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A Changing Landscape: Administrative Best Practices

February 10, 2017

AGENDA

8:00 – 8:30 a.m. – Coffee, Networking and Registration

SESSION ONE – 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Panel #1 – Navigating Change – Immigration Issues Affecting Schools

Speakers: Karlie Dunsky and Tejas Shah

The *Wall Street Journal* recently published an article on the growing trend of Chinese families sending younger children to live with host families in order to attend U.S. schools, a practice usually seen only at the collegiate level. In this informative and interactive session, our immigration practice team will provide an overview of this trend and other immigration issues facing schools, including laws and enforcement policies applicable to undocumented youth and the parents of students.

Panel #2 – Implementing Senate Bill 100 – Stories from the Front

Speakers: Laura Knittle and Kendra Yoch

As with any new statute, the first few months of Senate Bill 100 have provided insights into how it will be implemented – as well as a few good stories. Our panel will share tips, pitfalls and suggestions for moving forward under the SB100 discipline statute. In addition to a quick review of the basics, our panel will discuss the essential aspects of implementing SB100, pre-disciplinary interventions and making the appropriate record for all disciplinary hearings.

Panel #3 – The Role of Police in Schools

Speakers: Amy Dickerson and Jamel Greer

From “Officer Friendly” visits with elementary students, to educating middle schoolers about the dangers of drugs, to responding to incidents of misconduct, police officers take many roles in public schools. While collaboration with local law enforcement is critical for maintaining a safe

school environment, administrators must be sensitive about both the legal requirements applicable to officers' intervention with students as well as parent perceptions about police officers' involvement. This session will focus on school district interactions with police, police departments and school resource officers.

Panel #4 – Revenue Protection and Real Estate Taxation

Speakers: Ares Dalianis, Michael Hernandez, and Scott Metcalf

Property taxes are the number one source of revenue for Illinois school districts. Several recent legal developments will impact both the amount of property taxes school districts will collect and their budgets. This interactive session will cover recent assessment trends, noteworthy PTAB and Court decisions, the 'dark store' theory with big box and anchor department stores, and an update on the hospital exemption litigation. We will also discuss practical strategies regarding TIF district creation, extension, termination, and refunds, evaluating and protecting your district with requests for tax abatements, and how school districts can identify some of the largest assessment challenges.

9:30 – 9:45 a.m. Break

SESSION TWO – 9:45 – 10:45 a.m.

Panel #1 - Collective Bargaining: Benefits and Retirement

Speakers: Todd Faulkner, Jim Franczek, Sally Scott, and Melissa Sobota

Is your District planning to negotiate in 2017? This session will address the recent trends in school district contract negotiations related to the hot-button issues of employee benefits and retirement.

Panel #2 – Navigating the Amended Student Residency Statute

Speakers: Amy Dickerson, Jennifer Smith, and Kendra Yoch

Effective January 1, 2017, the procedures for challenging student residency have changed extensively. The amendments impact the notification and investigation process, not to mention the board's obligations when issuing a written decision. Our panel will provide a detailed overview of the new process.

Panel #3 – Internal Investigations

Speakers: Shelli Anderson, Dana Fattore Crumley, and Nicki Bazer

A parent has complained that a teacher is bullying her child. An anonymous complaint is filed alleging inappropriate conduct between a teacher and a student. An employee complains he is being discriminated against by his supervisor. No matter the issue, investigating complaints about alleged employee misconduct is critical to preventing liability and maintaining a positive working environment. This session will address best practices for conducting such investigations, including interviewing techniques, proper documentation, and when and how to utilize an independent investigator or third-party expert.

10:45 – 11:00 a.m. Break

SESSION THREE – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m

In each of these sessions we will provide real-world solutions to common - but complex - issues administrators face.

Panel #1 – How Can We? For School Business Matters

Speakers: Brian Crowley, Ares Dalianis, Jamel Greer, Scott Metcalf, and Respicio Vazquez

School business officials deal with a myriad of complex issues such as bidding, purchasing, general contract negotiations, fund transfers, technology, transportation, real estate, intergovernmental cooperation, and construction. Join a lively discussion addressing how business officials can creatively address these complex matters without inadvertently violating the law.

Panel #2 – How Can We? For Student Issues

Speakers: Nicki Bazer, Erin Fowler, Darcy Kriha, Tejas Shah, and Jennifer Smith

Dealing with student issues and parents' reaction to such issues in a timely and respectful way is critical to maintaining the community's trust in your educational program. This session will address the most sensitive student issues that confront school administrators and how to address these issues with parents in a way that minimizes conflict.

Panel #3 – How Can We? For Employment Matters

Speakers: Shelli Anderson, Patrick DePoy, Dana Fattore Crumley, Todd Faulkner, Michael Hernandez, and William Pokorny

Addressing employment issues such as providing reasonable accommodations, addressing employee conflicts and allegations of harassment, and making determinations regarding leaves of absence are time-consuming and often complex. In this interactive session, we will provide answers to these challenging problems, providing HR professionals with easy-to-follow, practical guidance.

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch & Networking

SESSION FOUR – 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Comprehensive Title IX Coordinator Training

Speakers: Patrick DePoy, Amy Dickerson, Erin Fowler, and Darcy Kriha

This session will provide focused training specifically designed for Title IX Coordinators. After a review of civil rights laws, we will segue into best practices for investigating Title IX complaints from start to finish. OCR guidance, interview tactics, note-taking techniques and notification of results will all be discussed in detail. Bring your questions for this engaging and interactive session.

Special Education Legal Update

Speakers: Dana Fattore Crumley, Laura Knittle, John Relias, Jennifer Smith, Patricia Whitten, and Kendra Yoch

Join our Special Education Team as we review and discuss cases and hearing officer decisions from 2016. We will also highlight trends and recent OCR guidance affecting special education students.