

**SECTION 1 - SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT ORGANIZATION**

**SPEED - Special Ed**

## 1:10 Legal Status

The Illinois Constitution requires the State to provide for an efficient system of high-quality public educational institutions and services in order to achieve the educational development of all persons to the limits of their capabilities.

The General Assembly has implemented this constitutional mandate through the creation of joint agreements of various types for the purpose of providing special education services to children with disabilities. Special Education Joint Agreement #802 hereinafter referred to as "SPEED" or "the District" is governed by such mandates.

Special education programs and/or services shall be developed in accordance with The Illinois Rules and Regulations to Govern the Organization and Administration of Special Education as promulgated under the constitutional authority of the State of Illinois and the Office of the Illinois State Board of Education.

Consistent with 105 ILCS 5/10-22.31, the SPEED Governing Board shall serve as the administrative and legal entity for the District.

The Governing Board constitutes a body corporate that possesses all the usual powers of a corporation for public purposes, and in that name may sue and be sued, purchase, hold and sell personal property and real estate, and enter into such obligations as are authorized by law.

LEGAL REF.:

Ill. Constitution, Art. X, Sec. 1.

105 ILCS 5/10-1 et seq.

CROSS REF.: 2:10 (Governance), 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the Boards)

Adopted: August 26, 2021

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## **1:20 Organization**

The District is organized under the "Articles of Agreement."

LEGAL REF.:

23 Ill Admin Code § 1.210

CROSS REF.: 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the Boards)

Adopted: August 26, 2021

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## 1:30 Mission

SPEED is a service organization whose primary functions are to plan, recommend, and provide special education programs and services to all member district children and to assist district personnel in providing local programs and services. SPEED's functions also include participation in professional research and study, support for appropriate legislation, dissemination of information to parents and communities, and cooperation with other service agencies.

### Guiding Principles

Whereas public education is a fundamental right of all children and whereas every child is entitled to an equal opportunity to obtain an education, the SPEED education community upholds the following tenets as the basis for decisions regarding all children, and especially those with special learning needs:

- All children are to be valued equally.
- All children can learn and can thereby profit from educational services.
- All professionals working in the SPEED educational community must strive to create a match among the needs of the children, best professional practice, and the recognized needs of the education community.
- Special education is one appropriate means of increasing to the maximum the capacity of the system to serve the needs of all children.
- Cooperation with other human service agencies will help achieve comprehensive child-centered services.
- In all matters, the needs of children must have priority over the needs and convenience of the SPEED educational community.
- Families are important in the educational process and must be central to this process.
- Individual programs must be developed by both regular and special education on the basis of varied information from multiple sources. These programs must portray a comprehensive and accurate view of the child and his/her needs and abilities.
- Students with unique learning needs must be served in the least restrictive environment appropriate to meet those needs.
- The purpose of education is to increase the ability of students to function independently and productively in the many environments in which other members of society function independently.
- Early identification and intervention increases the likelihood of successfully addressing the cognitive, social/behavioral, affective, and physical needs of students.

To facilitate the exercise of these tenets, the SPEED education community shall be in compliance with all existing laws and regulations.

CROSS REF: 2:10 (Governance), 2:80 (Board Member Conduct), 3:10 (SPEED Organizational Goals), 6:10 (Educational Goals)

Adopted: August 26, 2021

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