

CONCEPTS AND ROLES

The Board of Trustees shall make every effort to maintain a safe, positive school environment and student services that promote student welfare and academic achievement. The Board expects students to make good use of learning opportunities by demonstrating regular attendance, appropriate conduct and respect for others.

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)
(cf. 5131 - Conduct)
(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

The Board is fully committed to providing equal educational opportunities and keeping the schools free from discriminatory practices. The Board shall not tolerate the intimidation or harassment of any student for any reason.

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

The Superintendent or designee shall establish and keep parents/guardians and students well informed about school and district rules and regulations related to attendance, health examinations, records, grades and student conduct. When conducting hearings related to discipline, attendance and other student matters, the Board shall afford students their due process rights in accordance with law.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)
(cf. 5144 - Discipline)
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)
(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)
(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
35160 Authority of governing boards
35160.1 Broad authority of school districts
35291-35291.5 Rules

PARENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Board of Trustees recognizes that parents/guardians of district students have certain rights as well as responsibilities related to the education of their children.

The Board believes that the education of the district's students is a shared responsibility. The Superintendent or designee shall work with parents/guardians, including parents/guardians of English learners, to determine appropriate roles and responsibilities of parents/guardians, school staff and students for continuing the intellectual, physical, emotional and social development and well-being of students at each school site, including the means by which the schools and parents/guardians can help students achieve academic and other standards of the school.

Within this framework, the school's primary responsibility shall be to provide a high-quality curriculum and instructional program in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables all students to meet the academic expectations of the school.

Parents/guardians shall have the opportunity to work with schools in a mutually supportive and respectful partnership and to help their children succeed in school. (Education Code 51100)

(cf. 5022 - Student and Family Privacy Rights)
(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that district staff understand the rights of parents/guardians afforded by law and Board policy and follow acceptable practices that respect those rights.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that parents/guardians receive notification regarding their rights in accordance with law.

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

The Superintendent or designee shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that all parents/guardians who speak a language other than English are properly notified in English, and in their home language of the rights and opportunities available to them pursuant to Education Code 48985. (Education Code 51101.1)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

PARENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

33126 School accountability report card

35291 Disciplinary rules

48070.5 Promotion and retention of students

48985 Notice to parent in language other than English

49091.10-49091.19 Parental review of curriculum and instruction

49602 Confidentiality of pupil information

51100-51102 Parent/guardian rights

51513 Personal beliefs

60510 Disposal of surplus instructional materials

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232g Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

1232h Protection of pupil rights

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

CDE: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

PARENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Parent/Guardian Rights

The rights of parents/guardians of district students include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. To observe, within a reasonable period of time after making the request, the classroom(s) in which their child is enrolled or for the purpose of selecting the school in which their child will be enrolled (Education Code 51101)

Parents/guardians may observe instructional and other school activities that involve their child in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulations adopted to ensure the safety of students and staff, prevent undue interference with instruction or harassment of school staff, and provide reasonable accommodation to parents/guardians. Upon written request by a parent/guardian, the Superintendent or designee shall arrange for parental observation of a class or activity in a reasonable time frame and in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulations. (Education Code 49091.10)

(cf. 6116 - Classroom Interruptions)

2. To meet, within a reasonable time of their request, with their child's teacher(s) and the principal (Education Code 51101)
3. Under the supervision of district employees, to volunteer their time and resources for the improvement of school facilities and school programs, including, but not limited to, providing assistance in the classroom with the approval, and under the direct supervision, of the teacher (Education Code 51101)
4. To be notified on a timely basis if their child is absent from school without permission (Education Code 51101)

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

5. To receive the results of their child's performance and the school's performance on standardized tests and statewide tests (Education Code 51101)

For parents/guardians of English learners, this right shall include the right to receive the results of their child's performance on the English language development test. (Education Code 51101.1)

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)

(cf. 0510 - School Accountability Report Card)

(cf. 6162.51 - Standardized Testing and Reporting Program)

(cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)

(cf. 6174 - Education for English Language Learners)

PARENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES (continued)

6. To request a particular school for their child and to receive a response from the district (Education Code 51101)

(cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)

(cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)

7. To have a school environment for their child that is safe and supportive of learning (Education Code 51101)

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 3515 - Campus Security)

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

(cf. 5142 - Safety)

8. To examine the curriculum materials of the class(es) in which their child is enrolled (Education Code 51101; 20 USC 1232h)

Parents/guardians may inspect, in a reasonable time frame, all primary supplemental instructional materials and assessments stored by the classroom teacher, including textbooks, teacher's manuals, films, tapes and software. (Education Code 49091.10)

Each school site shall make available to parents/guardians and others, upon request, a copy of the prospectus for each course, including the titles, descriptions and instructional aims of the course. (Education Code 49091.14)

The school may charge an amount not to exceed the cost of duplication. (Education Code 49091.14)

(cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)

(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)

(cf. 6141 - Curriculum Development and Evaluation)

(cf. 6142.1 - Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction)

(cf. 6161.1 - Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials)

(cf. 6161.11 - Supplementary Instructional Materials)

9. To be informed of their child's progress in school and of the appropriate school personnel whom they should contact if problems arise with their child (Education Code 51101)

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

10. For parents/guardians of English learners, to support their child's advancement toward literacy (Education Code 51101.1)

PARENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES (continued)

The Superintendent or designee may make available, to the extent possible, surplus or undistributed instructional materials to parents/guardians pursuant to Education Code 60510. (Education Code 51101.1)

(cf. 3270 - Sale and Disposal of Books, Equipment and Supplies)

11. For parents/guardians of English learners, to be informed, through the school accountability report card, about statewide and local academic standards, testing programs, accountability measures and school improvement efforts (Education Code 51101.1)

(cf. 0520.2 - Title I Program Improvement Schools)

(cf. 0520.3 - Title I Program Improvement Districts)

12. To have access to the school records of their child (Education Code 51101)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)

13. To receive information concerning the academic performance standards, proficiencies or skills their child is expected to accomplish (Education Code 51101)

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)

(cf. 6146.4 - Differential Graduation and Competency Standards for Students with Disabilities)

(cf. 6146.5 - Elementary/Middle School Graduation Requirements)

14. To be informed in advance about school rules, including disciplinary rules and procedures in accordance with Education Code 48980, attendance policies, dress codes and procedures for visiting the school (Education Code 51101)

(cf. 1250 - Visitors/Outsiders)

(cf. 5132 - Dress and Grooming)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

15. To be notified, as early in the school year as practicable pursuant to Education Code 48070.5, if their child is identified as being at risk of retention and of their right to consult with school personnel responsible for a decision to promote or retain their child and to appeal such a decision (Education Code 51101)

(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)

16. To receive information about any psychological testing the school does involving their child and to deny permission to give the test (Education Code 51101)

PARENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES (continued)

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

(cf. 6164.4 - Identification and Evaluation of Individuals for Special Education)

(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504)

17. To refuse to submit or to participate in any assessment, analysis, evaluation or monitoring of the quality or character of the student's home life, any form of parental screening or testing, any nonacademic home-based counseling program, parent training, or any prescribed family education service plan and to inspect any survey collecting personal information (Education Code 49091.18; 20 USC 1232h)

(cf. 5022 - Student and Family Privacy Rights)

18. To participate as a member of a parent advisory committee, school site council or site-based management leadership team in accordance with any rules and regulations governing membership in these organizations (Education Code 51101)

For parents/guardians of English learners, this right shall include the right to participate in school and district advisory bodies in accordance with federal and state law and regulations. (Education Code 51101.1)

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)

(cf. 6175 - Migrant Education Program)

19. To question anything in their child's record that the parent/guardian feels is inaccurate or misleading or is an invasion of privacy and to receive a response from the school (Education Code 51101)

(cf. 5125.3 - Challenging Student Records)

20. To provide informed, written parental consent before their child is tested for a behavioral, mental or emotional evaluation. A general consent, including medical consent used to approve admission to or involvement in a special education or remedial program or regular school activity, shall not constitute written consent for these purposes. (Education Code 49091.12)

(cf. 5131.6 - Alcohol and Other Drugs)

(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)

Parent Responsibilities

Parents/guardians may support the learning environment of their child by: (Education Code 51101)

PARENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES (continued)

1. Monitoring attendance of their child
2. Ensuring that homework is completed and turned in on time
(cf. 6154 - Homework/Makeup Work)
3. Encouraging their child to participate in extracurricular and cocurricular activities
(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)
4. Monitoring and regulating the television viewed by their child
5. Working with their child at home in learning activities that extend the classroom learning
6. Volunteering in their child's classroom(s) or for other school activities
(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)
7. Participating in decisions related to the education of their own child or the total school program as appropriate

NONCUSTODIAL PARENTS

The Board of Trustees recognizes the right of parents/guardians to be involved in the education of their children and desires to balance that right with the district's need to ensure the safety of students while at school.

(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)
(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

The parent/guardian who enrolls a child in a district school shall be presumed to be the child's custodial parent/guardian and shall be held responsible for the child's welfare.

School officials shall presume that both parents/guardians have equal rights regarding their child, including, but not limited to, picking the student up after school or otherwise removing the student from school, accessing student records, participating in school activities, or visiting the school. When a court order restricts access to the child or to his/her student information, a parent/guardian shall provide a copy of the certified court order to the principal or designee upon enrollment or upon a change in circumstances.

(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)
(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)
(cf. 5125 - Student Records)
(cf. 5141 - Health Care and Emergencies)
(cf. 5142 - Safety)
(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

In the event of an attempted violation of a court order that restricts access to a student, the principal or designee shall contact the custodial parent and local law enforcement officials and shall make the student available only after one or both of these parties consent.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

NONCUSTODIAL PARENTS (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48204 Residency requirements

49061 Definitions

49069 Absolute right to access

49091.10-49091.19 Parental review of curriculum and instruction

49408 Emergency information

56028 Definition, parent for special education

51100-51102 Parent/guardian rights

FAMILY CODE

3002 Joint legal custody, definition

3006 Sole legal custody, definition

3025 Parental access to records

6550-6552 Caregivers

GOVERNMENT CODE

810-996.6 Government Claims Act

6205-6210 Confidentiality of addresses for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Association of Supervisors of Child Welfare and Attendance: <http://www.cascwa.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

STUDENT AND FAMILY PRIVACY RIGHTS

The Board of Trustees respects the rights of district students and their parents/guardians with regard to the privacy of their personal beliefs and the confidentiality of their personal information. The Superintendent or designee shall develop regulations to ensure compliance with law when the district requests, retains, discloses, or otherwise uses the personal information of its students and their families.

(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)
(cf. 5021 - Noncustodial Parents)
(cf. 5125 - Student Records)
(cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)
(cf. 6162.8 - Research)

The regulations shall, at a minimum, address the following: (20 USC 1232h)

1. Whether the district may collect the personal information of students for marketing or sale
2. How the district will administer surveys that may request information about the personal beliefs and practices of students and their families
3. The rights of parents/guardians to inspect:
 - a. Survey instruments requesting information about their personal beliefs and practices or those of their children
 - b. Instructional materials used as part of their children's educational curriculum
4. Whether the district may administer any nonemergency invasive physical examination or screening
5. Notifications that the district will provide to students and parents/guardians with respect to their privacy rights

The Superintendent or designee shall consult with parents/guardians regarding the development of the procedures. (20 USC 1232h)

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)
(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committee)
(cf. 1230 - School-Connected Organizations)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

STUDENT AND FAMILY PRIVACY RIGHTS (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

49450-49458 *Physical examinations*

49602 *Confidentiality of personal information received during counseling*

51101 *Parents Rights Act of 2002*

51513 *Test, questionnaire, survey, or examination concerning personal beliefs*

51938 *Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Education Act; notice and parental excuse*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232g *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act*

1232h *Protection of pupil rights*

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

U.S. Department of Education, Family Policy Compliance Office: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OM/fpco>

STUDENT AND FAMILY PRIVACY RIGHTS

Collection of Personal Information for Marketing or Sale

Personal information for marketing or sale means individually identifiable information, including a student's or parent/guardian's first and last name, home or other physical address (including street name and the name of the city or town), telephone number, or social security identification number. (20 USC 1232h)

District staff shall not administer or distribute to students any survey instrument that is designed for the purpose of collecting personal information for marketing or sale.

Requirements regarding the collection of personal information for marketing or sale shall not apply to the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions, such as the following: (20 USC 1232h)

1. College or other postsecondary education recruitment or military recruitment
2. Book clubs, magazines, and programs providing access to low-cost literary products
3. Curriculum and instructional materials used by elementary and secondary schools
4. Tests and assessments to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about students (or to generate other statistically useful data for the purpose of securing such tests and assessments) and the subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from such tests and assessments

(cf. 6162.51 - Standardized Testing and Reporting Program)

5. The sale by students of products or services to raise funds for school-related or education-related activities

(cf. 1321 - Solicitation of Funds from and by Students)

6. Student recognition programs

(cf. 5126 - Awards for Achievement)

Surveys Requesting Information about Beliefs and Practices

A student's parent/guardian shall provide prior written consent before the student is required to participate in a survey inquiring about one or more of the following: (Education Code 51513; 20 USC 1232h)

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or his/her parent/guardian

STUDENT AND FAMILY PRIVACY RIGHTS (continued)

2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or his/her family
3. Sexual behavior or attitudes or personal beliefs and practices in family life or morality
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior
5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom the student has close family relationships
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, or ministers
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or his/her parent/guardian
8. Income, except to the extent that income is required to be disclosed by law for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such a program

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)

Notwithstanding the above requirements, the district may administer to students in grades 7-12 anonymous, voluntary, and confidential research and evaluation tools to measure student health risks and behaviors, including tests and surveys about student attitudes or practices related to sex as long as parents/guardians are provided written notice and given an opportunity to request, in writing, that their child not participate. (Education Code 51938)

If a student participates in a survey requesting information about beliefs and practices as identified above, school officials and staff members shall not request or disclose the student's identity.

(cf. 6162.8 - Research)

Parent/Guardian Access to Surveys and Instructional Materials

The parent/guardian of any district student, upon his/her request, shall have the right to inspect: (Education Code 51938; 20 USC 1232h)

1. A survey or other instrument to be administered or distributed to his/her child that either collects personal information for marketing or sale or requests information about beliefs and practices

STUDENT AND FAMILY PRIVACY RIGHTS (continued)

2. Any instructional material to be used as part of his/her child's educational curriculum

(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)

Within a reasonable period of time after receiving a parent/guardian's request, the principal or designee shall permit the parent/guardian to view the survey or other document he/she requested. A parent/guardian may view the document any time during normal business hours.

No student shall be subject to penalty for his/her parent/guardian's exercise of any of the rights stated above.

Health Examinations

Authorized school officials may administer to any student any physical examination or screening permitted under California law. However, no student shall be subjected to a nonemergency, invasive physical examination without prior written notice to his/her parent/guardian. (20 USC 1232h)

Invasive physical examination means any medical examination that involves the exposure of private body parts or any act during such examination that includes incision, insertion, or injection into the body, but does not include a properly authorized hearing, vision, or scoliosis screening. (20 USC 1232h)

(cf. 5131.61 - Drug Testing)

(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)

Notifications

At the beginning of the school year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians of: (20 USC 1232h)

1. The district's policy regarding student privacy
2. The process to opt their children out of participation in any activity described in this policy and administrative regulation
3. The specific or approximate dates during the school year when the following activities are scheduled:
 - a. Survey requesting personal information
 - b. Physical examinations or screenings
 - c. Collection of personal information from students for marketing or sale

STUDENT AND FAMILY PRIVACY RIGHTS (continued)

Prior to administering any anonymous and voluntary survey regarding health risks and behaviors to students in grades 7-12, the district shall provide parents/guardians with written notice that the survey is to be administered. (Education Code 51938)

Parents/guardians shall also be notified of any substantive change to this policy and administrative regulation within a reasonable period of time after adoption of the change. (20 USC 1232h)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

STUDENT WELLNESS

The Board of Trustees recognizes the important connection between a healthy diet and a student's ability to learn effectively and achieve high standards in school, and desires to provide a comprehensive program promoting healthy eating, nutrition and physical education, and overall wellness for all district students. The Superintendent shall coordinate and align district efforts to support student wellness through health education, physical education and activity, health services, nutrition services, psychological and counseling services, and a safe and healthy school environment. In addition, the Superintendent shall develop strategies for promoting staff wellness and for involving parents/guardians and the community in reinforcing students' understanding and appreciation of the importance of a healthy lifestyle.

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)
(cf. 3513.3 - Tobacco-Free Schools)
(cf. 3514 - Environmental Safety)
(cf. 5131.6 - Alcohol and Other Drugs)
(cf. 5131.61 - Drug Testing)
(cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)
(cf. 5131.63 - Steroids)
(cf. 5141 - Health Care and Emergencies)
(cf. 5141.22 - Infectious Diseases)
(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)
(cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations)
(cf. 5141.32 - Health Screening for School Entry)
(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)
(cf. 6142.1 - Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Education)
(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

The Board further recognizes that the sharing and enjoyment of food and participation in physical activities are fundamental experiences for all people and are primary ways to nurture and celebrate our cultural diversity. These fundamental human experiences are vital bridges for building friendships, forming intergenerational bonds, and strengthening communities.

School Health Council/Committee

In recognition of the above, the Superintendent shall encourage food service professionals, school administrators, Board representatives, physical education teachers, school health professionals, parents/guardians, students, and members of the public to participate in the development, implementation, and periodic review and update of the district's student wellness policy. (42 USC 1758b)

To fulfill this requirement, the Board shall create a Shoreline Wellness Advisory Committee ("SWAC") whose members include representatives of the groups listed above. The SWAC shall meet at least quarterly, and shall be charged with developing, reviewing, updating, implementing and assessing the SUSD Wellness Policies on nutrition, nutrition education, physical activity, waste reduction, and overall wellness promotion for recommendation and adoption by the Board.

STUDENT WELLNESS (continued)*(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)**(cf. 9140 - Board Representatives)***A. Goals for Nutrition, Nutrition Education, Physical Activity, and Education, Mental Health, Professional Development and Waste Reduction**

The Governing Board shall adopt goals for nutrition education and promotion, physical activity and education, waste reduction, mental health, and other school-based activities that promote student wellness. (42 USC 1758b)

*(cf. 0000 - Vision)**(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)*

The district shall promote a comprehensive wellness education program that is based on research, and shall be consistent with or exceed the expectations established in the state's curriculum frameworks and content standards, and shall be designed to build the skills and knowledge that all students need to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

*(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)**(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)**(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)**(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)***1. Nutrition Guidelines**

To help ensure the health and well-being of each student attending SUSD, and to provide guidance to school personnel in the areas of nutrition, health, and food service, the Governing Board encourages teachers, principals and food service employees to recognize the breakfast and lunch period as an integral part of the educational program of the district and to work to implement the goals of this policy.

The Board understands that procuring and serving fresh, healthy, minimally processed food will benefit not only students' health and wellness, but also will foster lifelong healthy eating and lifestyle habits.

The district food program promotes health through menus that feature a variety of delicious, appealing, nutritious offerings. Good nutrition is a cornerstone of children's ability to perform well and consistently both within and outside the classroom. Access to fresh, healthy, and delicious food is critical for all students in the district, regardless of income level or age.

For all foods available on each campus during the school day, the district shall adopt nutritional guidelines which are consistent with 42 USC 1773 and 1779, and support the objectives of promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity. (42 USC 1758b)

The Board believes that foods and beverages available to students at district schools should support the health curriculum and promote optimal health, taking into consideration students

STUDENT WELLNESS (continued)

with special dietary needs. Nutritional standards adopted by the district for all foods and beverages sold to students, including foods and beverages provided through the district's food service program, student stores, vending machines, or other venues, shall meet or exceed state and federal nutritional standards.

In order to maximize the district's ability to provide nutritious meals and snacks, all district schools shall participate in available federal school nutrition programs, including the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, and after-school snack programs, to the extent possible. When approved by the California Department of Education, the district may sponsor a summer meal program.

(cf. 3550 – Food Service/Child Nutrition Program)
(cf. 3552 – Summer Meal Program)
(cf. 3553 – Free and Reduced Price Meals)
(cf. 5141.27 – Food Allergies/Special Dietary Needs)
(cf. 5148 – Child Care and Development)
(cf. 5148.3 – Preschool/Early Childhood Education)

The Superintendent shall provide access to free, potable water during meal times in the food service area in accordance with Education Code 38086 and 42 USC 1758, and shall encourage students' consumption of water by educating them about the health benefits of water and serving water in an appealing manner.

The Board is committed to building upon previous improvements to its food offerings by focusing on the following initiatives:

- ◆ Increasing, to the extent possible, the number of type of items prepared completely or partially within the district's kitchens. Reducing the reliance on pre-processed and packaged foods, and ensuring that a majority of the entrée choices offered each week are prepared in the district's kitchens using minimally processed ingredients.

- ◆ Increasing the availability of organic food, grown locally or in the United States, to the greatest degree possible.

- ◆ Ensuring that all food products served are as clean and wholesome as possible, by following the following guidelines:

- Produce: minimally processed; locally or regionally sourced, and organic when possible.
- Meat, poultry and pork products: free from added hormones, added steroids and antibiotics, and minimally processed.
- Milk and other dairy products: free from added rGBH, added rBST; locally or regionally sourced, and organic when possible.

STUDENT WELLNESS (continued)

- Grains and grain-based products made from whole grains: minimally processed, locally or regionally sourced and organic when possible.
- To the greatest extent possible, all foods will be free from artificial colors, flavors, sweeteners, preservatives, and thickeners.
 - ♦ Planning, to the extent possible, seasonal variations in the menu that incorporate fresh, seasonal, and sustainably grown produce and products from local and regional sources helps to accomplish our district goals of increased access to healthy, fresh food for all students while also underscoring our commitment to the strength of our regional economy and our environment. This will enable the food service department to work more effectively and efficiently with local growers, while helping students understand seasonality and the regional growing culture.
 - ♦ Increasing the number of local and regional growers, processors, and suppliers working with SUSD. The district will take steps in an effort to achieve at least 25% locally sourced products by 2015-2016, where local is defined as (ideally) within 100 miles. The following steps will help achieve that target:
 - Find and develop long-term relationships with regional purveyors for USDA commodity foods.
 - To the extent possible, partner with neighboring school districts to purchase collectively, increasing the opportunity to work with local suppliers and improving their economic incentives to work with schools.
 - Build and expand existing relationships with local suppliers and distributors featuring source-verified, local and regionally grown food.
 - ♦ Continued observance of the Food and Nutrition Guidelines established as in the SUSD Wellness Policy, section 3554 AR Child Nutrition.

2. The Dining Experience

A welcome, inviting eating atmosphere can encourage participation in and enjoyment of school meals. Students should have access to dining areas, and be given sufficient time to receive and eat their meal before going on to the next activity or back to the classroom. To encourage participation in the program and reduce waste:

- ♦ All students should eat breakfast (at sites where breakfast is served) before the start of the school day, *i.e.*, after they arrive at school and before the first class begins (not at the mid-morning break).
- ♦ All elementary students in grades K-5 should eat lunch *after* recess, limiting the impulse to exchange mealtime for playtime. Research shows that eating lunch after recess

STUDENT WELLNESS (continued)

often results in an increase in water and food consumption, a reduction in food waste, and fewer behavioral problems in class.

- ♦ All students should have access to comfortable dining facilities.
- ♦ The lunch periods at each site shall, to the extent possible, be increased to a minimum of 45 minutes in order to ensure sufficient time to eat and play.

3. Nutrition Education

Nutrition education shall be provided in grades K-12 and shall include, at a minimum, information about the benefits of healthy eating for learning, disease prevention, weight management, and oral health. Nutrition education all be provided as part of the health education program and, as appropriate, shall be integrated into other academic subjects in the regular educational program, before- and after – school programs, summer learning programs, and school garden programs.

(cf. 5148.2 – Before/After School Programs)
(cf. 6177 – Summer Learning Programs)

It is recommended that the district:

- ♦ Integrate current, scientifically accurate nutrition content based on the 2005 U.S. Dietary Guidelines into classroom instruction in such core subjects as science, mathematics, English-language arts, history-social science, as per the Shaping Health as Partners in Education (SHAPE) California program:
- ♦ Encourage instructional strategies that incorporate experiential learning opportunities (such as taste-testing, cooking demonstrations, tours of farmers markets and school gardens) and that engage family members in reinforcing healthy nutrition habits.
- ♦ Reinforce messages on healthy eating by coordinating child nutrition programs/school food service with classroom-based nutrition and health education.
- ♦ Provide instructional staff with adequate and ongoing in-service nutrition education training that focuses on teaching strategies that assess health knowledge and skills and promote healthy behaviors.

To reinforce the district’s nutrition education program, the Board prohibits the marketing and advertising of non-nutritious foods and beverages through signage, vending machine fronts, logos, scoreboards, school supplies, advertisements in school publications, coupon or incentive programs, free giveaways, or other means.

(cf. 1325 – Advertising and Promotion)

STUDENT WELLNESS (continued)

The Superintendent shall encourage school organizations to use healthy food items or non-food items for fundraising purposes. He/she shall also encourage school staff to avoid the use of food as a reward for students' academic performance, accomplishments, or classroom behavior.

(cf. 1230 – School-Connected Organizations)

School staff shall encourage parents/guardians and other volunteers to support the District's nutrition education program by considering nutritional quality when selecting any snacks they may donate for occasional class parties. Class parties or celebrations shall be held after the lunch period when possible.

4. Physical Education and Activity

The Governing Board recognizes the positive benefits of physical activity on student health and academic achievement. Recognizing that physical education is a crucial and integral part of a child's education, the district shall provide all students the opportunity to be physically active on a regular basis through high-quality physical education instruction and recess and may also be provided through athletic programs, extracurricular programs, before- and after-school programs, summer learning programs, in-class physical activity breaks, and other structured and unstructured activities.

(cf. 6145 – Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

(cf. 6145.2 – Athletic Competition)

The district's physical education and activity programs shall support the district's coordinated student wellness program to promote and develop the student's physical, mental, emotional, and social well-being. Besides promoting high levels of personal achievement and a positive self-image, physical education activities should teach students how to cooperate in the achievement of common goals.

The district's physical education program shall provide a developmentally appropriate sequence of instruction aligned with the state's model content standards and curriculum framework. The Superintendent shall ensure that the district's program provide students with equal opportunities for instruction and participation regardless of gender in accordance with the law.

The Governing Board will ensure that:

- ♦ The district shall enhance the quality of physical education curricula and increase training of physical education teachers through site-based and district-wide staff development.
- ♦ The Superintendent shall develop strategies to monitor the amount of moderate to vigorous physical activity that takes place in the physical education instruction program.

STUDENT WELLNESS (continued)

♦ The Superintendent shall annually report to the Board the results of the state physical fitness testing for each school and applicable grade level. He/she shall also report to the Board regarding the number of instructional minutes offered in physical education for each grade level, and any other data agreed upon by the Board and the Superintendent to evaluate program quality and the effectiveness of the district's program in meeting goals for physical activity.

The Board may enter into a joint use agreement or memorandum of understanding to make district facilities or grounds available for recreational or sports activities outside the school day and/or to use community facilities to expand students' access to opportunity for physical activity.

(cf. 1330.1 – Joint Use Agreements)

5. Mental Health

The Board of Trustees recognizes that youth mental health issues can severely compromise a child's opportunity for success in school.

An estimated 20% of school-aged children have an undiagnosed/untreated mental health problem affecting their academic performance.

Mental health problems can be detected at a young age and should be treated early as a preventative measure.

The Governing Board shall adopt policies that identify students with, or at risk for, mental health problems, and create procedures for referring them for assessment and interventions appropriate to their needs, and to monitor and manage their behavioral, mental health, and emotional needs at school.

The district may investigate and consider employing a universal mental health-screening tool (i.e., SBIRT) for all students.

In order to ensure that students have access to comprehensive health services, including mental health services, the district may provide access to health services at or near district schools and/or may provide referrals to community resources.

The Board recognizes that a safe, positive school environment is also conducive to students' physical and mental health and thus prohibits bullying and harassment of all students, including bullying on the basis of weight or health.

(cf. 5131.2 – Bullying)

(cf. 5145.3 – Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

STUDENT WELLNESS (continued)**6. Waste Reduction/Recycling**

In recognition of its important role in the education of students about the environmental protection and restoration, the Governing Board desires to adopt a zero waste goal for SUSD by 2016.

The Governing Board recognizes that the district's food service programs that utilize prepackaged, processed foods consistently generate more solid waste than those that cook from whole ingredients. A shift to cooking meals from fresh, whole ingredients usually leads to a reduction in solid waste and in the expense associated with waste disposal. To ensure that the school meals program reduces waste and helps students understand the need to conserve natural resources in order to achieve the zero waste goal, the Governing Board will ensure that:

- ◆ Meals prepared at school shall utilize fresh, whole, unpackaged, unprocessed or minimally processed ingredients, to the maximum extent possible, in order to preserve nutritional content and reduce packaging waste;
- ◆ Cafeterias and district staff shall model environmentally sound practices and education and involve students and staff in reducing waste, composting, recycling and purchasing recycled materials;
- ◆ Post-consumer food waste shall be composted and returned for use in the school garden program or picked up by a compost disposal service;
- ◆ Packaging containing school meals shall be made of recycled content and should be recycled;
- ◆ The District's food service program will reduce reliance on plastic and packaged food, serve ware and beverages (including utensils and plastic water bottles) and incorporate reusable trays, plates and utensils;
- ◆ Each school site shall have its facilities upgraded in order to transition to a food program that incorporates more fresh foods and increased on-site, seasonally appropriate cooking and that allows for washing of reusable serve ware, trays, plates and utensils; and
- ◆ Savings from waste reduction policies administered by the District shall be tracked and those savings rebated to the school site for use in furthering waste reduction and garden-based learning programs.

B. Professional Development

The Board of Trustees understands the important role staff perform important contributors to students' engagement with and excitement about nutrition, physical activity and healthy eating. One way to promote an increase in staff effectiveness in promoting student wellness

STUDENT WELLNESS (continued)

is through professional development opportunities, which simultaneously ensure that staff members understand their role in promoting health, nutrition and physical education while enhancing their expertise in doing so.

Professional development shall be regularly offered to health education and physical education teachers, coaches, activity supervisors, food services staff, and other staff as appropriate to enhance their health knowledge and skills.

Training for food service employees may be in food preparation, safe serving and handling, nutrition, budgeting, menu options or other relevant topics.

(cf. 4131 – Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 – Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 – Staff Development)

The Superintendent shall encourage the staff to serve as positive role models for health eating and physical fitness. He/she shall promote work-site wellness programs and may provide opportunities for regular physical activity among employees.

C. Marketing and Communications

Effectively marketing and communicating about the quality, healthfulness, appeal and values embodied in the district's school meals program is critical to ensuring participation and appreciation throughout the school district and the surrounding community. Efforts to improve the freshness, quality and taste of offerings, increase local and regional procurement, and build partnerships within and beyond the district must be shared and celebrated. The following actions will help ensure the food services department can accomplish this objective:

- ♦ Establish peer-to-peer nutrition and wellness advocacy groups in all schools (Student Nutrition Advisory Councils, or "Green Teams"), to incorporate student input into and participation in effective school meals marketing and communications. Facilitate innovative, student-led, campaigns to provide greater attention to and participation in the meals program.
- ♦ Expand the SUSD website to include detailed information about menu offerings, producers and suppliers. Increasing the transparency of the district's food and operations will help build trust and increase engagement.
- ♦ Create signage for the cafeterias that highlights local or regionally sourced products, particularly in the salad bar.
- ♦ Include students and parents in menu development via requests for suggested menu items, and written feedback solicited via surveys at least once per school year.

STUDENT WELLNESS (continued)

♦ Offer samples of new or signature dishes prepared by the food services department staff at school or community events, such as Back-to-School Nights or other widely-attended city gatherings.

D. Program Implementation and Evaluation

The Superintendent shall designate one or more district or school employees, as appropriate, to ensure that each school site complies with this policy. (42 USC 1758b).

(cf. 0500 – Accountability)

(cf. 3555 – Nutrition Program Compliance)

The Superintendent shall inform and update the public, including parents/guardians, students, and others in the community, about the contents and implementation of this policy. The Superintendent shall assess the implementation and effectiveness of this policy at least once every year and shall report to the public which district schools are in compliance with this policy, the extent to which this policy compares to model wellness policies available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and a description of the progress made in attaining the goals of the wellness policy. (42 USC 1758b).

To determine whether the policy is being effectively implemented district-wide and at each district school, the following indicators shall be used:

1. Descriptions of the district’s nutrition education, physical education, and health education curricula by grade level and the extent to which they align with the state academic content standards and legal requirements;
2. Number of minutes of physical education instruction offered at each grade level;
3. Number and type of exemptions granted from physical education;
4. Results of the state’s physical fitness test at each grade level;
5. An analysis of the nutritional content of meals and snacks served in all district programs, based on a sample of menus and production records;
6. Student participation rates in school meal programs, including the number of students enrolled in the free and reduced-priced meals program compared to the number of students eligible for that program;
7. Extent to which foods sold on campus outside the food services program, such as through vending machines, student stores, sporting activities, or fundraisers, comply with nutritional standards; and
8. A description of other district-wide or school-based wellness activities offered, including the number of site and/or students participating, as appropriate

The Superintendent shall invite feedback on district and school wellness activities from food service personnel, school administrators, SWAC, parents/guardians, students, teachers, staff and/or other appropriate persons.

STUDENT WELLNESS (continued)

As feasible, the assessment report may include a comparison of results across multiple years, a comparison of district data with county, statewide, or national data, and/or a comparison of wellness data with other student outcomes such as academic indicators or student discipline rates.

The Superintendent shall inform and update the public, including parents/guardians, students, and others in the community, about the content and implementation of this policy and assessment results. (42 USC 1758b)

In addition, the assessment results shall be submitted to the Board for the purposes of evaluating policy and practice, recognizing accomplishments, and making policy adjustments as needed to focus district resources and efforts on actions that are most likely to make a positive impact on student health and achievement.

Each school shall post the District's policies and regulations on nutrition and physical activity in public view within all school cafeterias or in other central eating areas. (Education Code 49432)

Each school shall also post a summary of nutrition and physical activity laws and regulations prepared by the California Department of Education.

*Legal Reference:*EDUCATION CODE

33350-33354 CDE responsibilities re: physical education
 49430-49436 Pupil Nutrition, Health, and Achievement Act of 2001
 49490-49494 School breakfast and lunch programs
 49500-49505 School meals
 49510-49520 Nutrition
 49530-49536 Child Nutrition Act
 49540-49546 Child care food program
 49547-49548.3 Comprehensive nutrition services
 49550-49561 Meals for needy students
 49565-49565.8 California Fresh Start pilot program
 49570 National School Lunch Act
 51210 Course of study, grades 1-6
 51220 Course of study, grades 7-12
 51222 Physical education
 51223 Physical education, elementary schools
 51795-51796.5 School instructional gardens
 51880-51921 Comprehensive health education

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

15500-15501 Food sales by student organizations
 15510 Mandatory meals for needy students
 15530-15535 Nutrition education
 15550-15565 School lunch and breakfast programs

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

1751-1769 National School Lunch Program, especially:
 1758b Local wellness policy
 1771-1791 Child Nutrition Act, especially:
 1773 School Breakfast Program

STUDENT WELLNESS (continued)

1779 Rules and regulations, Child Nutrition Act
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 7

210.1-210.31 National School Lunch Program

220.1-220.23 National School Breakfast Program

COURT DECISIONS

Frazer v. Dixon Unified School District, (1993) 18 Cal.App.4th 781

*Management Resources:*CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Increasing Access to Drinking Water in Schools, Policy Brief, March 2013

Monitoring for Success: A Guide for Assessing and Strengthening Student Wellness Policies, rev. 2012

Nutrition Standards for Schools: Implications for Student Wellness, Policy Brief, rev. April 2012

Student Wellness: A Healthy Food and Physical Activity Policy Resource Guide, rev. 2012

Building Healthy Communities: A School Leader's Guide to Collaboration and Community Engagement, 2009

Safe Routes to School: Program and Policy Strategies for School Districts, Policy Brief, 2009

Physical Education and California Schools, Policy Brief, rev. October 2007

School-Based Marketing of Foods and Beverages: Policy Implications for School Boards, Policy Brief, March 2006

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Physical Education Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2009

Health Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2003

CALIFORNIA PROJECT LEAN PUBLICATIONS

Policy in Action: A Guide to Implementing Your Local School Wellness Policy, October 2006

CENTER FOR COLLABORATIVE SOLUTIONS

Changing Lives, Saving Lives: A Step-by-Step Guide to Developing Exemplary Practices in Healthy Eating, Physical Activity and Food Security in Afterschool Programs, March 2010

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION PUBLICATIONS

School Health Index for Physical Activity and Healthy Eating: A Self-Assessment and Planning Guide, 2005

Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2005

Changing the Scene, Improving the School Nutrition Environment: A Guide to Local Action, 2000

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

Action for Healthy Kids: <http://www.actionforhealthykids.org>

California Department of Education, Nutrition Services Division: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu>

California Department of Public Health: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov>

California Healthy Kids Resource Center: <http://www.californiahealthykids.org>

California Project LEAN (Leaders Encouraging Activity and Nutrition):

<http://www.californiaprojectlean.org>

California School Nutrition Association: <http://www.calsna.org>

Center for Collaborative Solutions: <http://www.ccscenter.org>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov>

Dairy Council of California: <http://www.dairycouncilofca.org>

National Alliance for Nutrition and Activity: <http://www.cspinet.org/nutritionpolicy/nana.html>

National Association of State Boards of Education: <http://www.nasbe.org>

School Nutrition Association: <http://www.schoolnutrition.org>

Society for Nutrition Education: <http://www.sne.org>

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Nutrition Service, wellness policy:

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/Healthy/wellnesspolicy.html>

ADMISSION

The Board of Trustees encourages the enrollment and appropriate placement of all school-aged children in school. The Superintendent or designee shall inform parents/guardians of students entering a district school at any grade level about admission requirements and shall assist them with enrollment procedures.

The Superintendent or designee shall verify the student's age, residency, and any other admission criteria specified in law and in Board policies and administrative regulations.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)

(cf. 5111.12 - Residency Based on Parent/Guardian Employment)

(cf. 5119 - Students Expelled from Other Districts)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)

(cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations)

(cf. 5141.32 - Health Screening for School Entry)

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

(cf. 6173.2 - Education of Children of Military Families)

All resident students who are enrolling either in the school in their attendance area or in another district school shall be subject to the timelines established by the Board in BP/AR 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment. Nonresident students may apply for interdistrict attendance in accordance with the timelines specified in applicable Board policies and administrative regulations.

(cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)

(cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)

(cf. 5118 - Open Enrollment Act Transfers)

The Superintendent or designee may admit to the ninth grade only those students who have graduated from eighth grade or who are recommended in writing by their eighth-grade principal as capable of profiting from high school instruction.

(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

ADMISSION (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

46300 *Computation of average daily attendance, inclusion of kindergarten and transitional kindergarten*

46600 *Agreements for admission of students desiring interdistrict attendance*

48000 *Minimum age of admission (kindergarten)*

48002 *Evidence of minimum age required to enter kindergarten or first grade*

48010 *Minimum age of admission (first grade)*

48011 *Admission from kindergarten or other school; minimum age*

48050-48053 *Nonresidents*

48200 *Children between ages of 6 and 18 years (compulsory full-time education)*

48350-48361 *Open Enrollment Act*

48850-48859 *Educational placement of foster youth*

49076 *Access to records by persons without written consent or under judicial order*

49408 *Information of use in emergencies*

49700-49704 *Education of children of military families*

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

120325-120380 *Education and child care facility immunization requirements*

121475-121520 *Tuberculosis tests for students*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

200 *Promotion from kindergarten to first grade*

201 *Admission to high school*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 17

6000-6075 *School attendance immunization requirements*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

11431-11435 *McKinney Homeless Assistance Act*

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Transitional Kindergarten, Issue Brief, July 2011

OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Dear Colleague Letter, May 6, 2011

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>

ADMISSION

Age of Admittance to Grades K-1

A child shall be eligible for enrollment in kindergarten or first grade, at the beginning of the school year or at a later time in the same year, if the child has his/her fifth or sixth birthday, respectively, on or before one of the following dates: (Education Code 48000, 48010)

1. December 2 of the 2011-12 school year
2. November 1 of the 2012-13 school year
3. October 1 of the 2013-14 school year
4. September 1 of the 2014-15 school year and each school year thereafter

Any child who will have his/her fifth birthday between the date listed above for the applicable school year and December 2 shall be offered a transitional kindergarten program in accordance with law and Board policy. (Education Code 48000)

(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)
(cf. 6170.1 - Transitional Kindergarten)

On a case-by-case basis, a child who reaches age five after the date listed above for the applicable school year may be admitted to kindergarten at any time during the school year with the approval of the child's parent/guardian, provided that: (Education Code 48000)

1. The Superintendent or designee determines that the admittance is in the best interests of the child.
2. The parent/guardian is given information regarding the advantages and disadvantages and any other explanatory information about the effect of this early admittance.

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

In determining whether a child may be granted early entry to kindergarten, the Superintendent or designee may also consider the availability of classroom space and any negotiated maximum class size.

(cf. 6151 - Class Size)
(cf. 7111 - Evaluating Existing Buildings)

Documentation of Age/Grade

Prior to the admission of a child to kindergarten or first grade, the parent/guardian shall present proof of the child's age. (Education Code 48002)

ADMISSION (continued)

Evidence of the child's age may include: (Education Code 48002)

1. A certified copy of a birth certificate or a statement by the local registrar or county recorder certifying the date of birth
2. A duly attested baptism certificate
3. Passport

When none of the foregoing is obtainable, the parent/guardian may provide any other appropriate means of proving the age of the child. (Education Code 48002)

A student enrolling in a district school at any other grade level shall present records from his/her previous school district documenting his/her age and current grade level.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 6146.3 - Reciprocity of Academic Credit)

DISTRICT RESIDENCY

Criteria for Residency

A student shall be deemed to have complied with district residency requirements for enrollment in a district school if he/she meets any of the following criteria:

1. The student's parent/guardian resides within district boundaries. (Education Code 48200)
2. The student is placed within district boundaries in a regularly established licensed children's institution, a licensed foster home, or a family home pursuant to a court-ordered commitment or placement. (Education Code 48204)
3. The student has been admitted through an interdistrict attendance option. (Education Code 48204, 48356)

(cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)

(cf. 5118 - Open Enrollment Act Transfers)

4. The student is an emancipated minor residing within district boundaries. (Education Code 48204)
5. The student lives with a caregiving adult within district boundaries. (Education Code 48204)
6. The student resides in a state hospital located within district boundaries. (Education Code 48204)
7. The student is confined to a hospital or other residential health facility within district boundaries for treatment of a temporary disability. (Education Code 48207)

(cf. 6183 - Home and Hospital Instruction)

In addition, district residency status may be granted to a student if at least one parent/guardian is physically employed within district boundaries. (Education Code 48204)

(cf. 5111.12 - Residency Based on Parent/Guardian Employment)

District residency is not required for enrollment in a regional occupational center or program if there are openings in the program or class. (Education Code 52317)

(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)

The district may admit a nonresident student living in an adjoining state or foreign country in accordance with Education Code 48050-48052.

(cf. 5111.2 - Nonresident Foreign Students)

DISTRICT RESIDENCY (continued)

The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify parents/guardians of all existing attendance options available in the district, including, but not limited to, all options for meeting residency requirements for school attendance. (Education Code 48980)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

Proof of Residency

The Superintendent or designee shall annually verify each student's district residency status and retain a copy of the document or written statement offered as verification in the student's mandatory permanent record. (5 CCR 432)

(cf. 5111 - Admission)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

Evidence of residency may be established by documentation showing the name and address of the parent/guardian within the district, including, but not limited to, any of the following: (Education Code 48204.1)

1. Property tax payment receipt
2. Rental property contract, lease, or payment receipt
3. Utility service contract, statement, or payment receipt
4. Pay stub
5. Voter registration
6. Correspondence from a government agency
7. Declaration of residency executed by the student's parent/guardian
8. If the student is an unaccompanied youth as defined in 42 USC 11434a, a declaration of residency executed by the student
9. If the student is residing in the home of a caregiving adult within district boundaries, an affidavit executed by the caregiving adult in accordance with Family Code 6552

(cf. 5141 - Health Care and Emergencies)

DISTRICT RESIDENCY (continued)

The Superintendent or designee shall make a reasonable effort to secure evidence that a homeless or foster youth resides within the district, including, but not limited to, a utility bill, letter from a homeless shelter, hotel/motel receipt, or affidavit from the student's parent/guardian or other qualified adult relative.

However, a homeless or foster youth shall not be required to provide proof of residency as a condition of enrollment in district schools. (Education Code 48853.5; 42 USC 11432)

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)
(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

Failure to Verify Residency

When the Superintendent or designee reasonably believes that a student's parent/guardian has provided false or unreliable evidence of residency, he/she may make reasonable efforts to determine that the student meets district residency requirements. (Education Code 48204.1)

If the Superintendent or designee, upon investigation, determines that a student's enrollment or attempted enrollment is based on false or unreliable evidence of residency, he/she shall deny or revoke the student's enrollment. Before any such denial or revocation is final, the parent/guardian shall be sent written notice of the facts leading to the decision. This notice also shall inform the parent/guardian that he/she may provide new material evidence of residency, in writing, to the Superintendent or designee within 10 school days. The Superintendent or designee shall review any new evidence and make a final decision within 10 school days.

Safe at Home/Confidential Address Program

When a student or parent/guardian participating in the Safe at Home program requests that the district use the substitute address designated by the Secretary of State, the Superintendent or designee shall use the substitute address for all future communications and correspondence and shall not include the actual address in the student's file or any other public record. The Superintendent or designee may request the actual residence address for the purpose of establishing residency within district boundaries. (Government Code 6206, 6207)

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

DISTRICT RESIDENCY (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35351 *Assignment of students to particular schools*

46600-46611 *Interdistrict attendance permits*

48050-48054 *Nonresidents*

48200-48208 *Compulsory education law*

48356 *Open Enrollment Act transfer, fulfillment of residency requirement*

48853.5 *Education of foster youth; immediate enrollment*

48980 *Notifications at beginning of term*

52317 *Regional occupational program, admission of persons including nonresidents*

FAMILY CODE

6550-6552 *Caregivers*

GOVERNMENT CODE

6205-6210 *Confidentiality of residence for victims of domestic violence*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

432 *Varieties of student records*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

11431-11435 *McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act*

COURT DECISIONS

Katz v. Los Gatos-Saratoga Joint Union High School District, (2004) 117 Cal.App.4th 47

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LEGAL ADVISORIES

0303.95 *Verification of residency, LO: 1-95*

OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Dear Colleague Letter, May 6, 2011

WEB SITES

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

California Secretary of State, Safe at Home Program: <http://www.sos.ca.gov/safeathome>

Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>

RESIDENCY BASED ON PARENT/GUARDIAN EMPLOYMENT

Applications for Admission into District Schools

For purposes of determining eligibility for enrollment in a district school, district residency status may be granted to a student if at least one of his/her parents/guardians is physically employed within district boundaries for a minimum of 10 hours during the school week. (Education Code 48204)

(cf. 5111 - Admission)

(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)

When applying for admission, the parent/guardian shall submit proof of the employment to the Superintendent or designee. This evidence may include, but not be limited to, a paycheck stub or letter from his/her employer listing an actual address within district boundaries. Documentation listing only a post office box as an address shall not be accepted.

Such evidence shall also indicate the number of hours per school week that the parent/guardian is employed at that location.

The Superintendent or designee may deny enrollment based on parent/guardian employment if any of the following circumstances exists:

1. The additional cost of educating the student would exceed the amount of additional state aid received as a result of the transfer. (Education Code 48204)
2. Enrollment of the student would adversely affect the district's court-ordered or voluntary desegregation plan. (Education Code 48204)
3. The school facilities are overcrowded at the relevant grade level.
4. Other circumstances exist that are not arbitrary. (Education Code 48204)

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

Students enrolled in the district on the basis of parent/guardian employment shall not be required to reapply for enrollment in subsequent school years. Such students may continue to attend school in the district through the highest grade offered by the district, if the parent/guardian so chooses and if at least one of the student's parents/guardians continues to be physically employed within district boundaries, subject to the restrictions specified in items #1-4 above. (Education Code 48204)

The Superintendent or designee shall annually request the student's parent/guardian to provide evidence of the employment in order to determine the student's continuing eligibility for enrollment.

RESIDENCY BASED ON PARENT/GUARDIAN EMPLOYMENT (continued)

Requests for Transfers out of District Schools

When a student requests a transfer out of the district on the grounds that his/her parent/guardian is employed within the boundaries of another district, the Superintendent or designee may disallow the transfer for either of the following reasons: (Education Code 48204)

1. The difference between the number of students entering and exiting the district on the basis of parent/guardian employment exceeds the limits prescribed in Education Code 48204.
2. The transfer would negatively impact the district's court-ordered or voluntary desegregation plan.

Notifications

Whenever a student's application for a transfer into or out of the district is denied, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the parent/guardian in writing, including specific reasons for the denial.

(cf. 9324 - Minutes and Recordings)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

46601 Failure to approve interdistrict attendance

46607 ADA calculation for residency based on parent employment

48200-48284 Compulsory education law, especially:

48204 Residency based on parent/guardian employment

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

84 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 198 (2001)

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

NONRESIDENT FOREIGN STUDENTS

The Superintendent or designee shall, on behalf of the district, seek and obtain from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) certification of eligibility to enroll nonimmigrant foreign students in district schools and recertification for the continuing eligibility of the district every two years. (8 CFR 214.3)

(cf. 6145.6 - International Exchange)

On a case-by-case basis, the Superintendent or designee may accept for admission into any of grades 9-12 any nonimmigrant foreign student with or seeking an F-1 visa. Any such student shall be admitted for a maximum of one year and shall pay the district the full, unsubsidized per-student cost of attendance at the school. (8 USC 1184)

(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)

In determining whether to admit a student, the Superintendent or designee shall consider whether the following conditions exist: (8 CFR 214.3; 22 CFR 41.61)

1. A suitable program exists at the school the student has selected.
2. The student's English proficiency is sufficient for successful study at that school.
3. Space is available at the school.
4. The student has provided proof of financial responsibility.

In addition to fulfilling all other requirements for school entry, the student shall submit evidence that he/she has been fully immunized in accordance with California law.

(cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations)

In accordance with law, the Superintendent or designee shall retain and, when required, report to DHS any records for nonimmigrant foreign students required for the operation of the SEVP. Upon request, he/she also shall furnish to DHS representatives other records maintained by the district for nonimmigrant foreign students. (8 CFR 214.3)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that any individual dealing with enrollment of nonimmigrant foreign students is trained on the use of the Student Exchange Visitor Information System.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

NONRESIDENT FOREIGN STUDENTS (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48050-48054 *Nonresidents*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 8

1184 *Foreign students*

1372 *Reporting requirements, nonimmigrant foreign students*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 8

214.3 *Petition for school approval*

214.4 *Withdrawal of school approval*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 22

41.61 *Students; academic and nonacademic*

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LEGAL ADVISORIES

0319.97 *Amendments to F-1 Student Visa Requirements, LO: 1-97*

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE PUBLICATIONS

Foreign Students (F-1) in Public Schools

WEB SITES

U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Student and Exchange Visitor Program:

<http://www.ice.gov/sevis>

U.S. Department of State: http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/types/types_1269.html#1

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement: <http://www.ice.gov>

EXEMPTIONS FROM ATTENDANCE

Each student between the ages of 6 and 18 shall be subject to compulsory full-time education. (Education Code 48200)

(cf. 5113.1 - Chronic Absence and Truancy)

However, the Superintendent or designee may grant exemptions from compulsory attendance to a student as allowed by law and in the best interest of the student. Exemptions shall not be used to remove a student from the school for disciplinary purposes.

(cf. 5111 - Admission)

(cf. 5112.2 - Exclusions from Attendance)

(cf. 5112.3 - Student Leave of Absence)

(cf. 5113.2 - Work Permits)

(cf. 5141.22 - Infectious Diseases)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

(cf. 5146 - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)

(cf. 6146.2 - Certificate of Proficiency/High School Equivalency)

(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)

(cf. 6172.1 - Concurrent Enrollment in College Classes)

(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)

(cf. 6183 - Home and Hospital Instruction)

(cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)

(cf. 6200 - Adult Education)

As needed, the Superintendent or designee may require a student or his/her parent/guardian to submit written documentation that the student fulfills one of the conditions specified in law and administrative regulation for which exemption is authorized.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

EXEMPTIONS FROM ATTENDANCE (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

33190 Affidavit by persons conducting private school instruction

46100-46147 Minimum school day

46170 Minimum school day, continuation education

48200-48341 Compulsory education law

48400-48454 Compulsory continuation education

48800-48802 Attendance at community college

49110-49119 Permits to work

49130-49135 Permits to work full time

LABOR CODE

1285-1312 Employment of minors

1390-1399 Employment of minors

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

11522 Parental consent for exemption based on high school proficiency certificate

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1681-1688 Title IX, discrimination

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

794 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

106.40 Marital or parental status

COURT DECISIONS

Thomas v. Atascadero Unified School District, (1987) 662 F.Supp. 342

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

California Department of Education, Attendance Improvement: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ai/>

EXEMPTIONS FROM ATTENDANCE

Exemptions from Regular Education Program

A student may be exempted from full-time attendance in the district's regular education program if he/she:

1. Is being instructed in a private full-time school and the Superintendent or designee verifies that the private school has filed an affidavit pursuant to Education Code 33190 (Education Code 48222, 48223)
2. Is being instructed by a private tutor who holds a valid state credential for the grade taught, provided that the instruction consists of study and recitation for at least three hours a day for 175 days of each calendar year (Education Code 48224)
3. Holds a work permit to work temporarily in the entertainment or allied industries (Education Code 48225, 48225.5)

(cf. 5113.2 - Work Permits)

4. Holds a work permit and attends part-time classes (Education Code 48230)
5. Is between the ages of 12 and 18 and enters a school attendance area from another state within 10 days of the end of the school term, with the exemption applicable for the remainder of the term (Education Code 48231)
6. Is at least age 15 and is taking a leave of absence for up to one semester for the purpose of supervised travel, study, training, or work not available to the student under another educational option (Education Code 48232)

(cf. 5112.3 - Student Leave of Absence)

7. Attends a community college as a special full-time student on the grounds that he/she would benefit from advanced scholastic or vocational work (Education Code 48800.5)

(cf. 6172.1 - Concurrent Enrollment in College Classes)

Exemptions from Continuation Education

A student who would otherwise be subject to compulsory continuation education pursuant to Education Code 48400 or 48402 may be exempted if he/she: (Education Code 48410)

1. Has graduated from a public high school maintaining a four-year course above grade 8 or has had an equal amount of education in a private school or from a private tutor

EXEMPTIONS FROM ATTENDANCE (continued)

In the case of a private school, the exemption shall be granted only if the Superintendent or designee has verified that the private school has filed an affidavit pursuant to Education Code 33190. (Education Code 48415)

2. Has successfully demonstrated proficiency equal to or greater than standards established by the California Department of Education and has verified approval submitted by his/her parent/guardian

(cf. 6146.2 - Certificate of Proficiency/High School Equivalency)

3. Is attending a public or private full-time day school or satisfactory part-time classes maintained by other agencies

4. Is attending adult school for not less than four hours per calendar week

(cf. 6200 - Adult Education)

5. Is attending a regional occupational program or center pursuant to Education Code 48432

(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)

6. Is disqualified because of his/her physical or mental condition or because of personal services that must be rendered to his/her dependents

(cf. 5141.22 - Infectious Diseases)

(cf. 5146 - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)

(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)

(cf. 6183 - Home and Hospital Instruction)

(cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)

7. Is between the ages of 12 and 18 and enters a school attendance area from another state within 10 days of the end of the school term, with the exemption applicable for the remainder of the term pursuant to Education Code 48231

In addition, a student who is between the ages of 16 and 18 may be exempted from continuation education if he/she is taking a leave of absence for up to two semesters for the purpose of supervised travel, study, training, or work not available to the student under another educational option. (Education Code 48416)

EXCLUSIONS FROM ATTENDANCE

Students may be excluded from attendance at district schools if they:

1. Are under the legal age of attendance, except as otherwise provided by law. (Education Code 48210)

(cf. 5111 - Admission)

2. Do not present evidence of immunization from certain infectious diseases as required by law. A student shall not be excluded, however, if the parent/guardian, in writing, requests exemption from the immunization requirement on the basis of the student's physical condition or a conflict with the parent/guardian's religious beliefs. (Health and Safety Code 120335, 120365, 120370)

(cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations)

3. Are reasonably suspected of having active tuberculosis. (Health and Safety Code 121485, 121495, 121505)

(cf. 5141.26 - Tuberculosis Testing)

(cf. 5141.33 - Head Lice)

4. Are infected with any contagious or infectious disease. (Education Code 49451; 5 CCR 202)

(cf. 5141.22 - Infectious Diseases)

5. Reside where any contagious, infectious, or communicable disease subject to quarantine exists or has recently existed, unless written permission of the health officer is provided. (Health and Safety Code 120230)

6. Have not had the health screening, specified in Health and Safety Code 124040, before or within the first 90 days of attending first grade. Such students may be excluded for up to five days unless the parent/guardian has presented a waiver or the district has exempted the student from this requirement in accordance with law. (Health and Safety Code 124105)

(cf. 5141.32 - Health Screening for School Entry)

Notifications to Parents/Guardians

Prior to excluding a student from attendance, the Superintendent or designee shall send a notice to the student's parent/guardian stating the facts leading to the exclusion.

The Superintendent or designee may exclude a student without prior notice to the parent/guardian if the student is excluded because: (Education Code 48213)

EXCLUSIONS FROM ATTENDANCE (continued)

1. He/she resides in an area subject to quarantine pursuant to Health and Safety Code 120230
2. He/she is exempt from a medical examination but suffers from a contagious or infectious disease pursuant to Education Code 49451.
3. The Superintendent or designee determines that the presence of the student would constitute a clear and present danger to the safety or health of other students or school personnel.

However, in such cases, the Superintendent or designee shall send a notice as soon as reasonably possible after the exclusion. (Education Code 48213)

Appeals from Exclusion

Upon exclusion of his/her child, a parent/guardian may meet with the Superintendent or designee to discuss the exclusion. If the parent/guardian disagrees with the decision of the Superintendent or designee to exclude his/her child, he/she may appeal the decision to the Board of Trustees.

The parent/guardian shall have an opportunity to inspect all documents upon which the district is basing its decision, to challenge any evidence and question any witness presented by the district, to present oral and documentary evidence on the student's behalf, and to have one or more representatives present at the meeting.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

EXCLUSIONS FROM ATTENDANCE (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48210-48216 *Persons excluded*

49076 *Access to records by persons without written consent or under judicial order*

49408 *Information of use in emergencies*

49451 *Parent's refusal to consent*

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

120230 *Exclusion of persons from school*

120325-120380 *Educational and child care facility immunization requirements*

121475-121520 *Tuberculosis tests for students*

124025-124110 *Child Health and Disability Prevention Program*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

202 *Exclusion of students with a contagious disease*

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

California Department of Health Services: <http://www.cdph.gov>

California Healthy Kids Resource Center: <http://www.californiahealthykids.org>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov>

STUDENT LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The Board of Trustees recognizes the importance of regular school attendance in promoting student achievement. However, the Board also recognizes that, in rare circumstances, it may be beneficial for a student to participate in opportunities outside the school which contribute to his/her educational experience.

The Superintendent or designee may grant student leaves of absence for the purpose of supervised travel, study, training, or work not available to the student under another educational option. Such leave may be granted to a student 15 years of age or older in the regular program and to a student age 16-18 in the continuation education program. (Education Code 48232, 48416)

(cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)

No more than one percent of the students enrolled and attending a school shall be granted a leave of absence during any school year. (Education Code 48232, 48416)

When feasible, students shall be encouraged to instead enroll in the district's independent study program to allow for greater contact and coordination with district staff.

(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48232 *Leave of absence for students age 15 at time of commencement of leave*

48410 *Exemption from continuation education*

48416 *Leave of absence for students age 16 to 18 inclusive*

FAMILY CODE

7000-7002 *Emancipation of minors law*

7050 *Purposes for which emancipated minor considered an adult*

STUDENT LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Upon request, the Superintendent or designee may grant a student a leave of absence from school for the purpose of supervised travel, study, training, or work. To be eligible for such leave, the student shall, at the time the leave of absence is to begin, be at least 15 years of age or, if he/she is enrolled in continuation education classes or exempted from continuation education classes pursuant to Education Code 48410, be 16-18 years of age. (Education Code 48232, 48416)

A written agreement shall be entered into that is signed by the student's parent/guardian, the principal or designee of the school which the student would otherwise attend, a classroom teacher familiar with the student's academic progress, and the district's supervisor of child welfare and attendance. In the case of a continuation education student, the student also shall sign the written agreement. The agreement shall include: (Education Code 48232, 48416)

1. The purpose of the leave
2. The length of the leave
3. Provision for a meeting or contact between the student and a designated school official at least once a month while the student is on leave
4. A statement that the leave is for the purpose of supervised travel, study, training, or work not available to the student under another educational option

The length of the leave may be up to one semester, or up to two semesters for a continuation education student. The leave may be extended for an additional semester upon approval of all parties to the written agreement and the local school attendance review board. No leave of absence may be taken that would continue past the end of the school year in which the leave is taken. (Education Code 48232, 48416)

(cf. 5113.1 - Chronic Absence and Truancy)

The student shall be permitted to return to school at any time and shall not be prevented from completing his/her academic requirements within a time period equal to that of his/her classmates who did not take leave, plus a period of time equal to the leave of absence. If the student reenrolls at a time other than the beginning of a semester, the school shall not be required to provide make-up sessions for classes missed. (Education Code 48232, 48416)

If the student does not contact the designated school official as required by the written agreement, the leave shall be nullified. The agreement also may be nullified for cause at any time by any party to the agreement. (Education Code 48232, 48416)

OPEN/CLOSED CAMPUS

Open Campus

In order to give students an opportunity to demonstrate responsibility and positive citizenship, the Board of Trustees establishes an open campus at all district high schools in which students shall have the privilege of leaving campus during lunch.

The privilege of open campus may be revoked from individual students for disciplinary reasons.

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

Students shall not leave the school grounds at any other time during the school day without written permission of their parents/guardians and school authorities. Students who leave school or who fail to return following lunch without authorization shall be classified truant and subject to disciplinary action.

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35160 Authority of the Board

35160.1 Broad authority of school district

44808.5 Permission for pupils to leave school grounds; notice

OPEN/CLOSED CAMPUS

At the beginning of the school year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians about the open campus policy as required by law. (Education Code 44808.5)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

The district, Board of Trustees members and district employees shall not be liable for the conduct and safety of students who leave school grounds during the lunch period. (Education Code 44808.5)

The principal of each high school shall be responsible for the annual preparation, implementation and evaluation of the school's open campus program.

The principal may revoke the open campus privilege to any or all students at any time. The principal shall submit a report to the Superintendent or designee indicating the nature and scope of the problem and a procedure for reviewing and resolving the problem.

The Superintendent shall notify the Board of any campus closure.

ABSENCES AND EXCUSES

The Board of Trustees believes that regular attendance plays an important role in student achievement. The Board shall work with parents/guardians and students to ensure their compliance with all state attendance laws, and may use appropriate legal means to correct problems of chronic absence or truancy.

(cf. 5112.1 - Exemptions from Attendance)

(cf. 5112.2 - Exclusions from Attendance)

(cf. 5113.1 - Chronic Absence and Truancy)

Excused Absences

Absence from school shall be excused only for health reasons, family emergencies, and justifiable personal reasons, as permitted by law, Board policy, and administrative regulations. (Education Code 48205)

Inasmuch as class participation is an integral part of students' learning experiences, parents/guardians and students shall be encouraged to schedule medical appointments during nonschool hours.

At the beginning of each school year, the Superintendent or designee shall send a notification to the parents/guardians of all students, and to all students in grades 7-12, informing them that school authorities may excuse any student from school to obtain confidential medical services without the consent of the student's parent/guardian. (Education Code 46010.1)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

Students shall not be absent from school without their parents/guardians' knowledge or consent except in cases of medical emergency or confidential medical appointment.

Student absence for religious instruction or participation in religious exercises away from school property may be considered excused subject to law and administrative regulations. (Education Code 46014)

Effect of Absence on Grades/Credits

If a student's absence is excused under Education Code 48205, he/she shall be allowed to complete any missed assignment or test that can be reasonably given, as determined by the teacher of that class. The student shall be given full credit for the assignment or test if he/she satisfactorily completes the assignment or test within a reasonable period of time. (Education Code 48205)

A student's grades may be affected by excessive unexcused absences in accordance with Board policy.

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

ABSENCES AND EXCUSES (continued)

(cf. 6154 - Homework/Makeup Work)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

1740 *Employment of personnel to supervise attendance (county superintendent)*

2550-2558.6 *Computation of revenue limits*

37201 *School month*

37223 *Weekend classes*

41601 *Reports of average daily attendance*

42238-42250.1 *Apportionments*

46000 *Records (attendance)*

46010-46014 *Absences*

46100-46119 *Attendance in kindergarten and elementary schools*

46140-46147 *Attendance in junior high and high schools*

48200-48208 *Children ages 6-18 (compulsory full-time attendance)*

48210-48216 *Exclusions from attendance*

48240-48246 *Supervisors of attendance*

48260-48273 *Truants*

48292 *Filing complaint against parent*

48320-48324 *School attendance review boards*

48340-48341 *Improvement of student attendance*

49067 *Unexcused absences as cause of failing grade*

49701 *Provisions of the interstate compact on educational opportunities for military children*

ELECTIONS CODE

12302 *Student participation on precinct boards*

FAMILY CODE

6920-6929 *Consent by minor*

VEHICLE CODE

13202.7 *Driving privileges; minors; suspension or delay for habitual truancy*

WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

601-601.4 *Habitually truant minors*

11253.5 *Compulsory school attendance*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

306 *Explanation of absence*

420-421 *Record of verification of absence due to illness and other causes*

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

87 *Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 168 (2004)*

66 *Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 244 (1983)*

COURT DECISIONS

American Academy of Pediatrics et al v. Lungren et al (1997) 16 Cal.4th 307

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Improving Student Achievement by Addressing Chronic Absence, Policy Brief, December 2010

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

ABSENCES AND EXCUSES

Excused Absences

A student's absence shall be excused for the following reasons:

1. Personal illness (Education Code 48205)
2. Quarantine under the direction of a county or city health officer (Education Code 48205)

(cf. 5112.2 - Exclusions from Attendance)

3. Medical, dental, optometrical, or chiropractic appointment (Education Code 48205)
4. Attendance at funeral services for a member of the immediate family, which shall be limited to one day if the service is conducted in California or three days if the service is conducted out of state (Education Code 48205)

Immediate family shall be defined as mother, father, grandmother, grandfather, spouse, son/son-in-law, daughter/daughter-in-law, brother, sister, or any relative living in the student's immediate household. (Education Code 45194, 48205)

5. Jury duty in the manner provided by law (Education Code 48205)
6. The illness or medical appointment during school hours of a child to whom the student is the custodial parent (Education Code 48205)

(cf. 5146 - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)

7. Upon advance written request by the parent/guardian and the approval of the principal or designee, justifiable personal reasons including, but not limited to: (Education Code 48205)
 - a. Appearance in court
 - b. Attendance at a funeral service
 - c. Observation of a holiday or ceremony of his/her religion
 - d. Attendance at religious retreats not to exceed four hours per semester
 - e. Attendance at an employment conference
 - f. Attendance at an educational conference offered by a nonprofit organization on the legislative or judicial process

ABSENCES AND EXCUSES (continued)

8. Service as a member of a precinct board for an election pursuant to Elections Code 12302 (Education Code 48205)

(cf. 6142.3 - Civic Education)

9. To spend time with his/her immediate family member who is an active duty member of the uniformed services, as defined in Education Code 49701, and has been called to duty for deployment to a combat zone or a combat support position or is on leave from or has immediately returned from such deployment (Education Code 48205)

(cf. 6173.2 - Education of Children of Military Families)

10. Participation in religious exercises or to receive moral and religious instruction in accordance with district policy (Education Code 46014)
 - a. In such instances, the student shall attend at least the minimum school day.
 - b. The student shall be excused for this purpose on no more than four days per school month.

(cf. 6141.2 - Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs)

Method of Verification

When a student who has been absent returns to school, he/she shall present a satisfactory explanation verifying the reason for the absence. Absences shall be verified by the student's parent/guardian, other person having control of the minor, or the student if age 18 or older. (Education Code 46012; 5 CCR 306)

The following methods may be used to verify student absences:

1. Written note, fax, email, or voice mail from parent/guardian or parent representative.
2. Conversation, in person or by telephone, between the verifying employee and the student's parent/guardian or parent representative. The employee shall subsequently record the following:
 - a. Name of student
 - b. Name of parent/guardian or parent representative
 - c. Name of verifying employee
 - d. Date(s) of absence

ABSENCES AND EXCUSES (continued)

- e. Reason for absence
3. Visit to the student's home by the verifying employee, or any other reasonable method which establishes the fact that the student was absent for the reasons stated. The employee shall document the verification and include the information specified in item #2 above.
 4. Physician's verification.
 - a. When excusing students for confidential medical services or verifying such appointments, district staff shall not ask the purpose of such appointments but may contact a medical office to confirm the time of the appointment.
 - b. When a student has had 14 absences in the school year for illness verified by methods listed in #1-3 above, any further absences for illness shall be verified by a physician.

CHRONIC ABSENCE AND TRUANCY

The Board of Trustees believes that excessive student absenteeism and tardiness, whether caused by excused or unexcused absences, may be an early warning sign of poor academic achievement and may put students at risk of dropping out of school. The Board desires to ensure that all students attend school in accordance with the state's compulsory education law and take full advantage of educational opportunities provided by the district.

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a system to accurately track student attendance in order to identify individual students classified as chronic absentees and truants, as defined in law and administrative regulation.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies that focus on prevention of attendance problems, which may include, but are not limited to, efforts to provide a safe and positive school environment, relevant and engaging learning experiences, school activities that help develop students' feelings of connectedness with the school, school-based health services, and incentives and rewards to recognize students who achieve excellent attendance or demonstrate significant improvement in attendance. The Superintendent or designee also shall develop strategies that enable early outreach to students as soon as they show signs of poor attendance.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 5126 - Awards for Achievement)

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

The Superintendent or designee shall work with students, parents/guardians, school staff, and community agencies, as appropriate, to identify factors contributing to chronic absence and truancy. He/she also may collaborate with child welfare services, law enforcement, courts, public health care agencies, other government agencies, and/or medical, mental health, and oral health care providers to ensure that alternative educational programs and nutrition, health care, and other support services are available for students and families and to intervene as necessary when students have serious attendance problems.

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)

(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)

(cf. 5146 - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)

(cf. 5147 - Dropout Prevention)

(cf. 5149 - At-Risk Students)

(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

(cf. 6164.5 - Student Success Teams)

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

CHRONIC ABSENCE AND TRUANCY (continued)

(cf. 6173.2 - Education of Children of Military Families)
(cf. 6175 - Migrant Education Program)
(cf. 6179 - Supplemental Instruction)
(cf. 6181 - Alternative Schools/Programs of Choice)
(cf. 6183 - Home and Hospital Instruction)
(cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)
(cf. 6185 - Community Day School)

Students who are identified as truants shall be subject to the interventions specified in law and administrative regulation.

A student's truancy, tardiness, or other absence from school shall not be the sole basis for his/her out-of-school suspension or expulsion. Alternative disciplinary strategies and positive reinforcement for attendance shall be used whenever possible.

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly analyze data on student absence to identify patterns of absence districtwide and by school, grade level, and student population. Such data shall be used to identify common barriers to attendance, prioritize resources for intervention, and monitor progress over time. The Superintendent or designee shall periodically report this information to the Board for purposes of evaluating the effectiveness of strategies implemented to reduce chronic absence and truancy and making changes as needed. As appropriate, the Superintendent or designee also shall provide this information to key school staff and community agency partners to engage them in program evaluation and improvement and in identification of how to best allocate available community resources.

School Attendance Review Board

In accordance with law and administrative regulation, habitual truants may be referred to a school attendance review board (SARB).

The Board may submit a nomination to the County Superintendent of Schools for a person who will serve on the county SARB as a representative of school districts. (Education Code 48321)

The Board shall appoint members of the district's SARB, who may include, but are not limited to, a parent/guardian as well as representatives of the district, county probation department, county welfare department, county office of education, law enforcement agencies, community-based youth service centers, school guidance personnel, child welfare and attendance personnel, school or county health care personnel, and school, county, or community mental health personnel. (Education Code 48321)

CHRONIC ABSENCE AND TRUANCY (continued)

The district's SARB shall operate in accordance with Education Code 48320-48325 and procedures established by the Superintendent or designee.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

1740 *Employment of personnel to supervise attendance (county superintendent)*

37223 *Weekend classes*

41601 *Reports of average daily attendance*

46000 *Records (attendance)*

46010-46014 *Absences*

46110-46119 *Attendance in kindergarten and elementary schools*

46140-46147 *Attendance in junior high and high schools*

48200-48208 *Children ages 6-18 (compulsory full-time attendance)*

48225.5 *Work permits, entertainment and allied industries*

48240-48246 *Supervisors of attendance*

48260-48273 *Truants*

48290-48296 *Failure to comply; complaints against parents*

48320-48325 *School attendance review boards*

48340-48341 *Improvement of student attendance*

48400-48403 *Compulsory continuation education*

48900 *Suspension and expulsion*

49067 *Unexcused absences as cause of failing grade*

60901 *Chronic absence*

GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54963 *The Ralph M. Brown Act*

PENAL CODE

270.1 *Chronic truancy; parent/guardian misdemeanor*

272 *Parent/guardian duty to supervise and control minor child; criminal liability for truancy*

830.1 *Peace officers*

VEHICLE CODE

13202.7 *Driving privileges; minors; suspension or delay for habitual truancy*

WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

601-601.4 *Habitually truant minors*

11253.5 *Compulsory school attendance*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

306 *Explanation of absence*

420-421 *Record of verification of absence due to illness and other causes*

COURT DECISIONS

L.A. v. Superior Court of San Diego County, (2012) 209 Cal.App.4th 976

Management Resources: (see next page)

CHRONIC ABSENCE AND TRUANCY (continued)

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Improving Student Achievement by Addressing Chronic Absence, Policy Brief, December 2010

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

School Attendance Review Board Handbook, 2012

School Attendance Improvement Handbook, 2000

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

Attendance Works: <http://www.attendanceworks.org>

California Association of Supervisors of Child Welfare and Attendance: <http://www.cascwa.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

California Healthy Kids Survey: <http://chks.wested.org>

California School Climate, Health, and Learning Survey System: <http://www.cal-schls.wested.org>

OnTrackCA: <http://www.ontrackca.org>

CHRONIC ABSENCE AND TRUANCY**Definitions**

Chronic absentee means a student who is absent for any reason on 10 percent or more of the school days in the school year, when the total number of days the student is absent is divided by the total number of days the student is enrolled and school was actually taught in the regular schools of the district, exclusive of Saturdays and Sundays. (Education Code 60901)

Truant means a student who is absent from school without a valid excuse three full days in one school year, or tardy or absent for more than any 30-minute period during the school day without a valid excuse on three occasions in one school year, or any combination thereof. (Education Code 48260)

Habitual truant means a student who has been reported as a truant three or more times within the same school year, provided the district has made a conscientious effort to hold at least one conference with the student and his/her parent/guardian. (Education Code 48262, 48264.5)

Chronic truant means a student who has been absent from school without a valid excuse for 10 percent or more of the school days in one school year, from the date of enrollment to the current date, provided the district has met the requirements of Education Code 48260-48263 and 48291. (Education Code 48263.6)

For purposes of classifying a student as a truant, *valid excuse* includes, but is not limited to, the reasons for which a student shall be excused from school pursuant to Education Code 48205 and 48225.5. A valid excuse also may include other reasons that are within the discretion of school administrators and, based on the facts of the student's circumstances, are deemed to constitute a valid excuse. (Education Code 48260)

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

(cf. 5113.2 - Work Permits)

Attendance Supervisor(s)

The Superintendent or designee shall appoint or contract with a supervisor of attendance and assistant supervisors as necessary to supervise the attendance of district students. Such supervisors shall perform duties related to compulsory full-time education, truancy, compulsory continuation education, work permits, and any additional duties prescribed by the Superintendent. (Education Code 48240, 48243, 48244)

Addressing Chronic Absence

When a student is identified as a chronic absentee, the attendance supervisor shall communicate with the student and his/her parents/guardians to determine the reason(s) for

CHRONIC ABSENCE AND TRUANCY (continued)

the excessive absences, ensure the student and parents/guardians are aware of the adverse consequences of poor attendance, and jointly develop a plan for improving the student's school attendance.

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

The student may be referred to a student success team or school-site attendance review team to assist in evaluating his/her needs and identifying strategies and programs to assist him/her.

(cf. 5146 - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)

(cf. 5147 - Dropout Prevention)

(cf. 5149 - At-Risk Students)

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

(cf. 6164.5 - Student Success Teams)

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

(cf. 6173.2 - Education of Children of Military Families)

(cf. 6175 - Migrant Education Program)

A student who is struggling academically may be offered tutoring or other supplemental instruction, extended learning opportunities, and/or alternative educational options as appropriate.

(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)

(cf. 6176 - Weekend/Saturday Classes)

(cf. 6178.1 - Work-Based Learning)

(cf. 6179 - Supplemental Instruction)

(cf. 6181 - Alternative Schools/Programs of Choice)

(cf. 6183 - Home and Hospital Instruction)

(cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)

Whenever chronic absenteeism is linked to a health issue or nonschool condition, the attendance supervisor may recommend school or community resources and/or collaborate with community agencies and organizations to address the needs of the student and his/her family.

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)

(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)

Addressing Truancy

An attendance supervisor or designee, peace officer, probation officer, or school administrator or designee may, as applicable, arrest or assume temporary custody during

CHRONIC ABSENCE AND TRUANCY (continued)

school hours of any minor student found away from his/her home who is absent from school without a valid excuse. Any person arresting or assuming temporary custody of a minor student shall deliver the student and make reports in accordance with Education Code 48265 and 48266. (Education Code 48264, 48265, 48266)

(cf. 3515.3 - District Police/Security Department)

The attendance supervisor shall investigate a complaint from any person that a parent/guardian has violated the state compulsory education laws contained in Education Code 48200-48341. (Education Code 48290)

When a student has been identified as a truant as defined above, the following steps shall be implemented based on the number of truantries he/she has committed:

1. Initial truancy
 - a. The student shall be reported to the attendance supervisor. (Education Code 48260)
 - b. The student's parent/guardian shall be notified by the most cost-effective method possible, which may include email or a telephone call, that: (Education Code 48260.5)
 - (1) The student is truant.
 - (2) The parent/guardian is obligated to compel the student to attend school. If the parent/guardian fails to meet this obligation, he/she may be guilty of an infraction of the law and subject to prosecution pursuant to Education Code 48290-48296.
 - (3) Alternative educational programs are available in the district.
 - (4) The parent/guardian has the right to meet with appropriate school personnel to discuss solutions to the student's truancy.
 - (5) The student may be subject to arrest or held in temporary custody by a probation officer, a peace officer, a school administrator or attendance supervisor or his/her designee under Education Code 48264 if found away from home and absent from school without a valid excuse.
 - (6) The student may be subject to suspension, restriction, or delay of his/her driving privilege pursuant to Vehicle Code 13202.7.

CHRONIC ABSENCE AND TRUANCY (continued)

- (7) It is recommended that the parent/guardian accompany the student to school and attend classes with the student for one day.

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

- c. The student may be required to attend makeup classes on one day of a weekend pursuant to Education Code 37223. (Education Code 48264.5)
 - d. The student and, as appropriate, his/her parent/guardian may be requested to attend a meeting with a school counselor or other school designee to discuss the root causes of the attendance issue and develop a joint plan to improve the student's attendance. (Education Code 48264.5)
 - e. The attendance supervisor may notify the district attorney and/or probation officer of the student's name and the name and address of his/her parents/guardians. (Education Code 48260.6)
2. Second truancy
- a. Any student who has once been reported as a truant shall again be reported to the attendance supervisor as a truant if he/she is absent from school without a valid excuse one or more days or is tardy on one or more days during the school year. (Education Code 48261)
 - b. The student may be required to attend makeup classes on one day of a weekend pursuant to Education Code 37223. (Education Code 48264.5)
 - c. The student may be assigned to an after-school or weekend study program within the county. If the student fails to successfully complete this study program, he/she shall be subject to item #3 below. (Education Code 48264.5)
 - d. An appropriate district staff member shall make a conscientious effort to hold at least one conference with the student and his/her parent/guardian by communicating with the parent/guardian at least once using the most cost-effective method possible, which may include email or a telephone call. (Education Code 48262)
 - e. The student may be given a written warning by a peace officer. A record of that warning may be kept at the school for not less than two years or until the student graduates or transfers from the school. If the student transfers, the record may be forwarded to the new school. (Education Code 48264.5)

CHRONIC ABSENCE AND TRUANCY (continued)

- f. The attendance supervisor may notify the district attorney and/or probation officer when the student continues to be classified as a truant after the parents/guardians have been notified in accordance with item #1b above. (Education Code 48260.6)
3. Third truancy (habitual truancy)
 - a. A student who is habitually truant, irregular in school attendance, or habitually insubordinate or disorderly during attendance at school may be referred to, and required to attend, a school attendance review board (SARB) program, a truancy mediation program established by the district attorney or the probation officer, or a comparable program deemed acceptable by the district's attendance supervisor. (Education Code 48263, 48264.5)
 - b. Upon making a referral to the SARB or the probation department, the attendance supervisor shall provide the student and parent/guardian, in writing, the name and address of the SARB or probation department and the reason for the referral. This notice shall indicate that the student and parent/guardian shall be required, along with the district staff person making the referral, to meet with the SARB or a probation officer to consider a proper disposition of the referral. (Education Code 48263)
 - c. If the student does not successfully complete the truancy mediation program or other similar program, he/she shall be subject to item #4 below. (Education Code 48264.5)
 - d. If the attendance supervisor determines that available community services cannot resolve the problem of the truant or insubordinate student or if the student and/or his/her parents/guardians have failed to respond to the directives of the district or to services provided, the attendance supervisor may so notify the district attorney and/or the probation officer. (Education Code 48263)
 4. Fourth truancy
 - a. Upon his/her fourth truancy within the same school year, the student may be referred to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court. (Education Code 48264.5; Welfare and Institutions Code 601)
 - b. If a student has been adjudged by the county juvenile court to be a habitual truant, the attendance supervisor shall notify the juvenile court and the student's probation or parole officer whenever the student is truant or tardy on one or more days without a valid excuse in the same or succeeding school year, or is habitually insubordinate or disorderly at school. The juvenile court and probation or parole officer shall be notified within 10 days of the violation. (Education Code 48267)

CHRONIC ABSENCE AND TRUANCY (continued)

5. Absence for 10 percent of school days (chronic truancy)
 - a. The attendance supervisor shall ensure that the student's parents/guardians are offered language-accessible support services to address the student's truancy.
 - b. If a chronically truant student is at least age 6 years and is in any of grades K-8, the attendance supervisor shall notify the student's parents/guardians that failure to reasonably supervise and encourage the student's school attendance may result in the parent/guardian being found guilty of a misdemeanor pursuant to Penal Code 270.1.

Records

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain accurate attendance records for students identified as habitual or chronic truants. The Superintendent or designee also shall document all contacts with a student and his/her parent/guardian regarding the student's attendance, including a summary of all conversations and a record of all intervention efforts.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

The Superintendent or designee shall gather and transmit to the County Superintendent of Schools the number and types of referrals made to the SARB and of requests for petitions made to the juvenile court. (Education Code 48273)

WORK PERMITS

The Board of Trustees recognizes that part-time employment can provide students with income as well as job experience that can help them develop appropriate workplace skills and attitudes. Upon obtaining an offer of employment, district students who are minors shall obtain work permits from the Superintendent or designee in accordance with law, regardless of whether the employment will occur when school is in session and/or not in session.

(cf. 6178 - Career Technical Education)

In determining whether to grant or continue a work permit, the Superintendent or designee shall consider whether employment is likely to significantly interfere with the student's schoolwork. Students granted work permits must demonstrate and maintain a 2.0 grade point average and satisfactory school attendance. On a case-by-case basis, the Superintendent or designee may approve a maximum work hour limit that is lower than the limit specified in law and administrative regulation.

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

Students with work permits may be exempted from attendance in a full-time day school provided they attend part-time classes. (Education Code 48230)

(cf. 5112.1 - Exemptions from Attendance)

Work permits shall be limited to part-time employment as defined by law, except when the Superintendent or designee determines that circumstances warrant the granting of a permit for full-time employment.

Any student authorized to work full time when school is in session shall be enrolled in part-time continuation classes. A student age 14 or 15 who receives a permit to work full time shall also be enrolled in a work experience education program. (Education Code 49130, 49131, 49135)

(cf. 6178.1 - Work-Based Learning)

(cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

WORK PERMITS (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48230 Exemption from full-time school attendance for students with work permits

48231 Exemption from compulsory attendance for students entering attendance area near end of term

49100-49101 Compulsory attendance

49110-49119 Permits to work

49130-49135 Permits to work full time

49140-49141 Exceptions

49160-49165 Employment of minors; duties of employers

49180-49183 Violations

51760-51769.5 Work experience education

52300-52499.66 Career technical education

LABOR CODE

1285-1312 Employment of minors

1391-1394 Working hours for minors

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

16023-16027 District records, retention and destruction

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 8

11701-11707 Prohibited and dangerous occupations for minors

11750-11763 Work permits and conditions, minor employed in entertainment industry

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 29

570.1-570.129 Child labor regulations

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

18 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 114 (1951)

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Work Permit Handbook for California Schools: Laws and Regulations Governing the Employment of Minors, 2007

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS PUBLICATIONS

Child Labor Laws, 2000

WEB SITES

California Department of Education, Work Experience Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/we>

California Department of Education, Office of Regional Occupational Centers and Programs and Workforce Development: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/wd>

California Department of Industrial Relations: <http://www.dir.ca.gov>

WORK PERMITS

Before accepting employment, a student under the age of 18 who is subject to the state's compulsory attendance law, including students who have not yet graduated from high school or have not received a certificate of proficiency, shall obtain a work permit.

(cf. 5112.1 - Exemptions from Attendance)

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)

(cf. 6146.2 - Certificate of Proficiency/High School Equivalency)

The district may issue a permit authorizing employment while school is in session, including employment connected with a work experience education program pursuant to Education Code 51760-51769.5, to a minor student age 14-17. The district also may issue a permit to any minor age 12-17 to be employed during a regular school holiday, during a regular or specified occasional public school vacation, and when the student is exempt from compulsory school attendance because he/she arrived from another state within 10 days before the end of the school term pursuant to Education Code 48231. (Education Code 49111, 49113, 49160)

(cf. 6178.1 - Work-Based Learning)

If a minor has obtained an offer of employment in the entertainment industry, he/she shall request a work permit from the California Department of Industrial Relations, Division of Labor Standards Enforcement, pursuant to Labor Code 1308.5 and 8 CCR 11752-11753.

A student shall not be required to obtain a work permit if he/she is self-employed; is working at odd jobs such as yard work and babysitting in private homes where he/she is not regularly employed; is a self-employed news carrier delivering newspapers to consumers on a regular route; is employed by his/her parent/guardian in domestic labor on or in connection with premises the parent/guardian owns, operates, or controls; or is otherwise exempted by law.

Persons Authorized to Issue Work Permits

The following individuals are authorized to issue a work permit to a minor student in the district: (Education Code 49110)

1. The Superintendent
2. An employee holding a services credential with a specialization in pupil personnel services or a certificated work experience education teacher or coordinator, when authorized by the Superintendent in writing
3. A principal, or another school administrator designated by the principal, provided that he/she:
 - a. Provides a self-certification that he/she understands the requirements of law for issuing a work permit

WORK PERMITS (continued)

- b. Does not issue a work permit to his/her own child

If the person designated to issue work permits is not available and delay in issuing a permit would jeopardize a student's ability to secure work, the Superintendent may authorize another person to issue the permit. (Education Code 49110)

Approval Process

The student's parent/guardian, foster parent, caregiver with whom the student resides, or residential shelter services provider shall file a written request for a work permit. (Education Code 49110)

The request for a work permit shall be submitted to the Superintendent or designee on a form approved by the California Department of Education (CDE). The Superintendent or designee shall have discretion to determine whether or not to issue the work permit.

In determining whether to approve a work permit, the Superintendent or designee shall verify the student's date of birth, the type of work permit to be issued, and whether the student meets any other criteria established by the Board of Trustees. The Superintendent or designee may inspect the student's records and/or may confer with at least one of the student's teachers for evidence of satisfactory grades and school attendance and to determine whether the student possesses the motivation and maturity to maintain academic progress while working.

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

Minors shall not be approved to work in environments declared hazardous or dangerous for young workers or otherwise prohibited by child labor laws. (Labor Code 1290-1298; 29 CFR 570.33, 570.50-570.72)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the requested work hours do not exceed the maximum work hours specified in law based on the student's age and whether the employment will occur while school is in session and/or not in session. (Education Code 49111, 49112, 49116; Labor Code 1391-1391.1; 29 CFR 570.35)

Full-time employment may be authorized for students age 14-17 only in accordance with Education Code 49130-49135.

(cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)

All work permits shall be issued in a format approved and authorized by the CDE. (Education Code 49117)

Each permit shall authorize work for a specific employer. Whenever a student changes employers, he/she shall request a new permit.

WORK PERMITS (continued)

The student may be issued more than one work permit if he/she works concurrently for more than one employer, provided that the total number of hours worked does not exceed the total number of hours allowed by law and the district.

Whenever a work permit is issued by a principal or other designated school administrator, the principal or designee shall submit to the Superintendent a copy of each work permit he/she issues, along with a copy of the application. (Education Code 49110)

The Superintendent or designee shall periodically inspect the grades and attendance records of students granted work permits to ensure maintenance of academic progress and any additional criteria established in Board policy.

Expiration of Work Permits

Work permits issued during the school year shall expire five days after the opening of the next succeeding school year. (Education Code 49118)

Before the work permit expires, a student may apply for a renewed work permit in accordance with the procedures specified in the section "Approval Process" above.

Revocation of Work Permits

The Superintendent or designee shall revoke a student's work permit whenever he/she determines that employment is interfering with the student's education, that any provision or condition of the permit is being violated, or that the student is performing work in violation of law. (Education Code 49116, 49164)

The Superintendent may revoke a work permit issued by a principal of a public or private school located within the district if the Superintendent becomes aware of any grounds upon which the student may be deemed ineligible for a work permit under law. (Education Code 49110)

Retention of Records

The Superintendent or designee shall retain a copy of the work permit application and the work permit until the end of the fourth year after the work permit was issued. (5 CCR 16026)

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE BOUNDARIES

The Board of Trustees shall establish school attendance boundaries in order to maximize the efficient use of district facilities and effective administration of district schools. The Superintendent or designee shall periodically review school attendance boundaries and, as necessary, make recommendations to the Board for boundary adjustments.

When reviewing school attendance boundaries, the Superintendent or designee shall consider the following factors:

1. School enrollment data, including declining enrollment patterns
2. Facility capacity and design, including potential commercial and residential developments
3. School feeder patterns, including maintaining, to the extent practicable, continuity of student attendance
4. Federal, state, or court mandates
5. Community input
6. Student safety
7. Transportation capacity
8. Community and neighborhood identity
9. Geographic features of the district, including traffic patterns
10. Educational programs, such as magnet schools and charter schools

(cf. 7160 - Charter School Facilities)

11. Consistency between municipal boundaries and high school boundaries
12. Other factors

(cf. 5116.1- Intradistrict Open Enrollment)

(cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)

Students residing in a community facilities district shall have priority, to the extent provided by law, for attendance at schools financed in whole or in part by the community facilities district. The degree of priority must reflect the proportion of each school's financing provided through the community facilities district. (Government Code 53312.7)

(cf. 7212 - Mello-Roos Districts)

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE BOUNDARIES (continued)

In order to alleviate overcrowding, the Superintendent or designee may place some students in a school outside of their attendance area. Parents/guardians of students who are attending schools outside of their attendance area shall be notified of the school their child will be attending as soon as possible. If available, transportation shall be provided for such students.

(cf. 3541 - Transportation Routes and Services)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35160 Authority of governing boards

35160.1 Broad authority of school districts

35160.5 District policies; rules and regulations

35291 Rules

35350 Transportation of students

35351 Assignment of students to particular schools

GOVERNMENT CODE

53311-53317.5 Establishment of community facilities district

CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

Article I, Section 31 Discrimination based on race, sex, color, ethnicity

COURT DECISIONS

Crawford v. Huntington Beach Union High School District (2002) 98 Cal.App.4th 1275

Crawford v. Board of Education (1976) 17 Cal.3d 280

Jackson v. Pasadena City School District (1963) 59 Cal.2d 876

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

INTRADISTRICT OPEN ENROLLMENT

The Board of Trustees desires to provide enrollment options that meet the diverse needs and interests of district students and parents/guardians, while also balancing enrollment in order to maximize the efficient use of district facilities. The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures for the selection and transfer of students among district schools in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

(cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)

The parents/guardians of any student who resides within district boundaries may apply to enroll their child in any district school, regardless of the location of residence within the district. (Education Code 35160.5)

(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)

(cf. 5111.12 - Residency Based on Parent/Guardian Employment)

The Board shall annually review this policy. (Education Code 35160.5, 48980)

Enrollment Priorities

No student currently residing within a school's attendance area shall be displaced by another student transferring from outside the attendance area. (Education Code 35160.5)

(cf. 5116 - School Attendance Boundaries)

The Superintendent or designee shall grant priority to any district student to attend another district school, including a charter school, outside of his/her attendance area as follows:

1. Any student enrolled in a district school that has been identified on the state's Open Enrollment List. (Education Code 48354)

(cf. 5118 - Open Enrollment Act Transfers)

2. Any student enrolled in a district school receiving Title I funds that has been identified for program improvement (PI), corrective action, or restructuring. (20 USC 6316)

(cf. 0420.4 - Charter Schools)

(cf. 0520.2 - Title I Program Improvement Schools)

(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)

3. Any student enrolled in a district school designated by the California Department of Education as "persistently dangerous." (20 USC 7912; 5 CCR 11992)

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

INTRADISTRICT OPEN ENROLLMENT (continued)

4. Any student who is a victim of a violent crime while on school grounds. (20 USC 7912)
5. Upon a finding that special circumstances exist that might be harmful or dangerous to the student in the current attendance area. Special circumstances, include, but are not limited to, threats of bodily harm or threats to the emotional stability of the student. Any such student may transfer to a district school that is at capacity and otherwise closed to transfers.

To grant priority under these circumstances, the Superintendent or designee must have received either: (Education Code 35160.5)

- a. A written statement from a representative of an appropriate state or local agency, such as a law enforcement official, social worker, or a properly licensed or registered professional, such as a psychiatrist, psychologist, or marriage and family therapist
 - b. A court order, including a temporary restraining order and injunction
6. Any sibling of a student already in attendance in that school.
 7. Any student whose parent/guardian is assigned to that school as his/her primary place of employment.

Application and Selection Process

In order to ensure that priorities for enrollment in district schools are implemented in accordance with law, applications for intradistrict open enrollment shall be submitted between _____ (*insert application window dates*) _____ of the school year preceding the school year for which the transfer is requested.

The Superintendent or designee shall calculate each school's capacity in a nonarbitrary manner using student enrollment and available space. (Education Code 35160.5)

Except for priorities listed above, the Superintendent or designee shall use a random, unbiased selection process to determine who shall be admitted whenever the school receives admission requests that are in excess of the school's capacity. (Education Code 35160.5)

Enrollment decisions shall not be based on a student's academic or athletic performance, except that existing entrance criteria for specialized schools or programs may be used provided that the criteria are uniformly applied to all applicants. Academic performance may be used to determine eligibility for, or placement in, programs for gifted and talented students. (Education Code 35160.5)

INTRADISTRICT OPEN ENROLLMENT (continued)

(cf. 6172 - Gifted and Talented Student Program)

Transportation

Except as required by 20 USC 6316 for transfers out of Title I PI schools, the district shall not be obligated to provide transportation for students who attend school outside their attendance area.

(cf. 3250 - Transportation Fees)

(cf. 3540 - Transportation)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

INTRADISTRICT OPEN ENROLLMENT (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200 Prohibition against discrimination

35160.5 District policies; rules and regulations

35291 Rules

35351 Assignment of students to particular schools

46600-46611 Interdistrict attendance agreements

48200 Compulsory attendance

48204 Residency requirements for school attendance

48300-48316 Student attendance alternatives, school district of choice program

48350-48361 Open Enrollment Act

48980 Notice at beginning of term

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

11992-11994 Definition of persistently dangerous schools

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6316 Transfers from program improvement schools

7912 Transfers from persistently dangerous schools

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

200.36 Dissemination of information

200.37 Notice of program improvement status, option to transfer

200.39 Program improvement, transfer option

200.42 Corrective action, transfer option

200.43 Restructuring, transfer option

200.44 Public school choice, program improvement schools

200.48 Transportation funding for public school choice

COURT DECISIONS

Crawford v. Huntington Beach Union High School District, (2002) 98 Cal.App.4th 1275

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

85 *Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen.* 95 (2002)

Management Resources:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION NONREGULATORY GUIDANCE

Public School Choice, January 2009

Unsafe School Choice Option, May 2004

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education, *Unsafe School Choice Option*:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss/se/usco.asp>

U.S. Department of Education, *No Child Left Behind*: <http://www.nclb.gov>

INTRADISTRICT OPEN ENROLLMENT**Transfers for Victims of a Violent Criminal Offense**

Within a reasonable amount of time, not to exceed 14 days, after it has been determined that a student has been the victim of a violent criminal offense while on school grounds, the student's parents/guardians shall be offered an option to transfer their child to an eligible school identified by the Superintendent or designee. In making the determination that a student has been a victim of a violent criminal offense, the Superintendent or designee shall consider the specific circumstances of the incident and consult with local law enforcement as appropriate. Examples of violent criminal offenses include, but are not limited to, attempted murder, battery with serious bodily injury, assault with a deadly weapon, rape, sexual battery, robbery, extortion, or hate crimes.

The Superintendent or designee shall consider the needs and preferences of the affected student and his/her parent/guardian in making the offer. If the parent/guardian elects to transfer his/her child, the transfer shall be completed as soon as practicable.

Transfers from a "Persistently Dangerous" School

Upon receipt of notification from the California Department of Education (CDE) that a district school has been designated as "persistently dangerous," the Superintendent or designee shall provide parents/guardians of students attending the school with the following notifications:

1. Within 10 days of receipt of the notification from CDE, notice of the school's designation
2. Within 20 days of receipt of the notification from CDE, notice of the option to transfer their child

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

Parents/guardians who desire to transfer their child out of a "persistently dangerous" school shall provide a written request to the Superintendent or designee and shall rank-order their preferences from among all schools identified by the Superintendent or designee as eligible to receive transfer students. The Superintendent or designee may establish a reasonable timeline, not to exceed seven school days, for the submission of parent/guardian requests.

The Superintendent or designee shall consider the needs and preferences of students and parents/guardians before making an assignment, but is not obligated to accept the parent/guardian's preference if the assignment is not feasible due to space constraints or other considerations. For students whose parents/guardians accept the offer, the transfer shall generally be made within 30 school days of receiving the notice of the school's designation from the CDE. If parents/guardians decline the assigned school, the student may remain in his/her current school.

INTRADISTRICT OPEN ENROLLMENT (continued)

The transfer shall remain in effect as long as the student's school of origin is identified as "persistently dangerous." The Superintendent or designee may choose to make the transfer permanent based on the educational needs of the student, parent/guardian preferences, and other factors affecting the student's ability to succeed if returned to the school of origin.

The Superintendent or designee shall cooperate with neighboring districts to develop an interdistrict transfer program in the event that space is not available in a district school.

(cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)

Other Intradistrict Open Enrollment

Except for transfers for victims of a violent crime and from a "persistently dangerous school," the following procedures shall apply to intradistrict open enrollment:

1. The Superintendent or designee shall identify those schools which may have space available for additional students. A list of those schools and open enrollment applications shall be available at each school site, the district office, and on the district's web site.
2. After the enrollment priorities have been applied in accordance with Board policy, if there are more requests for a particular school than there are spaces available, a random drawing shall be held from the applicant pool. A waiting list shall be established to indicate the order in which applicants may be accepted if openings occur during the year. Late applicants shall not be added to the waiting list for the current year but shall instead wait for a subsequent lottery.
3. The Superintendent or designee shall provide written notification to applicants as to whether their applications have been approved, denied, or placed on a waiting list. If the application is denied, the reasons for denial shall be stated.
4. Approved applicants must confirm their enrollment within 10 school days.

Once enrolled, a student shall not be required to reapply for readmission. However, the student may be subject to displacement due to excessive enrollment.

Any complaints regarding the open enrollment process shall be submitted in accordance with the applicable complaint procedure.

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

INTRADISTRICT OPEN ENROLLMENT (continued)

Notifications

Notifications shall be sent to parents/guardians at the beginning of each school year describing all current statutory attendance options and local attendance options available in the district. Such notification shall include: (Education Code 35160.5, 48980)

1. All options for meeting residency requirements for school attendance

(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)

(cf. 5111.12 - Residency Based on Parent/Guardian Employment)

(cf. 5118 - Open Enrollment Act Transfers)

2. Program options offered within local attendance areas
3. A description of any special program options available on both an interdistrict and intradistrict basis
4. A description of the procedure for application for alternative attendance areas or programs and the appeals process available, if any, when a change of attendance is denied
5. A district application form for requesting a change of attendance
6. The explanation of attendance options under California law as provided by the CDE

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE – DISTRICT OF CHOICE

The Governing Board recognizes that students who reside in one district may choose to request to attend school in another district and that such choices are made for a variety of reasons.

The Board has designated the district as “school district of choice” and shall accept a specific number of students who reside in other California districts who wish to attend a district school. Each year, the Superintendent or designee shall recommend to the Board the number of transfer students that the district will be able to accept and shall identify the schools, grade levels, and programs that will be able to accept these students.

Upon receiving the Superintendent’s recommendation, the Board shall determine the number of students that will be accepted for admittance into the district through this program. This number shall be reflected in the minutes of the Board’s meeting.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a selection process which ensures that students applying through the program are admitted to district schools through a random, unbiased process that prohibits evaluation of whether a student should be enrolled based upon his/her academic or athletic performance. If the number of student applications exceeds the number of transfers the Board has designated for acceptance under the program, the Superintendent or designee shall conduct a random drawing in public at a regularly scheduled Board meeting. (Education Code 48301)

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a record of requests for admittance under the program that contains all of the following (Education Code 48313):

1. The number of requests granted, denied, or withdrawn and, for denied requests, the reason for the denial.
2. The number of students transferred out of and transferred into the district pursuant to this program.
3. The race, ethnicity, gender, self-reported socio-economic status, and the district of residence for each student in item #2 above.
4. The number of students in item #2 above who are classified as English learners or students with disabilities.

The Superintendent or designee shall report to the Board, at a regularly scheduled meeting, the information specified in items # 1 – 4 above. By May 15th of each year, the Superintendent or designee shall provide the same information, as well as information regarding the district’s status as a school district of choice in the upcoming school year, to each geographically adjacent school district, the county office of education, the California Department of Education, and the Department of Finance. (Education Code 48313)

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE – DISTRICT OF CHOICE

The reports to the Board and other agencies shall also include a summary of audit exceptions, if any, resulting from the compliance review of components of the district of choice program conducted as part of the annual district audit. (Education Code 48301, 48313)

Transportation

The district shall not provide transportation outside any school attendance area.

Limits on Student Transfers out of the District to a School District of Choice

The Superintendent or designee may limit the number of student transfers out of the district to a school district of choice based on the percentages of average daily attendance specified in Education Code 48307.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

41020 Annual district audits

46600-46611 Interdistrict attendance agreements

48204 Residency requirements for school attendance

48300-48316 Student attendance alternatives, school district of choice program

48915 Expulsion; particular circumstances

48915.1 Expelled individuals: enrollment in another district

48918 Rules government expulsion procedures

48980 Notice at beginning of term

52317 Regional occupational center/program, enrollment of students, Interdistrict attendance

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

87 Ops. Cal.Atty.Gen. 132 (2004)

84 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 198 (2001)

COURT DECISIONS

Crawford v. Huntington Beach Union High School District, (2002) 98 Cal.AppAth 1275

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE – DISTRICT OF CHOICE

The Superintendent or designee shall make information regarding its schools, programs, policies and procedures available to any interested person upon request (Ed Code 48312). Applications for attendance under the alternative Interdistrict attendance program (herein referred to as District of Choice) shall be available at district schools and the District Office. The application form shall permit students residing in districts other than Shoreline Unified School District to request enrollment in the District and in a specific school or program, if desired. (Ed Code 48308)

Applications for District of Choice transfers should be submitted to the District Office between October 1 and January 1 of the school year proceeding the school year for which the student may be transferred. The January 1 application date may be waived upon agreement of the student's school district of residence and the District. (Ed Code 48308)

The application deadline shall not apply to an application requesting a transfer if the parent/guardian with whom the student resides is enlisted in the military and was relocated by the military within 90 days prior to submitting the application. (Ed Code 48308)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that any communication sent to parents/guardians is factually accurate and does not target particular neighborhoods or individual parents/guardians on the basis of a child's actual or perceived academic or athletic performance or any other personal characteristic. (Ed Code 48301)

Existing entrance criteria for specialized schools or programs shall be uniformly applied to all applicants. (Ed Code 48305)

The District shall give greatest priority for attendance to students already in attendance in the district. (Ed Code 48306) Next priority for attendance shall be to siblings of students already in attendance. Last priority shall be for children of military personnel.

Not later than 90 days after the district receives an application for transfer, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the parent/guardian in writing whether the application has been provisionally accepted or rejected and of the student's position on any waiting list.

Final acceptance or rejection shall be made by May 15 of the school year proceeding the year for which the student may be transferred. Applications that necessitate a response after May 15 shall be governed by the same provisions as those in place for applications previously received for the same school year. If the application is accepted, notice shall be sent to the student's district of residence as well as to the parent/guardian. (Ed Code 48308)

However, if an application is submitted for a student who is residing with a parent/guardian enlisted in the military and that parent/guardian was relocated by the military 90 days prior to the submission of the application, then the district shall make a final decision to accept or reject the application within 90 days of its receipt. If the student's application has been submitted less than 90 days prior to the beginning of the school year, then the district shall accept or deny the application before the school year begins. Upon his/her acceptance, the student may immediately enroll in a district school. (Ed Code 48308)

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE – DISTRICT OF CHOICE

Final acceptance of the transfer is applicable for one school year and shall be renewed automatically each year unless the Governing Board, by adoption of a resolution, withdraws from participation in the program and no longer accepts open enrollment transfer students from other districts, and providing in any case that such transfers, under the District’s priority criteria within its Interdistrict attendance – District of Choice policy, do not result in the displacement from a school or program in the District of any other pupil who resides within the District or is currently enrolled in a specific program or school (e.g. kindergarten through third grade classes under the requirements of the State Class Size Reduction program).

The District may accept any completed coursework, attendance and other academic progress credited to an accepted student by any district(s) he/she has previously attended and may grant academic standing to the student based upon the district’s evaluation of the student’s academic progress credited to that student. (Ed Code 48309)

The District may immediately revoke a student’s enrollment if he/she is recommended for expulsion pursuant to Education Code 489918. (Ed Code 48309)

Rejection of Transfers

The District may deny a transfer under the District of Choice program if:

- 1: The Board determines that the transfer into the district would negatively impact a court-ordered desegregation plan, voluntary desegregation plan, or the racial or ethnic balance of the District. (Ed Code 48301)

2. The transfer into the district would require the district to create a new program to serve that student except that the district shall not reject the transfer of a student with disabilities or an English learner. (Ed Code 48303)

OPEN ENROLLMENT ACT TRANSFERS

The Board of Trustees desires to offer enrollment options in order to provide children with opportunities for academic achievement that meet their diverse needs. Such options shall also be provided to children who reside within another district's boundaries in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

Standards for Rejection of Transfer Applications

Pursuant to Education Code 48356, the Board has adopted the following standards for acceptance and rejection of transfer applications submitted by a parent/guardian of a student attending a school in another district on the Open Enrollment List. The Superintendent or designee shall apply these standards in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation and shall ensure that the standards are applied uniformly and consistently.

As applicable, the Superintendent or designee may deny a transfer application under any of the following circumstances:

1. Upon a determination that approval of the transfer application would negatively impact the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or school building, including:
 - a. The class or grade level exceeding the district's limits pursuant to the state Class Size Reduction Program or the Morgan/Hart Class Size Reduction Program for Grades 9-12
 - b. The site, classroom, or program exceeding the maximum student-teacher ratio specified in the district's collective bargaining agreement
 - c. The site or classroom exceeding the physical capacity of the facility pursuant to the district's facilities master plan or other facility planning document
 - d. The class or grade level exceeding capacity pursuant items #a-#c above in subsequent years as the student advances to other grade levels at the school

(cf. 6151 - Class Size)

(cf. 7110 - Facilities Master Plan)

2. Upon a determination that approval of the transfer application would have an adverse financial impact on the district, including:
 - a. The hiring of additional certificated or classified staff
 - b. The operation of additional classrooms or instructional facilities

OPEN ENROLLMENT ACT TRANSFERS (continued)

- c. Expenses incurred by the district that would not be covered by the apportionment of funds received from the state resulting in a reduction of the resources available to resident students

Appeal Process for Denials of Transfer Applications

A parent/guardian may appeal the district's denial of a transfer application to the Board by filing a written request of appeal with the Superintendent or designee within 10 days of the receipt of the written notification of denial. In addition, a parent/guardian who believes he/she has been subject to discrimination may file an appeal using the district's Uniform Complaint Procedures.

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

The Board shall schedule an appeal hearing as soon as practicable at a regular or special meeting of the Board. At the hearing, the parent/guardian shall have the right to present oral or written evidence, rebut district evidence, and question any district witnesses. Unless the parent/guardian requests that the hearing be held in open session, the hearing shall be held in closed session in order to protect the privacy of students in accordance with law.

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

The Board shall make its decision by the next regularly scheduled meeting and shall send its decision to all concerned parties. The Board's decision shall be final.

Program Evaluation

The Superintendent or designee shall collect data regarding the number of students who transfer out of the district pursuant to the Open Enrollment Act. He/she also shall collect data regarding the number of students who apply to transfer into the district, the number of requests granted, denied, or withdrawn, and the district schools and programs receiving applications.

When the Superintendent or designee anticipates that a particular school will receive a large number of transfer applications, he/she shall study the enrollment pattern at that school in order to anticipate future resident enrollment at the school and at the district schools into which those students would normally matriculate.

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly report to the Board regarding the implementation of this program.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

OPEN ENROLLMENT ACT TRANSFERS (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200 Prohibition of discrimination

35160.5 District policies, rules, and regulations

46600-46611 Interdistrict attendance agreements

48200 Compulsory attendance

48204 Residency requirements for school attendance

48300-48316 Student attendance alternatives, school district of choice program

48350-48361 Open Enrollment Act

48915 Expulsion; particular circumstances

48915.1 Expelled individuals: enrollment in another district

52317 Regional Occupational Center/Program, enrollment of students, interdistrict attendance

FAMILY CODE

6500-6552 Caregivers

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6316 Transfers from program improvement schools

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4700-4703 Open Enrollment Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

200.36 Dissemination of information

200.37 Notice of program improvement status, option to transfer

200.39 Program improvement, transfer option

200.42 Corrective action, transfer option

200.43 Restructuring, transfer option

200.44 Public school choice, program improvement schools

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

87 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen.* 132 (2004)

84 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen.* 198 (2001)

COURT DECISIONS

Crawford v. Huntington Beach Union High School District, (2002) 98 Cal.App.4th 1275

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

OPEN ENROLLMENT ACT TRANSFERS

Definitions

District of enrollment means the district, other than the district in which the student's parent/guardian resides, in which the parent/guardian intends to enroll his/her child. (Education Code 48352)

District of residence means the district in which the parent/guardian of a student resides and in which the student would otherwise be required to enroll pursuant to Education Code 48200. (Education Code 48352)

(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)

Open enrollment school means a "low-achieving" school identified by the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) pursuant to Education Code 48352 and 5 CCR 4701. (Education Code 48352; 5 CCR 4701)

Transfer Applications into a District School

Enrollment priority shall be available to students who reside within this district. No student who resides within a school's attendance area or who is currently enrolled in a school shall be displaced by a student who is transferring pursuant Education Code 48350-48361 or 5 CCR 4700-4703. (Education Code 48354, 48356)

Applications shall be submitted within the deadlines established by Board policy.

However, the application deadline shall not apply to an application requesting a transfer if the parent/guardian with whom the student resides is enlisted in the military and was relocated by the military within 90 days prior to submitting the application. (Education Code 48354)

(cf. 6173.2 - Education of Children of Military Families)

The parent/guardian's application may request enrollment of his/her child in a specific school or program. Requests for admission to a magnet school or program designed to serve gifted and talented students shall be subject to the usual admission requirements established by the district for district students. Except for such specialized admission requirements, the Superintendent or designee shall not consider the student's previous academic achievement, athletic performance, physical condition, English language proficiency, family income, or any of the prohibited bases for discrimination listed in Education Code 200. (Education Code 48354, 48356)

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. 6172 - Gifted and Talented Student Program)

OPEN ENROLLMENT ACT TRANSFERS (continued)

Students applying for open enrollment transfers shall be assigned priority for approval as follows: (Education Code 48356)

1. First priority for the siblings of students who already attend the desired school
2. Second priority for students transferring from a program improvement school ranked in decile 1 on the Academic Performance Index (API)

If the number of students who request a particular school exceeds the number of spaces available at that school, the Superintendent or designee shall conduct a lottery, in the group priority order identified in items #1 and #2 above, to select students at random until all of the available spaces are filled. (Education Code 48356)

Within 60 days of receiving the application, the Superintendent or designee shall provide written notification to the parent/guardian and the student's district of residence as to whether the application has been accepted or rejected. If the application has been rejected, the notice shall state the reasons for the rejection. If the application has been approved, the notification shall specify the particular school site and the school's address to which the student has been admitted. (Education Code 48357; 5 CCR 4702)

Terms of Approval

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the school to which the student is transferring has a higher API than the school in which the student was previously enrolled. (Education Code 48356)

The parent/guardian shall enroll his/her child on or before the first day of instruction or within 14 calendar days of receipt of the district's notice of approval of the application, whichever is later. If the parent/guardian fails to enroll his/her child within this timeframe, the district may decline to enroll the student. (5 CCR 4703)

Upon enrollment, the district shall grant the student any credits toward graduation that he/she received from his/her district of residence. The student shall be eligible for graduation from district schools upon completion of state and district graduation requirements. (Education Code 48358)

(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)

(cf. 6146.5 - Elementary/Middle School Graduation Requirements)

(cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)

OPEN ENROLLMENT ACT TRANSFERS (continued)

A student admitted to a district school through this process shall be deemed to have fulfilled district residency requirements pursuant to Education Code 48204 and shall not be required to reapply for enrollment in that school, regardless of whether his/her school of residence remains on the Open Enrollment List. (Education Code 48356; 5 CCR 4702)

Once admitted, a transfer student who wishes to matriculate into a district middle or high school or transfer to another district school shall reapply for admission to the new school pursuant to the requirements of Board policy and administrative regulation.

Parents/guardians are responsible for transporting their children to school.

STUDENTS EXPELLED FROM OTHER DISTRICTS

The Board of Trustees may grant admission to students expelled from other districts in accordance with law and when consistent with the Board's goal to provide a safe and secure environment for students and staff.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

If a student expelled from another district is granted enrollment, in accordance with the procedures specified below, he/she shall either establish legal residence in this district or enroll pursuant to an interdistrict attendance agreement. (Education Code 48915.1, 48915.2)

(cf. 5111 - Admission)

(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)

(cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)

Enrollment During the Term of the Expulsion

The district shall not enroll a student expelled by another district for any of the offenses listed in Education Code 48915(a) or (c) (mandatory expulsion offenses) during the term of the student's expulsion, unless the enrollment is at a community day school. (Education Code 48915.2)

Upon receiving a request for enrollment from a student expelled from another district for acts other than those specified in Education Code 48915(a) or (c), the Board shall hold a hearing to determine whether the student poses a continuing danger to students or staff. The hearing shall be conducted and notice shall be provided in accordance with procedures governing expulsion of students described in Education Code 48918. (Education Code 48915.1)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

If the student or parent/guardian neglects to inform the district that the student was expelled from his/her previous district for an act other than those listed in Education Code 48915(a) or (c), the Board shall record and discuss this lack of compliance during the hearing. (Education Code 48915.1)

If the Board finds that a student expelled for acts other than those specified in Education Code 48915(a) or (c) does not pose a continuing danger to students or staff, the student may be admitted or conditionally admitted during the term of expulsion. If the Board determines that the student does pose a continuing danger to students or staff, the student shall not be admitted. (Education Code 48915.1)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

STUDENTS EXPELLED FROM OTHER DISTRICTS (continued)

Enrollment After the Term of the Expulsion

A student expelled for an act specified in Education Code 48915(a) or (c) may enroll in the district after the term of his/her expulsion if the Board finds, at a hearing, that the student does not pose a continuing danger to students or staff. The hearing shall be conducted and notice shall be provided in accordance with procedures governing expulsion of students described in Education Code 48918. (Education Code 48915.2)

A student expelled for any act other than those specified in Education Code 48915(a) or (c) may request enrollment after the term of his/her expulsion in accordance with the district's procedures for establishing residency or interdistrict transfer.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

46600 *Agreements for interdistrict attendance*

46601 *Failure to approve interdistrict attendance; expulsion prohibiting appeal*

48200 *Compulsory attendance*

48645.1 *Juvenile court school*

48660-48666 *Community day schools*

48915 *Expulsion; particular circumstances*

48915.1 *Expelled individuals: enrollment in another district*

48915.2 *Expelled student; enrollment during and after period of expulsion*

48918 *Rules governing expulsion procedures*

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Attorney General's Office: <http://www.caag.state.ca.us>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools:

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osdfs>

GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The Board of Trustees believes that grades serve a valuable instructional purpose by helping students and parents/guardians understand performance expectations and identifying the student's areas of strength and those areas needing improvement. Parents/guardians and students have the right to receive course grades that represent an accurate evaluation of the student's achievement.

(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)
(cf. 5125.2 - Withholding Grades, Diploma or Transcripts)

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a uniform grading system based on standards that apply to all students in that course and grade level. Principals and teachers shall ensure that student grades conform to this system. Teachers shall inform students and parents/guardians how student achievement will be evaluated in the classroom.

A teacher shall base a student's grades on impartial, consistent observation of the quality of the student's work and his/her mastery of course content and district standards. Students shall have the opportunity to demonstrate this mastery through a variety of methods such as classroom participation, homework, tests, and portfolios.

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)
(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)

The teacher of each course shall determine the student's grade. The grade assigned by the teacher shall not be changed by the Board or the Superintendent except as provided by law, Board policy, or administrative regulation. (Education Code 49066)

(cf. 5125.3 - Challenging Student Records)

Students in grades K-3 shall receive progress reports rather than letter grades.

When reporting student performance to parents/guardians, teachers may add narrative descriptions, observational notes, and/or samples of classroom work in order to better describe student progress in specific skills and subcategories of achievement.

A report card for a student with a disability may contain information about his/her disability, including whether that student received special education or related services, provided that the report card informs parents/guardians about their child's progress or level of achievement in specific classes, course content, or curriculum. However, transcripts that may be used to inform postsecondary institutions or prospective employers of the student's academic achievements shall not contain information disclosing the student's disability.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)
(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)
(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504)

GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (continued)

Effect of Absences on Grades

If a student misses class without an excuse and does not subsequently turn in homework, take a test, or fulfill another class requirement which he/she missed, the teacher may lower the student's grade for nonperformance.

(cf. 6154 - Homework/Makeup Work)

The Board believes that _____ *(fill in number)* unexcused absences per grading period constitute excessive unexcused absences. Students with excessive unexcused absences may receive a failing grade and not receive credit for the class(es).

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

Grade Point Average

The Superintendent or designee shall determine the methodology to be used in calculating students' grade point averages (GPA), including the courses to be included within the GPA and whether extra grade weighting shall be applied to Advanced Placement, honors, and/or concurrent postsecondary courses.

(cf. 6141.5 - Advanced Placement)

(cf. 6172 - Gifted and Talented Student Program)

(cf. 6172.1 - Concurrent Enrollment in College Classes)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

41505-41508 *Pupil Retention Block Grant*

48070 *Promotion and retention*

48205 *Excused absences*

48800-48802 *Enrollment of gifted students in community college*

48904-48904.3 *Withholding grades, diplomas, or transcripts*

49066 *Grades; finalization; physical education class*

49067 *Mandated regulations regarding student's achievement*

49069.5 *Students in foster care, grades and credits*

51242 *Exemption from physical education based on participation in interscholastic athletics*

76000-76002 *Enrollment in community college*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

10060 *Criteria for reporting physical education achievement, high schools*

30008 *Definition of high school grade point average for student aid eligibility*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232g *Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)*

6101-6251 *School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1994*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

99.1-99.67 *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act*

COURT DECISIONS

Owasso Independent School District v. Falvo, (2002) 534 U.S. 426

Las Virgenes Educators Association v. Las Virgenes Unified School District, (2001) 86 Cal.App.4th 1

Swany v. San Ramon Valley Unified School District, (1989) 720 F.Supp. 764

Johnson v. Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education, (1986) 179 Cal.App.3d 593

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Aiming High: High Schools for the 21st Century, 2002

Taking Center Stage: A Commitment to Standards-Based Education for California's Middle Grades Students, 2001

Elementary Makes the Grade!, 2000

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS CORRESPONDENCE

Report Cards and Transcripts for Students with Disabilities, October 17, 2008

WEB SITES

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

California Student Aid Commission: <http://www.csac.ca.gov>

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>

GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Written report cards displaying students' grades in each subject or course shall be distributed to parents/guardians at the end of each grading period. Parents/guardians shall be offered an opportunity to meet with their child's teacher(s) to discuss the grades and strategies to improve their child's performance.

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

Whenever it becomes evident to a teacher that a student is in danger of failing a course, the teacher shall arrange a conference with the student's parent/guardian or send the parent/guardian a written report. (Education Code 49067)

(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)

For each student in grades 9-12, the Superintendent or designee shall maintain a transcript recording the courses taken, the term that each course was taken, credits earned, final grades, and date of graduation.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)

Grades for Achievement

For grades K-3, students' level of progress shall be reported as follows:

- O Outstanding
- S Satisfactory
- N Needs Improvement

For grades 4-12, grades for achievement shall be reported for each grading period as follows:

A	(90-100%)	Outstanding Achievement	4.0 grade points
B	(80-89%)	Above Average Achievement	3.0 grade points
C	(70-79%)	Average Achievement	2.0 grade points
D	(60-69%)	Below Average Achievement	1.0 grade points
F	(0-59%)	Little or No Achievement	0 grade points
I		Incomplete	0 grade points

An Incomplete shall be given only when a student's work is not finished because of illness or other excused absence. If not made up within six weeks, the Incomplete shall become an F.

Because of the more rigorous nature of Advanced Placement, honors, and concurrent postsecondary courses, students receiving a grade of A, B, or C in those courses shall receive extra grade weighting as follows:

GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (continued)

A	(90-100%)	Outstanding Achievement	5.0 grade points
B	(80-89%)	Above Average Achievement	4.0 grade points
C	(70-79%)	Average Achievement	3.0 grade points

(cf. 6141.5 - Advanced Placement)

(cf. 6172 - Gifted and Talented Student Program)

(cf. 6172.1 - Concurrent Enrollment in College Classes)

Grades for Physical Education

No grade of a student participating in a physical education class may be adversely affected due to the fact that the student, because of circumstances beyond his/her control, does not wear standardized physical education apparel. (Education Code 49066)

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)

Student performance in high school physical education courses shall be based upon evaluation of the student's individual progress, attainment of goals in each instructional area, tests designed to determine skill and knowledge, and physical performance tests. (5 CCR 10060)

High school students using interscholastic athletic participation to fulfill physical education requirements, as authorized by Education Code 51242, may be graded on this participation provided that a teacher credentialed to teach physical education supervises this participation and assigns the grade.

(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

Grades for College Courses

When the district has approved a student to receive district credit for coursework completed at a community college or four-year college, he/she shall receive the same letter grade as is granted by the college.

Grades for Citizenship, Study Skills, and Effort

Grades for citizenship, study skills, and effort shall be reported as follows:

O	Outstanding
S	Satisfactory
N	Needs Improvement

GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (continued)

Pass/Fail Grading

The Superintendent or designee may identify courses or programs for which students may, with parent/guardian permission, elect to earn a Pass or Fail grade instead of a letter grade.

Students who receive a Pass grade shall acquire the appropriate semester units of credit for the course. The grade shall not be counted in determining class rank, honors list, or membership in the California Scholarship Federation. Students who receive a Fail grade shall not receive credit for taking the course.

Peer Grading

At their discretion, teachers may use peer grading of student tests, papers, and assignments as appropriate to reinforce lessons.

Repeating Classes

With the approval of the principal or designee, a student may repeat a course in order to raise his/her grade. Both grades received shall be entered on the student's transcript, but the student shall receive credit only once for taking the course.

The two grades shall be averaged in determining the student's overall grade point average (GPA).

Withdrawal from Classes

A student who drops a course during the first six weeks of the grading period may do so without any entry on his/her permanent record card. A student who drops a course after the first six weeks of the grading period shall receive an F grade on his/her permanent record, unless otherwise decided by the principal or designee because of extenuating circumstances.

Effect of Absences on Grades

Teachers who withhold class credit because of excessive unexcused absences shall so inform students and parents/guardians at the beginning of the school year or semester. When a student reaches the number of unexcused absences defined as excessive in Board policy, the student and parent/guardian shall again be notified of the district's policy regarding excessive unexcused absences.

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (continued)

The student and parent/guardian shall have a reasonable opportunity to explain the absences. (Education Code 49067)

If a student receives a failing grade because of excessive unexcused absences, the student's record shall specify that the grade was assigned because of excessive unexcused absences. (Education Code 49067)

Grades for a student in foster care shall not be lowered if the student is absent from school due to either of the following circumstances: (Education Code 49069.5)

1. A decision by a court or placement agency to change the student's placement, in which case the student's grades and credits shall be calculated as of the date the student left school
2. A verified court appearance or related court-ordered activity

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

Grade Point Average

The Superintendent or designee shall calculate each student's GPA using the grade points assigned to each letter grade in accordance with the scale described in the section "Grades for Achievement" above. The grade points for all applicable coursework shall be totaled and divided by the number of courses completed.

(cf. 5126 - Awards for Achievement)

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

When plus and minus designations are added to letter grades, a plus shall be computed by adding 0.3 to the value assigned the letter grade and a minus shall be computed by subtracting 0.3 from the value assigned to the letter grade.

PROMOTION/ACCELERATION/RETENTION

Cautionary Notice: AB 97 (Ch. 47, Statutes of 2013) repealed Education Code 42605, which provided temporary flexibility for specified "Tier 3" categorical programs, and instead redirects the funding for those categorical programs into the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) (Education Code 42238.01-42251). The supplemental and concentration grant portions of the LCFF may be used for any schoolwide or districtwide educational purpose in accordance with state regulations to be adopted by January 31, 2014, with a goal of increasing or improving services for English learners, foster youth, and students eligible for free and reduced-price meals. Certain requirements related to Tier 3 categorical program(s) in the following policy or regulation are no longer applicable.

Cautionary Notice 2013-14: AB 110 (Ch. 20, Statutes of 2013) amended Government Code 17581.5 to relieve districts from the obligation, until July 1, 2014, to perform any activities that are deemed to be reimbursable state mandates under that section. As a result, certain provisions of the following policy or administrative regulation that reflect those requirements may be suspended.

The Board of Trustees expects students to progress through each grade level within one school year. To accomplish this, instruction should accommodate the variety of ways that students learn and include strategies for addressing academic deficiencies when needed.

Students shall progress through the grade levels by demonstrating growth in learning and meeting grade-level standards of expected student achievement.

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)

(cf. 6146.5 - Elementary/Middle School Graduation Requirements)

(cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)

When high academic achievement is evident, the Superintendent or designee may recommend a student for acceleration into a higher grade level. The student's maturity level shall be taken into consideration in making a determination to accelerate a student.

As early as possible in the school year, the Superintendent or designee shall identify students who should be retained and who are at risk of being retained in accordance with law, Board policy, administrative regulation, and the following criteria.

Note: Education Code 48070.5 **mandates** that the Board's policy provide for the identification of students who should be retained and who are at risk of being retained at the end of grades 2, 3, 4, the intermediate grades (usually grade 6), and the middle school grades (usually grade 8). It further **mandates** that the Board's policy provide for students to be identified as early in the school year, and as early in their school careers, as practicable. See the accompanying administrative regulation.

Pursuant to Education Code 48070.5(b), the district's policy must provide for the identification of students who should be retained and who are at risk of being retained on the basis of either of the following: (1) the results of assessments administered pursuant to the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) program and minimum levels of proficiency recommended by the State Board of Education, or (2) the student's grades and other indicators of academic achievement designated by the district. Education Code 48070.5(d)

PROMOTION/ACCELERATION/RETENTION (continued)

provides that if either of the measures specified in Education Code 48070.5(b) identifies that a student is performing below the minimum standard for promotion, the student shall be retained, unless the teacher determines that retention is not the appropriate intervention for the student's academic deficiencies. See the accompanying administrative regulation.

Option 1 below, as authorized by Education Code 48070.5(b)(2), is for use by districts that choose to identify students based on grades and other indicators of achievement. These "other indicators" of achievement, as designated by the Board, should be specified in the blanks provided (e.g., district assessments, portfolios, attendance).

Option 2, as authorized by Education Code 48070.5(b)(1), is for use by districts that choose to identify students solely on the basis of the results of the STAR assessment and the minimum levels of proficiency recommended by the State Board of Education. Districts selecting this option should be aware that, pursuant to Education Code 60641, STAR test results are to be published on the CDE's web site by August 15 of each year, a date which may be problematic when determining whether or not a student must be retained or placed in a supplemental instructional program.

With regards to special education students, the determination as to the appropriate standards for promotion or retention should be made as part of the IEP process; see BP/AR 6159 - Individualized Education Program.

OPTION 1: Students shall be identified on the basis of grades. The following other indicators of academic achievement shall also be used:

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

(cf. 5149 - At-Risk Students)

OPTION 2: Students shall be identified on the basis of the assessment results on the state's Standardized Testing and Reporting Program and the minimum levels of proficiency recommended by the State Board of Education.

(cf. 5149 - At-Risk Students)

(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)

(cf. 6162.51 - Standardized Testing and Reporting Program)

When any student in grades 2-9 is retained or recommended for retention, the Superintendent or designee shall offer programs of direct, systematic, and intensive supplemental instruction in accordance with Education Code 37252.2 and Board policy.

(cf. 6179 - Supplemental Instruction)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

37252-37254.1 *Supplemental instruction*

41505-41508 *Pupil Retention Block Grant*

46300 *Method of computing ADA*

48011 *Promotion/retention following one year of kindergarten*

48070-48070.5 *Promotion and retention*

48431.6 *Required systematic review of students and grading*

56345 *Elements of individualized education plan*

60641-60648 *Standardized Testing and Reporting Program*

60850-60859 *Exit examination*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

200-202 *Admission and exclusion of students*

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION MANAGEMENT ADVISORIES

0900.90 *Changes in Law Concerning Eligibility for Admission to Kindergarten 90-10*

CDE PUBLICATIONS

Performance Level Tables for the California Standards Tests and the California Alternative Performance Assessment

Parental Agreement Form: Agreement for Pupil to Continue in Kindergarten

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S OPINION

Promotion and Retention #21610

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

Students

AR 5123(a)

PROMOTION/ACCELERATION/RETENTION

Acceleration from Kindergarten to First Grade

A student enrolled in kindergarten may be admitted to the first grade at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee and with the consent of the parent/guardian, upon determination that the child is ready for first-grade work. (Education Code 48011)

Admission shall be subject to the following minimum criteria: (5 CCR 200)

1. The student is at least five years of age.
2. The student has attended a public school kindergarten for a long enough time to enable school personnel to evaluate his/her ability.
3. The student is in the upper five percent of his/her age group in terms of general mental ability.
4. The physical development and social maturity of the student are consistent with his/her advanced mental ability.
5. The parent/guardian of the student has filed a written statement with the school district approving the placement in first grade.

Continuation in Kindergarten

Students who have completed one year of kindergarten shall be admitted to first grade unless the parent/guardian and the Superintendent or designee agree that the student shall continue in kindergarten for not more than one additional school year. (Education Code 48011)

Whenever a student continues in kindergarten for an additional year, the Superintendent or designee shall secure an agreement, signed by the parent/guardian, stating that the student shall continue in kindergarten for not more than one additional school year. (Education Code 46300)

Retention at Other Grade Levels

The Superintendent or designee shall identify students who should be retained or who are at risk of being retained at the following grade levels: (Education Code 48070.5)

1. Between grades 2 and 3
2. Between grades 3 and 4
3. Between grades 4 and 5

PROMOTION/ACCELERATION/RETENTION (continued)

4. Between the end of the intermediate grades and the beginning of the middle school grades
5. Between the end of the middle school grades and the beginning of the high school grades

Students between grades 2 and 3 and grades 3 and 4 shall be identified primarily on the basis of their level of proficiency in reading. Proficiency in reading, English language arts and mathematics shall be the basis for identifying students between grades 4 and 5, between intermediate and middle school grades, and between middle school grades and high school grades. (Education Code 48070.5)

(cf. 6142.91 - Reading/Language Arts Instruction)
(cf. 6142.92 - Mathematics Instruction)

Students shall be identified on the basis of either statewide assessment results or grades and other indicators of academic achievement, as established by Board policy.

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)
(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)

If a student is identified as performing below the minimum standard for promotion, the student shall be retained in his/her current grade level unless the student's regular classroom teacher determines, in writing, that retention is not the appropriate intervention for the student's academic deficiencies. This determination shall specify the reasons that retention is not appropriate for the student and shall include recommendations for interventions other than retention that, in the opinion of the teacher, are necessary to assist the student in attaining acceptable levels of academic achievement. (Education Code 48070.5)

If the teacher's recommendation to promote is contingent on the student's participation in a summer school or interim session remediation program, the student's academic performance shall be reassessed at the end of the remediation program, and the decision to retain or promote the student shall be reevaluated at that time. The teacher's evaluation shall be provided to and discussed with the student's parents/guardians and the principal before any final determination of retention or promotion. (Education Code 48070.5)

(cf. 6177 - Summer School)
(cf. 6179 - Supplemental Instruction)

If the student does not have a single regular classroom teacher, the principal or designee shall specify the teacher(s) responsible for the decision to promote or retain the student. (Education Code 48070.5)

PROMOTION/ACCELERATION/RETENTION (continued)

When a student is identified as being at risk of retention, the Superintendent or designee shall so notify the student's parent/guardian as early in the school year as practicable. The student's parent/guardian shall be provided an opportunity to consult with the teacher(s) responsible for the decision to promote or retain the student. (Education Code 48070.5)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

The Superintendent or designee shall also provide a copy of the district's promotion/retention policy and administrative regulation to those parents/guardians who have been notified that their child is at risk of retention.

The teacher's decision to promote or retain a student may be appealed consistent with Board of Trustees policy, administrative regulation and law.

The burden shall be on the appealing party to show why the teacher's decision should be overruled. (Education Code 48070.5)

To appeal a teacher's decision, the appealing party shall submit a written request to the Superintendent or designee specifying the reasons that the teacher's decision should be overruled. The appeal must be initiated within 10 school days of the determination of retention or promotion.

The teacher shall be provided an opportunity to state orally and/or in writing the criteria on which his/her decision was based.

Within 30 days of receiving the request, the Superintendent or designee shall determine whether or not to overrule the teacher's decision. Prior to making this determination, the Superintendent or designee may meet with the appealing party and the teacher. If the Superintendent or designee determines that the appealing party has overwhelmingly proven that the teacher's decision should be overruled, he/she shall overrule the teacher's decision.

The Superintendent or designee's determination may be appealed by submitting a written appeal to the Board within 15 school days. Within 30 days of receipt of a written appeal, the Board shall meet in closed session to decide the appeal. The Board's decision may be made on the basis of documentation prepared as part of the appeal process or, at the discretion of the Board, the Board may also meet with the appealing party, the teacher and the Superintendent/designee to decide the appeal. The decision of the Board shall be final.

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

(cf. 9321.1 - Closed Session Actions and Reports)

PROMOTION/ACCELERATION/RETENTION (continued)

If the decision of the Board is unfavorable to the appealing party, he/she shall have the right to submit a written statement of objections which shall become part of the student's record.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 5125.3 - Challenging Student Records)