



November 19, 2021

Sent Via Electronic Mail

Hutsonville CUSD 1
Attention: Julie Kraemer, District Superintendent
500 W Clover St
Hutsonville, IL 62433-1017
julie.kraemer@hutsonvilletigers.net

Dear Superintendent Julie Kraemer:

On November 15, representatives of Hutsonville CUSD 1 and representatives from ISBE participated in a conference to determine if the district would have its recognition status changed to On Probation for failure to comply with the universal indoor masking requirements set forth in Executive Order 2021-18 (as reissued and extended). ISBE's administrative rules at 23 Ill. Admin. Code 1.20(e)(1) require the State Superintendent to determine if the district will be placed On Probation and to notify the district to this effect within five days of the conference date. The purpose of this correspondence is to provide the State Superintendent's determination.

Due to the district's continued failure to demonstrate compliance with the universal indoor masking requirements, the State Superintendent has determined that the recognition status of your district is hereby changed to On Probation, effective immediately. Please read the following information carefully as it contains several important deadlines.

I. If you choose not to appeal this change in recognition status:

Pursuant to 23 Ill Admin. Code 1.20 (e)(3), within 15 days of the conference or a mutually agreed upon extended deadline, the district must submit to the regional superintendent of schools and the State Superintendent a corrective action plan. Unless you choose to file an appeal as outlined in Section II on the next page, **your plan must be submitted via email to your regional superintendent and to dlangwit@isbe.net by 4 p.m. on November 30.** Please note that your corrective action plan must be signed by the secretary of your board as evidence that the board adopted a resolution authorizing its submission, and must:

- A) Specify steps to be taken by the district that are directly related to the area or areas of noncompliance cited;
- B) Provide evidence that the district has the resources and the ability to take the steps described without giving rise to other issues of compliance that would lead to probationary status; and
- C) Specify a timeline for correction of the cited deficiencies that is demonstrably linked to the factors leading to noncompliance and is no longer than needed to correct the identified problems.

The State Superintendent will respond to the submission of your plan within 15 days after receiving it and may consult with the regional superintendent of schools to determine the appropriateness of the actions you have proposed to correct the cited deficiencies.

If the corrective action plan does not meet these requirements of 23 Ill Admin. Code 1.20(e), the State Superintendent will notify you to this effect. If no plan is submitted, or if no plan meeting the requirements of 23 Ill. Admin. Code 1.20(e) is received by the specified deadline, the State Superintendent will recommend to the State Board that the district be Nonrecognized, subject to the district's right to a hearing as set forth in 23 Ill Admin. Code 1.20 (f)(3). The State Superintendent will provide you with notification of this recommendation, and further instructions will be provided to you at that time.

II. If you choose to appeal this change in recognition status:

Pursuant to 23 Ill Admin. Code 1.20 (e)(2), you may request a hearing to appeal your placement to On Probation within 10 days of receiving this notification. The request for appeal must be submitted in writing to the State Superintendent at RecognitionAppeal@isbe.net and must set forth evidence that the district is in compliance with the applicable requirements that resulted in the change of recognition status.

Upon receipt of your request, the State Superintendent will notify you of the date, time, and location of the hearing. Please be aware of the following information regarding the hearing:

- A) The hearing may be conducted via videoconference or any other means.
- B) The district may be represented by an attorney throughout the appeal process.
- C) The hearing will be conducted by a hearing officer designated by the State Superintendent. You will be notified of the appointment of the hearing officer.
- D) The hearing officer will convene a hearing at which you will have the opportunity to present evidence that the district is in compliance with the applicable requirements that resulted in the change of recognition status.
- E) The hearing officer will provide a written decision to the district within five days of the date of the hearing.

If the hearing officer determines that the district is compliant with the applicable requirements that resulted in the change of recognition status, the recognition status of the district will be returned to Fully Recognized, and the remainder of this letter is not applicable.

If the hearing officer determines that the district has not complied with the applicable requirements that resulted in the change of recognition status, the district will remain On Probation and be required to submit a corrective action plan as outlined in Section I, which begins on the previous page. Such plan must be submitted within 15 days of the conclusion of the hearing. You will be notified of the exact deadline for submission at the end of the hearing.

In closing, please keep in mind that a district that is placed On Probation will be returned to Fully Recognized status at any time upon submission of satisfactory evidence that demonstrates the district has come into compliance with the applicable requirements that resulted in the change of recognition status.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter. We urge you to review the emergency rulemaking at [23 Ill Admin. Code 1.20](#) in its entirety to ensure that you are familiar with new processes; procedures; obligations; and timelines, including the updated provisions related to being nonrecognized. Should you have questions, please contact Derreck Langwith, director of the ROE/ISC Department, at dlangwit@isbe.net.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carmen I. Ayala". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C'.

Dr. Carmen I. Ayala
State Superintendent of Education

cc: The Honorable Monte Newlin, Regional Superintendent of Schools, ROE #12,
mnewlin@roe12.org