

**Drone Policy Guidelines**

If a school district wishes to adopt a UAS/drone policy, the following are recommended guidelines to follow. These guidelines are based on suggestions from the FAA as well as a review of what other governmental entities, including school districts, across the country have adopted:

·         Require registration and implement a certification process for the issuance of a permit if a person wishes to operate a drone over school property

·         Include a minimum operating age of 18 (this could be modified for supervised student usage) and a maximum drone weight of 55 lbs.

·         Limit potential approval to drones which are incapable of flying over 500 feet

·         Only permit operation during daylight hours

·         Prohibit image capturing capability or require specific permission to use for specific purposes (think student privacy issues)

·         Require users to sign a document acknowledging and agreeing to the terms of use and agreeing to hold the district harmless from damage to persons or property

·         Require proof of appropriate liability insurance

·         If implemented by the FAA (see above), require proof of registration of the drone with the FAA

·         Require the controllers to maintain visual contact with the UAS and prohibit flight paths over certain areas, such as seating areas, playgrounds, etc.

These guidelines apply if a district wishes to allow, but regulate, drone usage. A district could ban all drone use. An outright ban should be limited to drones flying under 500 feet to provide the most protection from successful legal challenge.