among existing positions, the creation of any new position shall require Board approval.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2024

5.103

Professional Staff Assignments

The Superintendent shall assign staff to positions in accordance with the needs and best interests of the students and the school and in accordance with Cognia/AdvancEd requirements.

Whenever possible, the Superintendent shall consult first with teachers before making assignments and shall inform teachers of their assigned classes for the next semester prior to the end of the previous semester.

All assignments are open to change depending on the circumstances of the school and in accordance with Cognia/AdvancEd requirements.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: September 2017

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2024

5.104

Staff Ethics

The Board of Directors of CIPLC supports the attached statements of ethics concerning staff:

See Attachment “ H” CIPLC Code of Ethics and Standard Practices for CIPLC Educators, attachment “I” CIPLC Employee Standards of Conduct, and attachment “J” CIPLC Substance Abuse Policy.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: March 2018
Reviewed: January 2021
Next Review: 2024

5.105

Personnel Records

1. The Administrative office, under the responsibility of the Superintendent, shall maintain a personnel file on each school employee. These files shall contain:
 - a. Official copies of diplomas and transcripts, which shall be the basis for salary schedule placement along with:
 - b. Letters of reference attesting to ability and years of experience claimed for salary schedule placement.
 - c. A Curriculum Vitae
 - d. Evaluations of teacher or employee performance, activities, and contributions.
 - e. Relevant correspondence/memoranda.
 - f. If given, a copy of the administrative recommendation written upon separation
2. Personnel records shall be available only for official use by the Board, the Superintendent, or for inspection by accrediting agencies.
3. All employees shall have full access to their personnel files upon request to verify contents and their accuracy. Should the accuracy of the contents be in question and the problem cannot be solved by simple correction, the employee may appeal to the Superintendent and the Board in accordance with established policy and regulation.
4. Personnel records shall be maintained for a minimum of five (5) years after the employee's departure. After that period, only the final evaluation/recommendation must be maintained for an additional five (5) years. Dismissal for Cause records will be maintained permanently.

Personnel records may be sent to other schools or institutions only on written request by the employee. This shall not apply to the final recommendation, which may be sent upon request of other schools or institutions without the employee's permission.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: March 2018
Reviewed: January 2021
Next Review: 2024

5.106

Facilities For Professional Staff

The Board recognizes the need for professional staff to have a proper facility for use during preparation periods. Whenever possible, there shall be a room on the campus designated specifically for staff use during these periods.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2021

5.107

Staff Housing

See Attachment “K” CIPLC Housing Policy and Attachment “L” CIPLC Expatriate Housing, Maintenance, and Repair Guidelines.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2024

5.108

Professional Staff Time Schedule

All teachers shall be required to be on school grounds during the normal school day. If it becomes necessary for a teacher to leave campus during the school day the teacher must request permission from the Superintendent, appropriate Principal/Dean, or their designee.

As it is critical in an emergency situation to account for all persons on campus, all teachers who leave campus during the school day must notify the receptionist and security as they exit and when they return.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: March 2018
Reviewed: January 2021
Next Review: 2024

5.109

Professional Staff Meetings

1. Teachers shall be required to make themselves available for pre-school meetings and workshops prior to the opening of school each semester, according to the school calendar.
2. Teachers shall be expected to attend all staff meetings as scheduled by the Administration. Such meetings may extend beyond the regular school day as necessary.
3. Teachers shall be expected to attend all in-service and workshop days as provided by the school.
4. Teachers shall be expected to attend all meetings involving parents, as required by the Superintendent.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: March 2018
Reviewed: January 2021
Next Review: 2024

5.110

Professional Staff Vacations And Holidays

Teachers shall be required to observe the school calendar as approved by the Board of Directors.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: March 2018
Reviewed: January 2021
Next Review: 2024

5.111

Professional Staff Sick Leave

All sick leaves will be granted in accordance with the published Benefits Package. Absences in excess of those authorized by the school will be deducted from the monthly salary on a prorated basis. The prorated daily rate will be determined by dividing the teacher's annual salary by 360 in accordance with Venezuelan Labor Law.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Revised: March 2018

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2024

5.112

Professional Staff Personal Leave

The Board recognizes that occasions do occur when it is necessary for staff to request leave during the school year. All such leaves shall require the prior authorization of the Superintendent. Personal leave will be granted in accordance with the published Benefits Package.

Personal leave will usually not be allowed on the opening days of a semester or immediately prior to or after a school holiday or vacation period. Also two consecutive days will normally not be allowed.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: March 2018
Reviewed: January 2021
Next Review: 2021

5.113

Professional Staff Maternity Leave

All maternity leave will be granted in accordance with Venezuelan labor law.

See Attachment Q, Extended Medical Leave

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2024

5.114

Professional Staff Bereavement Leave

Bereavement leave shall be granted in the case of death in the immediate family (father, mother, grandparents, father-in-law, mother-in-law, husband, wife, sister, brother, son, daughter) for a maximum of one week. Emergency leave may be granted in the case of terminal illness of an immediate family member in lieu of bereavement leave.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2024

5.200

Professional Staff Termination

1. Termination or non-renewal of contracts of teaching personnel shall be by action of the Superintendent, in accordance with policy regarding contracts and Venezuelan labor law.
2. Acceptance of resignations shall be by action of the Superintendent, who shall inform the Board. The resignation of overseas contract staff may result in the forfeiture of certain benefits.
3. Emergency (due to health, economic, personal, or family problems) contract termination during the school year may be requested by the teacher subject to the approval of the Superintendent, who shall inform the Board of all such actions.
4. The Superintendent may, with the approval of the Board, suspend a teacher from active classroom duty for health or other specified written reasons if such action is in the best interests of the school and of the students.
5. Discussions regarding the dismissal or suspension of professional staff shall be held in Executive Session.
6. In the event of a formal hearing on the matter, the procedures outlined in Board policy concerning grievances shall be followed.
7. Any issue involving the contract of the Superintendent will be discussed in Executive Session.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2024

5.201

Grievance Policy

All employees of CIPLC are encouraged to discuss any situation or problem which needs further clarification or agreement. The following procedure shall be followed at all times:

1. Discuss the situation with the Superintendent. If the problem is not resolved within a reasonable period of time the employee may continue with the process.
2. The employee shall write a letter to the President of the Board of Directors, with copy to the Superintendent. The letter must:
 - a. Explain the problem or situation
 - b. Outline the action taken by the Superintendent and explain why such action is deemed unsatisfactory by the employee
 - c. Request a meeting with the Board of Directors to discuss the problem or situation
3. The Superintendent shall include the hearing in the agenda of the next meeting of the Board of Directors.
4. If warranted, a special meeting of the Board of Directors may be called.
5. All discussions of personnel issues will be held in Executive Session.
6. The Board of Directors will notify the individual of their decision, in writing, within fifteen (15) working days.

The decision of the Board of Directors is final.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: March 2018
Reviewed: January 2021
Next Review: 2024

5.300

Professional Staff Duty Assignments

Professional staff may be assigned extra duties by the Superintendent in accordance with the needs of the school program. These duties include, but are not necessarily limited to: bus, lunch and playground supervision, activity sponsorship, curriculum committee work, and other school related activities.

The Board shall require, however, that the Superintendent distribute such responsibilities as equally as possible among staff.

Although some activities, for example those which demand excessive time, may justify extra compensation, such duties as supervision, curriculum development, in-service activities, and other school related activities are normally expected of staff as part of their regular professional obligation to the school.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2024

5.301

Development Of Staff

The school will support and encourage continuing professional and personal development of its staff, recognizing its importance in providing superior teaching and retaining qualified professionals.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2024

5.302

Employee Conflict Of Interest

Employees shall not at any time engage in any activity or employment that would hinder their effectiveness as employees of CIPLC, (or) that would compromise or embarrass the school, (or) that would adversely affect their employment/labor visa status or professional standing, (or) that would in any way conflict with or violate professional ethics.

Foreign Hire employees shall not engage in any other employment or in any private business in Venezuela while employed by the school

Employees shall not sell any books, supplies, or equipment to students or parents unless prior approval has been received from the Superintendent.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2024

5.303

Tutoring For Pay

1. Professional responsibility requires that teachers be available during the regular school day to provide any extra help or instruction required by students.
No reimbursements or extra payment may be accepted for extra help or instruction given during the regular school day.
2. Teachers or the counselor may recommend outside tutoring to parents when such extra instruction is deemed necessary. Such recommendations must be made through the Administration. Payment for such tutoring is the responsibility of the parents.
3. Teachers may not serve as private tutors to their own students.
4. Private tutoring for pay shall not be permitted on school grounds without prior approval from the Superintendent.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: 2015

Revised: May 2015

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2024

5.304

Local Hire Pay Status

The payroll currency which applies to all employees' compensation shall be determined by their point of employment, and/or the country where their degree and teaching certificate were awarded, and not by their citizenship

See Attachment "M" Local Foreign Hire Certified Teacher Policy.

Adopted: August 2012
Reviewed: 2015
Revised: May 2015
Reviewed: January 2021
Next Review: 2024

5.305

Conversion To Local Hire Status

After a period of seven consecutive school years of employment, staff members designated as Foreign Hire shall forfeit one-half (1/2) of their housing benefit; after the eighth year the entire housing benefit will be forfeited.

After a period of eight consecutive school years of employment, staff members designated as "Foreign Hire" shall forfeit their "Foreign Hire" salary and benefits, and those teachers who desire to remain employed as teachers will be placed on the appropriate step on the Local Foreign Hire teacher schedule with local hire benefits.

Staff designated as "Foreign Hire" will be exempt from this policy if they move to an administrative position, at which time their employment count re-starts.

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, the above policy may be waived or modified with approval of the Board of Directors.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: 2015

Revised: May 2015

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2024

Cross Reference: Attachment "M"

5.306

Force Majeure Situations

When a Force Majeure situation exists, the school may close for a temporary or permanent period of time. When such closure occurs, the following contract terms shall be in effect:

The School, if closure is for a temporary period, will, if necessary, pay the cost of air or ground transportation, as determined by the School, for Foreign Hire teachers and their dependents to a designated location selected by the School, either within or outside Venezuela.

With permanent closure, the School will pay the air transportation and the cost of shipping Foreign Hire teacher's personal effects to their Point of Origin as stipulated in their contract.

With permanent closure, the School will pay the teacher three months salary or salary until the end of the teacher's contract, whichever is less.

The School will not assume financial responsibilities as outlined above if the teacher leaves prior to an official order to do so by the School.

See also Attachment U

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: March 2018
Reviewed: January 2021
Next Review: 2024

5.307

Spouses Of Board Members

Spouses of Board members will not be permitted to be employed by the School except for short-term substitute teaching. Long-term substitute teaching will require Board approval.

Adopted: August 2012
Reviewed: March 2018
Revised: March 2018
Reviewed: January 2021
Next Review: 2024

5.308

Professional Staff Arrangement For Substitutes

1. Professional staff shall maintain adequate materials for use by substitute teachers. These materials shall consist of at least the following:
 - a. A copy of the daily schedule
 - b. A copy of the room seating plan
 - c. The class register and plan book
 - d. An emergency lesson plan, which is to be on file in the appropriate administrator's office.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: March 2018
Reviewed: January 2021
Next Review: 2024

5.400

Community Activities Involving Staff

School personnel are expected to attend all school-sponsored activities, and they are further encouraged to participate in non-school community activities. Such participation must not, however, interfere with their regular school responsibilities.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2024

5.401

Political Activities

All non-Venezuelan employees are informed that political activity by foreigners is prohibited by law. The school shall accept no responsibility for any staff member who willfully violates this statute.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2024

5.402

Smoking

Staff members may not smoke on campus or near entrances to campus.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: March 2018
Reviewed: January 2021
Next Review: 2024

Staff Visas And Work Permits

1. The cost of all documentation and processing necessary to provide Foreign Hire staff and their families with work visas and, when applicable, work permits, is the recognized and accepted responsibility of the School. The School does not, however, accept any responsibility for residence visa or work permit documentation in the case of locally hired or local foreign hire staff.
2. For staff needing to leave the country to renew temporary visas:
 - CILPC will deposit the dollar amount equal to a 3 day, 2 night trip to the closest international destination (e.g., Trinidad) in the teacher's account to be used to book their trip.
 - Teachers will minimize missed classes by traveling during breaks or on weekends to renew visas.
 - CIPLC will not be expected to pay for visa trips that have been previously planned as vacation trips by the teacher.. For example, CIPLC will not pay the stipend if the teacher is going to the Galapagos during Semana Santa which will renew their visa.
3. For teachers needing to leave the country to obtain a labor visa:
 - CILPC will deposit the dollar amount equal to a 4 day, 3 night trip to the closest international destination that has a Venezuelan consulate (usually Miami) in the teacher's account to be used to book their trip.
 - Teachers will minimize missed classes by traveling during breaks or on weekends to renew visas.
4. Teachers are responsible for notifying the Superintendent's Assistant at least 4 weeks before the expiration date of their visa. The teacher will incur all renewal costs of a visa lost due to expiration.
5. CIPLC will not employ individuals who are not properly documented in accordance with the Laws of Venezuela, unless they are in the process of obtaining such documents.
6. All foreign hires will arrive in Venezuela with proper documentation for themselves and their families.

Adopted: January 2009

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2024

5.404

Staff Health And Safety

The Board recognizes its responsibility to provide staff with a working environment that is pleasant, healthy, and safe. The Superintendent shall report to the Board of Directors whenever contrary conditions exist, recommending appropriate action to rectify such situations.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2024

5.405

Staff Gifts And Solicitations

1. Staff may not accept gifts from parents, students, or any other source directly connected to the school that exceeds the equivalent of US\$ 25.00 in value. The Superintendent is to be consulted in questionable cases.
2. No individual or group may solicit staff members at school unless the Superintendent approves the solicitation.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: March 2018
Reviewed: January 2021
Next Review: 2024

5.406

Staff Physical Examinations

All employees of CIPLC are required to present an updated Health Certificate on an annual basis, or as required by Venezuelan law, and to maintain that certificate throughout their period of employment.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: March 2018
Reviewed: January 2021
Next Review: 2024

5.407

Communicable Diseases

An employee presently employed by CIPLC who is diagnosed as having a communicable disease will be counseled by the Superintendent with input from the school doctor, after review of medical evidence, as to the most favorable health environment for the employee and for the school population.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2024

5.408

Equal Opportunity Employer

It is the policy of the Board that no staff member of CIPLC shall, on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, sex, age, or national origin be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination in, any educational program or activity. This will include employment, retention, and promotion.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: January 2021

Next Review: 2024

Child Protection

All staff employed at Colegio Internacional Puerto La Cruz (CIPLC) must report suspected incidences of child abuse or neglect whenever the staff member has reasonable cause to believe that a child has suffered or is at risk of suffering abuse or neglect.

Reporting and follow up of all suspected incidences of child abuse or neglect will proceed in accordance with administrative regulation/practice as outlined. Furthermore, cases of suspected child abuse or neglect may be reported to the appropriate employer, to the respective consulate, to the appropriate child protection agency in the home country, and/or to local authorities.

This policy will be distributed to all staff annually and be included in the application packets. Training will be provided on an annual basis to ensure that the CIPLC staff is informed and educated about child protection issues. Every effort will be made to implement hiring practices to ensure the safety of children.

If a staff member is reported as an alleged offender, the Superintendent will conduct a full investigation following a carefully designed course of due process.

Definitions of Abuse and Neglect

Maltreatment of a child includes physical abuse, sexual abuse, or neglect. It is important that educators be able to recognize the signs of abuse and neglect including emotional/psychological abuse. Sensitive educators can pick up cues of possible maltreatment by observing children's behavior at school, noticing physical signs, or during routine interviews with parents. It is important to note that the recognition of child maltreatment should be based on a cluster of indicators which form a picture of abuse rather than on the detection of one or two clues (similar indications can be observed for spousal abuse).

1. Physical abuse
 - a. Any physical or mental injury or threatened injury inflicted by a person responsible for the child's care on a child other than by accidental means. Injuries include: bruises, cuts, bites, scalding, bone fracture, welts, burns, wounds, punctures, or malnutrition. Any injury resulting from physical punishment that requires medical treatment is considered outside the realm of normal disciplinary measures.
 - b. Any physical injury that cannot reasonably be explained by the child's history of injuries.
 - c. "Treatment injury" means statement, over act, conditions or status that represents a substantial risk of physical or sexual abuse or mental injury.

2. Sexual Abuse

- a. Subjection by the child's parent, guardian, or other person responsible for the child's care, to any act which constitutes criminal sexual conduct, interfamilial abuse, or incest. Sexual contact is intentional touching/fondling of the victim's intimate parts or the intimate parts of another person. The touching may not occur over the victim's clothing. Intimate parts refer to: primary genital area, groin, inner thigh, buttocks, or breast. Sexual abuse may include threatened sexual abuse, child pornography, and juvenile prostitution.
- b. Sexual abuse vs. sexual assault: Most U.S. State laws distinguish between abuse/assault based on who has committed the acts. An action is defined as 'abuse' if it was committed by a person responsible for the care of the child. An action is defined as 'assault' if it is committed by a person who is not responsible for the care of the child.

3. Child Neglect

- a. Failure by a parent, guardian, or other person responsible for the child's care to supply a child with necessary food, clothing, shelter, or medical treatment when reasonably able to do so. Failure to protect a child from conditions or actions which imminently and seriously endanger the child's physical and mental health when reasonably able to do so. Children without necessary subsistence, education, or other care because the parent neglects or refuses to provide such care.
- b. This is characterized by failure to provide for the child's basic needs, including:
 - i. Physical neglect: refusal of or delay in seeking health care, abandonment, inadequate supervision and expulsion from home, or refusing to allow a runaway to return home.
 - ii. Educational neglect: permitting chronic truancy, failure to enroll a child of mandatory school age, and/or inattention to special educational needs.
 - iii. Emotional neglect: includes such actions as chronic or extreme spouse abuse in the child's presence, permitting drug or alcohol use by the child, and refusal or failure to provide needed psychological care.

4. Mental Injury

- a. An injury to the psychological capacity or emotional stability of the child's ability to function within a normal range of performance and behavior with due regard to the child's culture. Document: intensity, frequency and duration.
- b. Emotional abuse includes acts or omissions by the parents or other persons responsible for the child's care that have caused, or could cause serious behavioral, cognitive, emotional, or mental disorders.

- c. Emotional abuse is the most difficult form of child abuse to identify. Some effects of emotional abuse may only become evident in later developmental stages in the child's life. Behaviors of emotionally abused and emotionally disturbed children are often similar. Emotional abuse is almost always present when other forms of abuse have been identified.

For the abused or neglected individual, behavioral indicators may exist alone, or may accompany physical indicators. Behavior indicators may serve as warning signals that something is wrong.

Adopted: March 2018
Reviewed: January 2021
Next Review: 2024

Section 6 – Support Staff*

(Support staff is defined as all non-teaching staff including teacher aides)

6.100

Support Staff Recruitment And Selection

The Board shall approve the budget for Support Staff positions in the school on the basis of need and the financial resources of the school.

The recruitment, selection, and hiring for these positions shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent. All final employment offers are contingent upon the successful completion of a medical exam and a security screening.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: February 2021

Next Review: 2024

6.101

Support Staff Orientation

The Board charges the Superintendent with the responsibility of providing for adequate orientation of support staff to their positions. Such orientation shall cover both job responsibilities and school rules/regulations which apply to staff.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: February 2021

Next Review: 2024

6.102

Support Staff Compensation

All support staff compensation and benefits payments and tax deductions shall be in accordance with Venezuelan labor law. An itemized summary of all pay elements will be an attachment to the employment contract.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: February 2021

Next Review: 2024

6.103

Overtime Pay

Recognizing that it may be necessary for support staff to work extra hours in order to complete additional workloads, the Board authorizes the Superintendent to approve such hours as he/she sees fit. All overtime must be approved in advance by the Superintendent.

Payment for overtime hours shall be paid in accordance with Venezuelan Labor Law.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: March 2018
Reviewed: February 2021
Next Review: 2024

6.104

Support Staff Time Schedule And Workload

The time schedule and work loads of support staff shall be determined by the Superintendent in accordance with Venezuelan Law.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: March 2018
Reviewed: February 2021
Next Review: 2024

6.105

Support Staff Vacations And Holidays

Vacations and holidays shall be determined by the Superintendent in accordance with the norms established in Venezuelan Labor Law and consistent with the school calendar.

Adopted. June 2003

Reviewed: March 2018

Reviewed: February 2021

Next Review: 2024

6.106

Tuition Relief for Teacher Aides and Support Staff

Free or reduced tuition and school fees shall be offered to CIPLC teacher aides and support staff employees according to the following schedule:

All teacher aides and support staff will be eligible to receive a discount on CIPLC tuition for a maximum of one dependent per employee at any one time according to the following schedule:

Years of continuous employment	% of "individual" tuition waived
1	0
2	25
3&4	50
5&6	75
7&8	85
9&10	95
More than 10	100

The following applies to this benefit:

1. Only teacher aides and support staff members' children who meet CIPLC admission requirements and for whom there is available space will be eligible for this benefit;
2. This is not transferable as a cash benefit;
3. The tuition relief benefit ends when the employee's employment ends and/or the child withdraws from CIPLC;
4. This benefit is not available when tuition is provided by an employer of the CIPLC employee's spouse;
5. For part-time authorized employees, this benefit shall be prorated in accordance with the time on the job, except when tuition is provided by an employer of the CIPLC employee's spouse. If the employer does not pay the tuition in full, the balance will be prorated in accordance with the time on the job;
6. The Capital Fee shall be waived for all authorized employee dependents, regardless of their number, except when fees are provided by an employer of the CIPLC employee's spouse.
7. This policy does not include bus fees, or other fees not normally covered by tuition.

Adopted: April 2015

Reviewed: February 2021

Next Review: 2024

Section 7 – Students

7.101

Student Welfare And Safety

The welfare and safety of students is of utmost importance at all times. Close supervision of students in school buildings, on school grounds, and on school-sponsored outings, is a major responsibility of all school personnel. Special attention must be given to:

1. Maintaining a safe school environment.
2. Safe practices on the part of school personnel and students, especially in those instructional and extracurricular activities that may be hazardous.
3. Safety instruction for students as needed in particular subjects, especially laboratory courses and physical education.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: April 2018

Reviewed: February 2021

Next Review: 2024

7.102

Supervision Of Students

Students shall be supervised by a responsible adult while in school or attending school sponsored activities. The staff member in charge shall ultimately be responsible for the welfare and safety of the students involved in the given activity.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: April 2018

Reviewed: February 2021

Next Review: 2024

7.103

Students Leaving School Grounds

No pupil will be permitted to leave school grounds during the school day except when accompanied by their parent, legal guardian, or with written or verbal parental approval as confirmed and approved by the Superintendent or his/her designee.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: April 2018

Reviewed: February 2021

Next Review: 2024

7.104

Transportation

Due to safety and security concerns, students are not allowed to ride bicycles or drive personal automobiles to school. Bus transportation to and from school is available for all students who pay transportation costs. Any exceptions to this policy must be approved by the Superintendent.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: April 2018

Reviewed: February 2021

Next Review: 2024

7.105

Smoking By Students

Smoking by students is prohibited at any time on school grounds and at school sponsored activities.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: April 2018
Reviewed: February 2021
Next Review: 2024

7.106

Dangerous Items

Students may not bring to school any dangerous items, including, but not limited to: guns, knives, fireworks, and the variety of martial arts weapons. Such items will be confiscated and retained until collected by parents.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: April 2018

Reviewed: February 2021

Next Review: 2024

7.107

Suspension Of Students

The Superintendent shall have the authority to suspend students. He/she is responsible for contacting the parents or guardians when a student is suspended. For each suspension, a letter must be sent to the home listing the reasons for suspension, period of suspension, instructions to be followed by the student during the suspension period and a request for the parent or guardian to confer with the Superintendent. While under suspension, the student shall be in the custody of his parents or guardian and is not to attend or participate in any activity sponsored by the school. A suspended student shall not be re-admitted to school unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: April 2018

Reviewed: February 2021

Next Review: 2021

7.108

Married Students / Pregnant Students

Keeping in mind that the school's main function is to provide educational opportunities to all youth, the Board of Directors feels that married students should have the same educational privileges and academic opportunities as unmarried students.

A girl who becomes pregnant will be permitted to remain in school so long as, in the judgment of her physician and the Superintendent, her welfare and that of the other students are not threatened.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: April 2018
Reviewed: February 2021
Next Review: 2024

7.109

Fines And Charges

Students who have damaged or destroyed school property, either willfully or through neglect or carelessness, shall be assessed fines in accordance with the extent of damage. Such fines and charges shall not exceed the replacement costs of the item in question which will include shipping and nationalization.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: April 2018

Reviewed: February 2021

Next Review: 2024

7.110

Student Complaints And Grievances

Student complaints and grievances shall be handled in the same spirit as those voiced by parents and/or staff. That is, students should voice such complaints to the person closest to the situation. The normal channels for resolution of difficulties begin with the classroom teacher and move on through the appropriate Principal/Dean, the Superintendent, and ultimately to the Board of Directors. Students are also encouraged to consult the Counselor in such circumstances.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: April 2018
Reviewed: February 2021
Next Review: 2024

7.111

Student's Exposure to Hazardous Materials

All possible measures will be taken to avoid chemical exposure caused by consuming food and beverages in plastic-containing receptacles. Reusable options will be utilized in the cantina, at water stations, and at school sponsored events on campus.

All possible measures will be taken to avoid exposure to chemicals including herbicides or pesticides.

Adopted: November 2012

Reviewed: April 2018

Reviewed: February 2021

Next Review: 2024

7.200

Preferential Conditions For Admissions

Children enrolled at the end of the school year shall automatically be enrolled for the following school year, provided all outstanding fees and debts are paid. Remaining available space shall be filled in accordance with the following priority guidelines.

1. Children of the founding corporate community
2. Children of the corporate, expatriate community
3. Other U. S. expatriate children
4. Native or fluent speakers of English
5. All others

See Attachment “N” – Admission Policy

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: April 2018
Revised: April 2018
Reviewed: February 2021
Next Review: 2024

7.201

Entrance Age: Pre-School, Pre-Kinder and Kindergarten

Pupils enrolling in the **Pre-School** shall be three (3) years of age on or before September 30th of the academic school year.

Pupils enrolling in **Pre-Kinder** shall be four (4) years of age on or before September 30th of the academic school year.

Pupils enrolling in **Kindergarten** shall be five (5) years of age on or before September 30th of the academic school year.

Adopted: January 2009

Reviewed: April 2018

Reviewed: February 2021

Next Review: 2024

7.202

Entrance Age: First Grade

Students enrolling in the first grade in September shall be six (6) years of age on or before September 30th of the academic school year.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: April 2018

Reviewed: February 2021

Next Review: 2024

7.203

Proof Of Birth Date

Applications for new students in Early Childhood and grades 1, 2, and 3 must be accompanied by proof of birth date before such applications are considered complete. This may be in the form of an original or certified copy of a baptismal certificate, passport, registration of birth, or birth certificate.

Adopted June: 2003

Reviewed: April 2018

Reviewed: February 2021

Next Review: 2024

7.204

Proof Of Immunizations

All students will show proof of immunization against childhood diseases per U.S. standards before being considered for admissions.

Requests for exceptions must be reviewed by the school doctor and Superintendent.

Adopted: August 2012
Reviewed: April 2018
Reviewed: February 2021
Next Review: 2024

7.205

Grade Placement

Grade Placements of students, including those entering from a different academic system, shall be at the discretion of the Superintendent after review of all records, and consultation with the Principal/Dean, Admissions Officer, and if needed, other staff members. Interviews with the student and/or parent(s) may also be required.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: April 2018
Reviewed: February 2021
Next Review: 2024

7.206

Attendance / Absences

1. Attendance is of primary concern at CIPLC. The following board policy is designed to encourage regular attendance. In order for classes to make progress before and after holidays, the school may enforce a higher weighting of these days within the attendance policy.
2. Based upon Cognia/AdvancED accreditation requirements, a student is required to attend class a minimum of 90% of the days for credit to be awarded.
3. School approved field trips and activities will not be counted as days absent.
4. There may be cases beyond a family's control for which all work missed will be made up and credited. All other absences will be deemed as unexcused and missed work may not be assigned or accepted.
5. There will be a venue for petitions under this policy. The Superintendent is the final authority in all petitions.

Adopted: October 2011
Reviewed: April 2018
Reviewed: February 2021
Next Review: 2024

7.207

Acceptance Of Records From Other Schools

Official Records, including grades and credits earned toward graduation, shall be accepted from other schools at the discretion of the Superintendent or his/her designee.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: April 2018
Reviewed: February 2021
Next Review: 2024

7.208

Student Transcripts

Students leaving the school shall be furnished with transcripts upon receipt of a written request as outlined in policy, after all tuition and fees have been paid.

Transcripts shall contain all grades, standardized test scores, and such behavior notations as are deemed necessary and fair. Transcripts for students transferring to other schools shall also be accompanied by narrative comments by the staff describing curriculum and student abilities, if appropriate.

All transcripts delivered shall be acknowledged by written receipt.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: April 2018

Reviewed: February 2021

Next Review: 2024

Independent Study And Distance Learning

When deemed necessary or appropriate by the administration, a student will be permitted to enroll in an independent study or distance learning course. The School Counselor and Principal/Dean must recommend a student's enrollment in an independent study or distance learning to the Superintendent for final approval.

As part of the process for making a final decision related to a recommendation, the Superintendent should consider, but not be limited to, the following criteria:

1. Enrollment in an independent study or distance learning course will not be granted if CIPLC offers a comparable course that is available to the student;
2. A student may take no more than one (1) independent study or distance learning course during a given semester;
3. A student must be under the direct supervision of a teacher approved by the Superintendent; and
4. A detailed program of studies and evaluation criteria must be developed for the course of study.

The criteria and process for enrollment in and completion of distance learning classes are outlined in the CIPLC Student-Parent Handbook.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: April 2018

Reviewed: February 2021

Next Review: 2024

Student Publications

Student publications are important elements of the instructional program and contribute directly to the accomplishment of the school's goals. The Board of Directors wishes to support the development of student-produced newspapers, annuals, and magazines.

The Board of Directors recognizes the students' constitutionally protected rights to freedom of expression in our school and shall be interpreted as including, and not being contrary to:

1. Development of student responsibility in distinguishing between freedom and license.
2. Consideration by the faculty of the maturity levels of students and of appropriate standards of journalistic taste.
3. Care for the development of skills of written expression among students. The regulation of student publications shall be vested in the student staff and their advisor with provisions for appeal to the Superintendent.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: April 2018
Reviewed: February 2021
Next Review: 2024

Teaching Controversial Issues

The Board encourages the consideration within the instructional program of any controversial issue as it arises in the normal pursuit of the school curriculum or particularly as it may occur in contemporary affairs which have political, economic, or social significance and concerning which the student, at their level, should have an opinion.

For such studies, we recognize the right of the students:

- To have free access to all relevant information including the materials that circulate freely in the community,
- To study under competent teachers in an atmosphere of freedom from bias and prejudice, and
- To form and express their own opinion on controversial issues without thereby jeopardizing their relationship with their teacher or with the school.

To implement this policy, the Board shall develop administrative and teaching regulations that observe the above conditions and are consistent with the Board's rationale for adopting this policy as follows:

We believe that the study of controversial issues in the school can be a productive educational opportunity, provided that:

- Such issues are likely to have relevance and therefore interest for the student,
- The student gains valuable experience in considering their own attitudes, developing their own standards, and in trying to relate themselves and their individual position to the social order around them,
- Abundant data are available for collection, evaluation and analysis of the issue,
- Important qualitative lessons can be learned, e.g., that controversial issues do not always have a single correct answer; that tentative working conclusions must sometimes be drawn even if data are inadequate; and that there is value in reasonable compromise when decisions must be taken on controversial issues.

Many of these lessons will deal with democratic processes and requirements of good citizenship. Professional staff is to advise the Principal/Dean when planning discussions of potentially controversial issues and/or when such discussions occur spontaneously in an instructional setting.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: April 2018

Reviewed: February 2021

Next Review: 2024

7.400

Dress Code

The School shall establish and enforce a standard Dress Code for students and staff compliant with Venezuelan law.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: April 2018
Reviewed: February 2021
Next Review: 2024

7.401

Student Employment By The School

Students may serve as volunteer aides, monitors, etc. within the regular school program. Students so utilized shall not receive monetary return for their services.

Students wishing summer work at school may be employed on a part-time basis, when and if the need arises, as day laborers under the labor laws of Venezuela.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: April 2018

Reviewed: February 2021

Next Review: 2024

7.402

Contests For Students

Organizations or groups within or outside the school may not use the school's name in any contest or fund raising drive without the written approval of the Superintendent.

Contests and competitions for students that are positive in nature and which are based on recognizing achievement and accomplishment may be sanctioned by the school.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: April 2018
Reviewed: February 2021
Next Review: 2024

7.403

Solicitations

Students may not be solicited for contributions, nor may commercial agents advertise or solicit business on school grounds, without the expressed written permission of the Superintendent.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: April 2018
Reviewed: February 2021
Next Review: 2024

Section 8 – Physical Plant

8.100

Facilities

It shall be the policy of the Board of Directors to maintain the school plant in good physical condition: safe, clean, sanitary, and as comfortable and convenient as the facilities will permit or the use requires.

The Superintendent shall have the general responsibility for the care, custody, and safekeeping of all school property. He/She shall establish such procedures and employ such means as may be necessary to discharge this responsibility.

As needed, there will be an ad hoc Facilities Committee appointed by the Board of Directors to assist the Superintendent in this task.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: October 2018
Reviewed: March 2021
Next Review: 2024

8.101

Facility Maintenance

The Superintendent, or his/her designee, shall develop and supervise the implementation of a regular, on-going maintenance plan for the school, reporting annually to the Board on its effectiveness.

As needed, there will be a Facilities Committee appointed by the Board of Directors to evaluate maintenance activities.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: October 2018
Reviewed: March 2021
Next Review: 2024

8.102

Facility Repairs

Requests for repairs shall be made in writing through the Superintendent's office. The Superintendent will maintain an on-going record of all major repairs made to the school plant.

If the repair amount is considerable, the Superintendent should request approval from the Board of Directors to proceed with the repair.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: October 2018
Reviewed: March 2021
Next Review: 2024

8.103

Security And Key Control

The School shall maintain security personnel on a 24 hour basis to secure the school grounds.

Control of keys providing entry into rooms on campus shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent or his/her designee who shall distribute keys only to those for whom possession of keys is a necessity in the performance of their jobs. A record will be maintained of all keys distributed.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: October 2018
Revised: October 2018
Reviewed: March 2021
Next Review: 2024

8.104

Fire Prevention And Drills

The Superintendent shall be responsible for developing regulations governing fire prevention and drills in the school.

Fire drills shall be held at least once per semester.

Fire exit procedures shall be posted in all rooms occupied at any time by students.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: October 2018

Reviewed: March 2021

Next Review: 2024

8.105

Emergency Plans

Special drills and procedures shall be developed by the Superintendent to assure the orderly movement of students to the safest available area during any emergency.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: October 2018
Reviewed: March 2021
Next Review: 2024

Bomb Threats

The Board of Directors acknowledges its responsibility to ensure the safety of the children under its care. At the same time, it wishes to deal firmly with bomb threats and to discourage this type of disruption, which poses a danger to everyone in the school even when it is merely a threat and a nuisance. Therefore, procedures for dealing with bomb threats will:

1. Aim first toward ensuring student and personnel safety.
2. Aim also toward identifying the person or persons making the threat.
3. Require immediate reporting of any incident to the Superintendent's office and the local authorities.
4. Do not require automatic evacuation of the threatened building. The Superintendent will make the decision.
5. Establish staff responsibilities for searching the building. The request of an employee not to participate in the search shall be honored.
6. Provide that students not be dismissed from school until the end of the school day. Instead, if the building is evacuated, they shall remain in safe areas under their teacher's supervision until the Superintendent and police are satisfied no danger exists.
7. Provide instructions to staff, especially office personnel, in dealing with threatening phone calls.

The Superintendent shall confer with the President of the Board of Directors if possible, and brief him/her on the situation.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: October 2018
Reviewed: March 2021
Next Review: 2024

8.107

Temporary Emergency Closing

The Superintendent is authorized to announce the closing of school if actual or potential hazards threaten the safety and well-being of students and/or employees. The decision to close the school shall be made by the Superintendent or his/her designee upon consultation with members of the Board of Directors (when feasible), professional staff, and/or other community agencies responsible for the safety and well-being of the community. Any public announcements and/or releases to the news media concerning emergency closings shall be made by the Superintendent.

Instructional days lost due to emergency closing may be rescheduled through extended days or Saturdays in order to fulfill all teaching day requirements.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: October 2018
Reviewed: March 2021
Next Review: 2024

8.108

Accident Prevention And Reports

The Superintendent and school staff shall constantly anticipate possible unsafe situations within the school building and program. Any such concerns shall be reported to the Superintendent or his/her designee immediately and corrective action taken, as appropriate.

Recognizing, however, that even in the most carefully run organization accidents may occur, the Board of Directors charges the Superintendent with the development of specific procedures for the treatment and reporting of accidents which occur on school grounds and/or during school sponsored activities.

The Superintendent shall consider implementing a hazard situation warning system among all students, teachers and other school personnel to prompt them about any possible danger.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: October 2018
Reviewed: March 2021
Next Review: 2024

8.109

Student Transportation In Non-School Vehicles

The Superintendent shall designate necessary vehicles as authorized for school transport.

Students may not be transported to or from school activities in non-school vehicles without written parental permission.

The school accepts no responsibility for student safety in instances when students ride in non-school vehicles, including car pools arranged by parents.

In the case of medical emergencies requiring the transport of a student to the hospital, the student will be transported in the safest and most medically acceptable method, which may be a non-school vehicle.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: October 2018
Reviewed: March 2021
Next Review: 2024

8.110

Student Transportation Insurance And Liability

The Superintendent shall, in his/her position as intermediary between the drivers of student transportation and the parents, ensure that the drivers of school transportation carry adequate accident and liability insurance.

The responsibility for student safety during transport is that of the carrier. The school accepts no responsibilities for accidents in non-school vehicles.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: October 2018
Reviewed: March 2021
Next Review: 2024

8.200

Food Service

The Superintendent is authorized to provide for adequate lunch services for those students who wish to participate. The cost of lunch will be paid for by students when they eat. Lunches are not to be subsidized from the school's operating budget.

It is the intent of the Board of Directors that all students be given the opportunity of a well-balanced diet.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: October 2018
Reviewed: March 2021
Next Review: 2024

Section 9 – Curriculum

9.100

Curriculum Development

The curriculum of the school is defined as a set of guidelines for the planning, implementation, and evaluation of learning experiences for students at CIPLC. It encompasses such areas as overall instructional goals and objectives, course/area goals and objectives, content, and both teacher-based and standardized evaluation of learning. The Superintendent, working with the professional staff, shall be responsible for the design and development of a curriculum for the school in accordance with established SACS/AdvancED accreditation guidelines. At times a Curriculum Committee may be established to assist with these activities.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: January 2019
Next Review: 2022

9.101

Grouping For Instruction

Students will be assigned to instructional groups according to previous records, measured attitudes and achievement, age, physical and emotional maturity, and other pertinent considerations whenever possible. Parental preferences will be considered, but the final determination is the responsibility of the Superintendent.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: January 2019
Next Review: 2022

9.102

Report Cards And Conferences

Communication with parents regarding student progress is essential to the home-school relationship. As such, the Superintendent shall develop regulations pertinent to scheduling of report cards and conferences. Further, the dates set for report card distribution and conferences shall be included in the annual school calendar.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: January 2019
Next Review: 2022

9.103

Student Awards And Recognition

The Board of Directors encourages the use of awards and recognition at all levels in recognition of special student and teacher achievement, including athletics, arts and academics.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: January 2019
Revised: January 2019
Next Review: 2022

9.104

Graduation Requirements

Requirements for graduation are established by the Board of Directors upon the recommendation of the Superintendent. They shall be consistent with the stated goals of the school and the requirements for admission to institutions of higher education in the United States. The Superintendent has the authority, when necessary, to deviate from these requirements.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: January 2019
Next Review: 2022

9.105

Services For Exceptional Children

Given the limited staff and capacity of CIPLC, there is limited provision for services for exceptional children beyond what can be provided in the regular classroom.

Parents of exceptional children shall be explicitly advised of this situation upon application or first request for information regarding admission to the school. Any doubt on the part of the Superintendent as to the ability of the school to attend to the needs of the child shall be stated at this time.

For the sake of exceptional children and considering CIPLIC staff and facility limitations, exceptional children should not be admitted.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: January 2019
Revised: January 2019
Next Review: 2022

9.106

Religious Instruction

CIPLC is non-secular. Religious instruction is not a part of the scholastic program nor shall the school premises be used for religious purposes unless required by law.

This is not intended to prohibit the study of such subjects as ethics or philosophy, but rather to avoid preferential treatment of any specific religious doctrines.

As non-secular school, CIPLIC shall reserve its right to allow special dress codes for students or school personnel which represents a specific religious content.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: January 2019

Next Review: 2022

Field Trips And Excursions

A field trip is defined as an educational activity that meets the following criteria:

1. It involves a specific class or classes,
2. It is intended for all students in the class(es),
3. It takes the class away from the classroom,
4. It has an identifiable educational objective,
5. It includes preparation of students for the activity and evaluation of outcome.

Such trips are encouraged as long as they do not seriously interfere with the educational routine of students who must remain in school. Parental permission is required for participation in field trips. Field trip arrangements and schedule must be approved by the Superintendent in advance.

On all school-sponsored trips involving students, proper supervision must be provided by school employees. In grades preschool through 6, there must be a minimum of one chaperone for every seven students. In grades 7 through 12, there must be a minimum of one chaperone for every 10 students. This requirement may be waived only at the discretion of the Superintendent.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: January 2019
Next Review: 2022

9.108

U.S. Program

CIPLC was originally founded to attend to the needs of the U.S. expatriate community. Given the highly mobile nature of the student body, it is the policy of the Board to maintain an elementary and secondary program based on the model provided by the United States highest performing public schools, adapted to facilitate re-entrance into schools in the United States and other countries in the world.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: January 2019
Next Review: 2022

Evaluation Of Instructional Program

The Board of Directors expects its faculty and administration to regularly evaluate the educational program. Citizen groups and outside agencies may be invited to participate when appropriate. Such evaluation may be expected to lead to recommendations for modifications of present practices, changes in content and new courses.

Curriculum development is the responsibility of the entire staff, but the leadership and coordination of developmental process is the special task of the Superintendent.

After planning by the faculty and approval by the administration, new programs will be presented to the Board. Periodic reports on the state and developmental activities (of the curriculum) will be presented to the Board by the Superintendent.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: January 2019
Next Review: 2022

9.110

Library / Media Materials Selection And Adoption

The school shall provide library/media materials of such quality and quantity as to provide adequate resource materials for the optimum educational attainment of each individual student. The selection of materials for the library/media center shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent in advisement with the teachers and librarian.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: January 2019
Next Review: 2022

9.111

Extra Curricular And Athletic Programs

The school shall offer extra-curricular activities for students. The scope and variety of extra-curricular activities may vary from year to year. Continuity shall be encouraged in the major areas of extra-curricular activity, e.g., student publications, dramatics, athletics, music. A portion of the school day may be scheduled by the administration for extra-curricular activities. Extra-curricular activities may also be scheduled outside of regular school hours.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: January 2019
Next Review: 2022

9.112

Homework

Practice of key concepts and skills is essential to learning. Assigning practice outside of school hours, commonly known as “homework”, can enhance student learning and build good habits and routines. However, homework must be given judiciously and must be aligned with best practice with respect to the age and abilities of the child.

It is the responsibility of the Administration to determine the suitable amount, type and frequency of homework and to publish those parameters to students and parents in the Student Handbook for each division.

Adopted: October 2018

Reviewed:

Next Review: 2022

Section 10 – [Community](#)

10.100

Community Resources

The Board of Directors encourages and proactively seeks to utilize resources within the community to assist in furthering and enriching the educational program.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: February 2019

Next Review: 2022

10.101

U.S. Accrediting Agencies

The Board of Directors views accreditation by Advanc-Ed/Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), or other internationally recognized agencies as the way of assuring that the school meets pre-established, recognizable standards of quality, thus creating a basic foundation for the development and maintenance of a good school. The Board recognizes that the goal of a dynamic institution must be continuous improvement.

As such, it shall be the policy of the Board that the standards and requirements of U.S. accreditation be met. Should a standard or requirement not be met, for whatever reason, a plan to remove the deficiency based on an aggressive timeline, shall be developed by the Superintendent and the Board of Directors.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: February 2019
Next Review: 2022

10.102

In-service Education / Student Teachers / Research And Consultation

The Board of Directors authorizes the Superintendent to negotiate agreements with U.S. universities to provide in-service education for the staff and faculty of CIPLC. This authorization shall include student teachers and research and consultative services.

Expenditure of funds not included for this purpose in budget shall require prior approval.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: February 2019
Next Review: 2022

10.103

Regional And International Associations and Organizations

The Superintendent is authorized to apply for membership and to participate in activities of regional and international associations appropriate for international schools in general and CIPLC in particular within the limits of funds budgeted for that purpose. The obligation of unbudgeted funds shall, however, require prior Board approval.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: February 2019
Next Review: 2022

10.104

Cooperative Programs With National Schools

The Superintendent is authorized and encouraged to enter into any cooperative program with a local Venezuelan school which provides a benefit to the school program without compromising the operation of the school in any way.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: February 2019

Next Review: 2022

10.105

Host Country Schools, Colleges, And Universities

The Board of Directors authorizes the Superintendent to enter into mutually beneficial relationships with any institutions of higher learning in order to provide assistance in improving the school program.

Any financial commitments to such programs not included in the budget shall require prior Board approval.

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: February 2019

Next Review: 2022

10.106

U.S. Schools, Universities, And Colleges

The Board of Directors recognizes that substantial benefit can be gained by the establishment of a viable university-to-university program between CIPLC and U.S. institutions of higher learning. As such, the Superintendent is authorized to establish and maintain such a relationship in order to enhance the educational program of the school.

Any financial commitments to such a program which are not included in the budget shall require prior approval of the Board.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: February 2019
Next Review: 2022

10.107

Local Education Agencies and School To School Programs

The Board of Directors recognizes that substantial benefit can be gained from the establishment of an effective school-to-school program. As such the Superintendent is authorized to establish and maintain such a partnership with a U.S. Local School District for the purpose of mutual advantage.

Any funding requirements which are not included in the budget shall require prior Board approval.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: February 2019
Next Review: 2022

10.108

Adult Education

The school may provide for such adult education programs as are necessary to attend to community interests provided that they do not operate at a financial loss unless such loss is specifically included in the budget.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: February 2019
Next Review: 2022

10.109

School Volunteers

The Board encourages the use of volunteers as a supplement to the school staff when such individuals are:

- a. Unpaid
- b. Subordinate and directly responsible to a regular employee of the school
- c. Utilized efficiently under a specific plan of duties and responsibilities
- d. Qualified
- e. Be thoroughly vetted in accordance with the child protection policy (5.500) and Policy 5.101

Adopted: June 2003

Reviewed: February 2019

Revised: February 2019

Next Review: 2022

10.110

Host Country Law Enforcement Agencies Relations

It is the policy of the Board of Directors to cooperate with law enforcement agencies in the interest of the larger welfare of all citizens. At the same time, schools have the responsibility to parents for the welfare of the students while they are in the care of the school. To carry out this responsibility school officials should observe the following:

1. A student in school may not be interrogated by any authority without the knowledge of the school official and parents.
2. Any interrogation must be done in private with an official school representative present.
3. A student may not be released into the custody of persons other than parent or legal guardian, unless placed under arrest by legal authority.

Adopted: June 2003
Reviewed: February 2019
Next Review: 2022