

SECTION: PROPERTY

SOUTHERN LEHIGH
SCHOOL DISTRICT

TITLE: SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT

ADOPTED: October 28, 2019

REVISED:

719. SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT	
1. Purpose	The Board recognizes the emerging and important role played by small unmanned aircraft, commonly known as drones, in various industries where the District’s students will later be employed. The Board recognizes the educational benefits of instruction about drones and the importance of educating the District’s students in this technology. The Board also recognizes that drones on campus pose a potential risk to the safety of students, members of the public and/or property, and adopts this policy to ensure safety and security on campus.
2. Delegation of Responsibility	The Superintendent shall develop procedures to implement this policy and may delegate to his/her designee(s) the right to enforce this policy.
3. Definitions	Small Unmanned Aircraft (SUA) – an aircraft operated without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the aircraft, weighing less than 55 pounds on takeoff, including everything that is on board or otherwise attached to the aircraft.
4. Guidelines	<p><u>STUDENT USE OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES</u></p> <p><u>PRIOR APPROVAL REQUIRED</u></p> <p>SUA may only be operated by students for educational purposes on school district property or as part of a school district sponsored activity taking place off-campus, with prior approval by the building administrator.</p> <p>The building administrator shall only grant approval for the use of SUA for educational purposes if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of SUA will be supervised by a school district employee; and • The school district employee demonstrates to the building administrator sufficient understanding of the SUA and its safe operation; and • The building administrator is satisfied that the students operating the SUA have sufficient understanding of the SUA and its safe operation; and • The building administrator is satisfied that the use of SUA will be in a safe location with minimal risk to the safety of property and others; and • The building administrator is satisfied that the supervising employee has an understanding of the applicable FAA regulations and applicable law regarding outdoor use; and • The building administrator is satisfied that the use of the SUA is consistent

<p>14C.F.R.§107.1 et seq. 49 U.S.C. §44809</p>	<p>with the educational mission of the school district.</p> <p><u>LAWFUL OPERATION</u></p> <p>Any school district employee supervising the use of SUA for educational purposes is responsible for ensuring adherence to all applicable laws and regulations.</p> <p>For outdoor use, this includes, but is not limited to, ensuring that the SUA operator will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Follow the safety guidelines of a model aircraft community-based organization• Fly at or below 400 feet when in uncontrolled airspace• Fly within visual line-of-sight, meaning you as the drone operator use your own eyes and need contacts or glasses (without binoculars), to ensure you can see your drone at all times.• Never fly near other aircraft.• Never fly over groups of people, public events, or stadiums full of people.• Never fly near or over emergency response efforts. <p>Consistent with FAA guidance, school district employees supervising outdoor student use of SUA for educational purposes may not operate the SUA themselves, unless the employee holds a Remote Pilot Certificate from the FAA.</p>
<p>14 C.F.R. Part 61</p>	<p><u>EMPLOYEE USE OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT</u></p> <p>Subject to the provisions below, the Board authorizes employees to use SUA for purposes both related to and not directly related to the education of students, such as to inspect buildings and grounds, monitor the safety and security of students, analyze traffic patterns, and for promotional photographs and videos. SUA may be used by employees in the instruction of students.</p> <p><u>PRIOR APPROVAL REQUIRED</u></p> <p>SUA may only be operated by school district employees with prior approval by the Superintendent or his/her designee.</p> <p>Any school district employee operating a SUA outdoors is responsible for complying with all applicable laws and regulations, and must hold a Remote Pilot Certificate from the FAA.</p> <p>The Superintendent or his/her designee shall only grant approval for the use of a SUA if he/she is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Satisfied that the use of SUA will be in a safe location with minimal risk to the safety of property and others; and• Satisfied that the use of the SUA is consistent with the educational mission of the District; and

- Satisfied that all applicable laws and regulations have been followed.

OTHER SUA PROHIBITED – NO PRIVATE USE

The Board prohibits the use of private SUA on all school district property including personal SUA operated by students, employees, parents, community members, and news organizations.

Nothing in this policy, however, shall prevent the use of SUA by law enforcement on school district property.