

OBSERVATION OF A STUDENT BY OUTSIDE PROFESSIONALS

The Board of Education recognizes that there may be times when it is appropriate for a medical or licensed and/or certified educational professional from outside South Lyon Community Schools to observe a student in the classroom at the request of, and with authorization from, the child's parent/guardian.

An outside professional who wants to observe a classroom, student, or activity must notify the building principal at least three days in advance and provide parental consent. Building administration may deny an observation request if the observation is likely to disrupt the learning of other students or is likely to result in the disclosure of confidential or personal information of another student.

The following guidelines shall be followed so as not to create an unreasonable obstacle to teaching or learning or to administering or maintaining proper discipline in the school:

1. The principal, in consultation with the classroom teacher and the parent, shall schedule the observation on a mutually agreed upon day. The date shall be scheduled to avoid testing or some other activity for which the presence of an outside professional in the classroom might cause an unreasonable obstacle to learning and/or teaching.
2. The presence of an outside professional in the classroom must not create an unreasonable obstacle to teaching or learning or to administering or maintaining proper discipline in the school. To ensure that the teaching/learning environment is maintained, the outside professional must cooperate in the following ways:
 - By sitting in the place designated by the teacher, so that his/her presence is not distracting to the students or the teacher.
 - By observing the classroom in a quiet and unobtrusive manner.
 - By avoiding interruptions, comments or other behaviors which limit teaching and learning.
 - By agreeing that audio and videotaping is prohibited without written permission from the Superintendent, or his/her designee.
 - By maintaining the privacy rights of students other than the student being observed.
3. Building administration may:
 - Limit the length of time of an observation of a classroom, activity or student.
 - Limit the number of outside professionals observing a classroom or activity at one time.

- Remain in the classroom or activity during the observation.

Failure to follow these guidelines will result in the outside professional being removed from the classroom and may place limits on his/her right to future observations.

Adopted May 18, 2015