

# CSBA Sample Board Policy

**Instruction**

BP 6020(a)

## **PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

Note: 20 USC 6318, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (P.L. 114-95), **mandates** each district receiving federal Title I, Part A, funds to have a written parent/guardian and family engagement policy developed jointly with and agreed upon by parents/guardians and family members of participating students. Education Code 11504 **mandates** districts to adopt a policy on parent/guardian involvement applicable to each school that does not receive Title I funds. The following policy and accompanying administrative regulation contain language satisfying both mandates and should be revised to reflect district practice.

In addition, Education Code 51101 mandates policy for all districts addressing the manner in which parents/guardians, school staff, and students may share responsibility for continuing the intellectual, physical, emotional, and social development and well-being of students; see BP/AR 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities for language fulfilling this mandate.

For best practices in implementing parent/guardian and family engagement programs, see the California Department of Education's [Family Engagement Framework: A Tool for California School Districts](#).

The Governing Board recognizes that parents/guardians are their children's first and most influential teachers and that sustained parent/guardian involvement in the education of their children contributes greatly to student achievement and a positive school environment. The Superintendent or designee shall consult with parents/guardians and family members in the development of meaningful opportunities for them to be involved in district and school activities at all grade levels; advisory, decision-making, and advocacy roles; and activities to support learning at home.

*(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)*

*(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)*

*(cf. 1230 - School-Connected Organizations)*

*(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)*

*(cf. 1250 - Visitors/Outsiders)*

Parents/guardians shall be notified of their rights to be informed about and to participate in their children's education and of the opportunities available to them to do so.

*(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)*

The district's local control and accountability plan shall include goals and strategies for parent/guardian involvement, including district efforts to seek parent/guardian input in district and school site decision making and to promote parent/guardian participation in programs for English learners, foster youth, students eligible for free and reduced-price meals, and students with disabilities. (Education Code 42238.02, 52060)

*(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)*

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## **PARENT INVOLVEMENT** (continued)

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly evaluate and report to the Board on the effectiveness of the district's parent/guardian and family engagement efforts, including, but not limited to, input from parents/guardians, family members, and school staff on the adequacy of involvement opportunities and on barriers that may inhibit participation.

*(cf. 0500 - Accountability)*

### **Title I Schools**

Note: The following section is for use by districts that receive Title I funds. 20 USC 6318 **mandates** that such districts develop, jointly with parents/guardians and family members of participating students, policy which establishes expectations and objectives for meaningful parent/guardian and family involvement and describes how the district will address specified components. See the accompanying administrative regulation for the required components and optional strategies for addressing each component.

State law (Education Code 11503) also **mandates** procedures to ensure that parents/guardians are consulted and participate in the planning, design, implementation, and evaluation of the Title I parent/guardian and family engagement program.

The Superintendent or designee shall involve parents/guardians and family members in establishing district expectations and objectives for meaningful parent/guardian and family engagement in schools supported by Title I funding, developing strategies that describe how the district will carry out each activity listed in 20 USC 6318, as contained in the accompanying administrative regulation, and implementing and evaluating such programs, activities, and procedures. As appropriate, the Superintendent or designee shall conduct outreach to all parents/guardians and family members. (Education Code 11503; 20 USC 6318)

*(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)*

Note: The following paragraph is for use by districts that receive more than \$500,000 in Title I, Part A funding. Pursuant to 20 USC 6318, the Governing Board must reserve at least one percent of the district's Title I funding to carry out parent/guardian and family engagement activities, provided that one percent of the allocation received by the district totals more than \$5,000. As amended by P.L. 114-95, 20 USC 6318 requires that at least 90 percent of the reserved funds must be distributed to eligible schools, with priority given to "high-need schools" as defined in 20 USC 6631.

When the district's Title I, Part A allocation exceeds the amount specified in 20 USC 6318, the Board shall reserve at least one percent of the funding to implement parent/guardian and family engagement activities. The Superintendent or designee shall involve parents/guardians and family members of participating students in decisions regarding how the district's Title I funds will be

allotted for parent/guardian and family engagement activities and shall ensure that priority is given to schools in high poverty areas in accordance with law. (20 USC 6318, 6631)

(*cf.* 3100 - Budget)

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## **PARENT INVOLVEMENT** (continued)

Note: As amended by P.L. 114-95, 20 USC 6318 identifies allowable uses of the Title I funds reserved for parent/guardian and family engagement, as provided below. These uses are consistent with the activities that must be addressed in the district's parent/guardian and family engagement policy, as described in the accompanying administrative regulation.

Expenditures of such funds shall be consistent with the activities specified in this policy and shall include at least one of the following: (20 USC 6318)

1. Support for schools and nonprofit organizations in providing professional development for district and school staff regarding parent/guardian and family engagement strategies, which may be provided jointly to teachers, principals, other school leaders, specialized instructional support personnel, paraprofessionals, early childhood educators, and parents/guardians and family members
2. Support for programs that reach parents/guardians and family members at home, in the community, and at school
3. Dissemination of information on best practices focused on parent/guardian and family engagement, especially best practices for increasing the engagement of economically disadvantaged parents/guardians and family members
4. Collaboration with community-based or other organizations or employers with a record of success in improving and increasing parent and family engagement
5. Any other activities and strategies that the district determines are appropriate and consistent with this policy

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that each school receiving Title I funds develops a school-level parent/guardian and family engagement policy in accordance with 20 USC 6318.

### **Non-Title I Schools**

Note: The following section is for use by districts that do not receive any Title I funds or that have one or more individual schools that do not receive Title I funds. Education Code 11504 **mandates** the Board to adopt a policy on parent/guardian involvement, applicable to each school that does not receive Title I funds, that is consistent with the purposes and goals in Education Code 11502. See the accompanying administrative regulation for information about these goals and sample strategies for addressing each goal.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement strategies applicable to each school that does not receive federal Title I funds to encourage the involvement and support of parents/guardians in the education of their children, including, but not limited to, strategies describing how the district and schools will address the purposes and goals described in Education Code 11502. (Education Code 11504)

BP 6020(d)

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

11500-11506 Programs to encourage parent involvement

48985 Notices in languages other than English

51101 Parent rights and responsibilities

52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan

54444.1-54444.2 Parent advisory councils, services to migrant children

56190-56194 Community advisory committee, special education

64001 Single plan for student achievement

LABOR CODE

230.8 Time off to visit child's school

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

18275 Child care and development programs, parent involvement and education

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6311 State plan

6312 Local educational agency plan

6314 Schoolwide programs

6318 Parent and family engagement

6631 Teacher and school leader incentive program, purposes and definitions

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28

35.104 Definitions, auxiliary aids and services

35.160 Communications

*Management Resources:*

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Title I School-Level Parental Involvement Policy

Family Engagement Framework: A Tool for California School Districts, 2014

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Parental Involvement: Title I, Part A, Non-Regulatory Guidance, April 23, 2004

WEB SITES

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

California Department of Education, Family, School, Community Partnerships:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/pf>

California Parent Center: <http://parent.sdsu.edu>

California State PTA: <http://www.capta.org>

National Coalition for Parent Involvement in Education: <http://www.ncpie.org>

National PTA: <http://www.pta.org>

Parent Information and Resource Centers: <http://www.pirc-info.net>

Parents as Teachers National Center: <http://www.parentsasteachers.org>

U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov>

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**Policy Reference UPDATE Service**

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# CSBA Sample Administrative Regulation

Instruction

AR 6020(a)

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Note: The following administrative regulation contains parent/guardian and family engagement strategies that meet legal requirements applicable to districts and schools receiving federal Title I funds and those that do not receive Title I funds. The district should use and adapt the section(s) applicable to its circumstances. If desired, the district may develop one set of strategies applicable to all schools, provided that all the provisions required by law for both types of schools are included.

### District Strategies for Title I Schools

Note: The following section is for use by districts that receive Title I, Part A, funds. 20 USC 6318, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (P.L. 114-95), **mandates** that such districts develop a policy that describes the means by which the district will address the components specified in items #1-6 below. Under each required component below are optional strategies for addressing the component, which should be modified to reflect the specific strategies jointly developed by the district and the parents/guardians and family members of participating students. In the state's Federal Program Monitoring process, California Department of Education (CDE) staff will check to ensure that the district has identified such strategies.

To ensure that parents/guardians and family members of students participating in Title I programs are provided with opportunities to be involved in their children's education, the district shall:

Note: Pursuant to 20 USC 6318, districts must involve parents/guardians and family members in the development of the Title I local educational agency (LEA) plan described in 20 USC 6312; also see BP 6171 - Title I Programs. In California, all the requirements of the LEA plan are addressed in an addendum to the local control and accountability plan (LCAP). See BP 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan for further information about the development of the LCAP, including requirements for consultation with parents/guardians and other stakeholders and for the establishment of a parent advisory committee and English learner parent advisory committee.

1. Involve parents/guardians and family members in the joint development of a district plan that meets the requirements of 20 USC 6312 and in the development of school support and improvement plans pursuant to 20 USC 6311 (20 USC 6318)

*(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)*

*(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)*

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. In accordance with Education Code 52063, establish a district-level parent advisory committee and, as applicable, an English learner parent advisory committee to review and comment on the plan in accordance with the review schedule established by the Governing Board

**PARENT INVOLVEMENT** (continued)

- b. Invite input on the plan from other district committees and school site councils

*(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)*  
*(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)*

- c. Communicate with parents/guardians through the district newsletter, web site, or other methods regarding the plan and the opportunity to provide input
- d. Provide copies of working drafts of the plan to parents/guardians in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents/guardians can understand
- e. Ensure that there is an opportunity at a public Board meeting for public comment on the plan prior to the Board's approval of the plan or revisions to the plan
- f. Ensure that school-level policies on parent/guardian and family engagement address the role of school site councils and other parents/guardians as appropriate in the development and review of school plans

- 2. Provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent/guardian and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, which may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents/guardians and family members in education (20 USC 6318)

*(cf. 1700 - Relations Between Private Industry and the Schools)*

Note: 20 USC 6318 <b>mandates</b> that the district's policy or regulation include items #2a-f below. The district may expand these items to describe methods the district will use to carry out each activity.
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The Superintendent or designee shall: (20 USC 6318)

- a. Assist parents/guardians in understanding such topics as the challenging state academic content standards and academic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children

*(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)*  
*(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)*  
*(cf. 6162.51 - State Academic Achievement Tests)*

**PARENT INVOLVEMENT** (continued)

- b. Provide parents/guardians with materials and training, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to help them work with their children to improve their children's achievement
- c. With the assistance of parents/guardians, educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals and other school leaders, and other staff, in the value and utility of parent/guardian contributions and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents/guardians as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent/guardian programs, and build ties between parents/guardians and the schools

*(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)*

*(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)*

*(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)*

- d. To the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent/guardian involvement programs and activities with other federal, state, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents/guardians in fully participating in their children's education
- e. Ensure that information related to school and parent/guardian programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents/guardians of participating students in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents/guardians can understand
- f. Provide other such reasonable support for parent/guardian involvement activities as parents/guardians may request

<p>Note: Although not mandated to be included in the district's policy or regulation, item #2g reflects a legal requirement in 20 USC 6318(g) to inform parents/guardians about the existence of parent information and resource centers in the state that work with Title I schools, districts, and parents/guardians. See the management resources in the accompanying Board policy for resources that can help districts locate the centers closest to them.</p>
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- g. Inform parents/guardians and parent organizations of the existence and purpose of parent information and resource centers in the state that provide training, information, and support to parents/guardians of participating students

**PARENT INVOLVEMENT** (continued)

Note: Items #2a-t below are <b>optional</b> and should be revised to reflect district practice. Items #2a-h are authorized, but not required, by 20 USC 6318.
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In addition, the Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Involve parents/guardians in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training
- b. Provide necessary literacy training, using Title I funds if the district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training
- c. Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent/guardian involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents/guardians to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions
- d. Train parents/guardians to enhance the involvement of other parents/guardians
- e. Arrange school meetings at a variety of times or, when parents/guardians are unable to attend such conferences, conduct in-home conferences between parents/guardians and teachers or other educators who work directly with participating students, in order to maximize parent/guardian involvement and participation
- f. Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parent/guardian involvement
- g. Establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent/guardian involvement in Title I programs
- h. Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent/guardian involvement activities
- i. Make referrals to community agencies and organizations that offer literacy training, parent/guardian education programs, and/or other services that help to improve the conditions of parents/guardians and families

*(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)*

- j. Provide a master calendar of district activities and district meetings

- k. Provide information about opportunities for parent/guardian and family engagement through the district newsletter, web site, or other written or electronic means

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**PARENT INVOLVEMENT** (continued)

- l. Engage parent-teacher organizations to actively seek out and involve parents/guardians through regular communication updates and information sessions

*(cf. 1230 - School-Connected Organizations)*

- m. To the extent practicable, provide translation services at school sites and at meetings involving parents/guardians and family members as needed
- n. Provide training and information to members of district and school site councils and advisory committees to help them fulfill their functions
- o. Provide ongoing district-level workshops to assist school site staff, parents/guardians, and family members in planning and implementing improvement strategies, and seek their input in developing the workshops
- p. Provide training for the principal or designee of each participating school regarding Title I requirements for parent/guardian and family engagement, leadership strategies, and communication skills to assist him/her in facilitating the planning and implementation of related activities
- q. Regularly evaluate the effectiveness of staff development activities related to parent/guardian and family engagement
- r. Include expectations for parent/guardian outreach and involvement in staff job descriptions and evaluations

*(cf. 4115 - Evaluation/Supervision)*

*(cf. 4215 - Evaluation/Supervision)*

*(cf. 4315 - Evaluation/Supervision)*

- s. Assign district personnel to serve as a liaison to the schools regarding Title I parent/guardian and family engagement issues
- t. Provide information to schools about the indicators and assessment tools that will be used to monitor progress

3. To the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate Title I parent/guardian and family engagement strategies with parent/guardian and family engagement strategies of other relevant federal, state, and local programs and ensure consistency with federal, state, and local laws (20 USC 6318)

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## **PARENT INVOLVEMENT** (continued)

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Identify overlapping or similar program requirements

*(cf. 0430 - Comprehensive Local Plan for Special Education)*

*(cf. 2230 - Representative and Deliberative Groups)*

*(cf. 3280 - Sale or Lease of District-Owned Real Property)*

*(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)*

*(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)*

*(cf. 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education)*

*(cf. 6174 - Education for English Learners)*

*(cf. 6175 - Migrant Education Program)*

*(cf. 6178 - Career Technical Education)*

- b. Involve district and school site representatives from other programs to assist in identifying specific population needs
  - c. Schedule joint meetings with representatives from related programs and share data and information across programs
  - d. Develop a cohesive, coordinated plan focused on student needs and shared goals
4. Conduct, with meaningful involvement of parents/guardians and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent/guardian and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of the schools served by Title I, including identification of: (20 USC 6318)
    - a. Barriers to participation in parent/guardian and family engagement activities, with particular attention to parents/guardians who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background
    - b. The needs of parents/guardians and family members, so they can better assist with their children's learning and engage with school personnel and teachers

c. Strategies to support successful school and family interactions

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)

Note: Although it is not mandated to be included in the district's policy or regulation, the following paragraph reflects a legal requirement of Education Code 11503 pertaining to evaluation of the district's parent/guardian involvement efforts.

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**PARENT INVOLVEMENT** (continued)

The Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians of this review and assessment through regular school communications mechanisms and shall provide a copy of the assessment to parents/guardians upon their request. (Education Code 11503)

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Use a variety of methods, such as focus groups, surveys, and workshops, to evaluate the satisfaction of parents/guardians and staff with the quality and frequency of district communications
  - b. Gather and monitor data regarding the number of parents/guardians and family members participating in district activities and the types of activities in which they are engaged
  - c. Recommend to the Board measures to evaluate the impact of the district's parent/guardian and family engagement efforts on student achievement
5. Use the findings of the evaluation conducted pursuant to item #4 above to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parent/guardian and family involvement and, if necessary, to revise the parent/guardian and family engagement policy (20 USC 6318)
  6. Involve parents/guardians in the activities of schools served by Title I, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents/guardians or family members served by the district to adequately represent the needs of the population served by the district for the purposes of developing, revising, and reviewing the parent/guardian and family engagement policy (20 USC 6318)

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Include information about school activities in district communications to parents/guardians and family members

- b. To the extent practicable, assist schools with translation services or other accommodations needed to encourage participation of parents/guardians and family members
- c. Establish processes to encourage parent/guardian input regarding their expectations and concerns for their children

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## **PARENT INVOLVEMENT** (continued)

Note: Pursuant to 20 USC 6318, the district's parent/guardian and family engagement policy must be incorporated into the district's Title I LEA plan. In California, all the requirements of the LEA plan are addressed in an addendum to the local control and accountability plan (LCAP). See BP 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan.

The district's Board policy and administrative regulation containing parent/guardian and family engagement strategies shall be incorporated into the district's local control and accountability plan in accordance with 20 USC 6312 and shall be distributed to parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs. (20 USC 6318)

*(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)*

### **School-Level Policies for Title I Schools**

Note: The following section is for use by districts that receive federal Title I, Part A funds. 20 USC 6318, as amended by P.L. 114-95, mandates that each individual school receiving Title I funds have a written parent/guardian and family engagement policy, developed jointly with and agreed upon by parents/guardians and family members of participating students, that describes the means for carrying out the requirements of 20 USC 6318(c) through (f), reflected in items #1-8 below. The following section lists the required components but does not include specific strategies which should be added by each school. Schools may also use a template available on the web site of the California Department of Education, [Title I School-Level Parental Involvement Policy](#), to develop the school-level policy.

At each school receiving Title I funds, a written policy on parent/guardian and family engagement shall be developed jointly with the parents/guardians and family members of participating students. Such policy shall describe the means by which the school will: (20 USC 6318)

1. Convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents/guardians of participating students shall be invited and encouraged to attend, in order to inform parents/guardians of their school's participation in Title I and to explain Title I requirements and the right of parents/guardians to be involved

2. Offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, for which related transportation, child care, and/or home visits may be provided as such services relate to parent/guardian involvement

Note: As provided in item #3 below, 20 USC 6318 requires parent/guardian involvement in the development of the comprehensive plan required by 20 USC 6314 for schoolwide programs. Under state law (Education Code 64001), this plan must be incorporated into the single plan for student achievement covering all categorical programs in the state's consolidated application; see AR 6171 - Title I Programs and BP/AR 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils for further information about the development of this plan.

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### **PARENT INVOLVEMENT** (continued)

3. Involve parents/guardians in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school's parent/guardian and family engagement policy and, if applicable, the joint development of the plan for schoolwide programs pursuant to 20 USC 6314

The school may use an existing process for involving parents/guardians in the joint planning and design of the school's programs provided that the process includes adequate representation of parents/guardians of participating students.

4. Provide the parents/guardians of participating students all of the following:
  - a. Timely information about Title I programs
  - b. A description and explanation of the school's curriculum, forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging state academic standards

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

*(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)*

- c. If requested by parents/guardians, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions related to their children's education, and, as soon as practicably possible, responses to the suggestions of parents/guardians
5. If the schoolwide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents/guardians of participating students, submit any parent/guardian comments when the school makes the plan available to the district

Note: 20 USC 6318 requires Title I schools to develop a school-parent compact as provided in item #6 below. U.S. Department of Education non-regulatory guidance, Parental Involvement: Title I, Part A, provides a sample template that schools may use in the development of the school-parent compact.

6. Jointly develop with the parents/guardians of participating students a school-parent compact that outlines how parents/guardians, the entire school staff, and students will share responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents/guardians will build a partnership to help students achieve state standards

This compact shall address:

- a. The school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables participating students to achieve the state's challenging academic achievement standards

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#### **PARENT INVOLVEMENT** (continued)

- b. Ways in which parents/guardians will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, volunteering in the classroom, and participating, as appropriate, in decisions related to their children's education and the positive use of extracurricular time

*(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)*

*(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)*

*(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)*

*(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular/Cocurricular Activities)*

*(cf. 6154 - Homework/Makeup Work)*

- c. The importance of communication between teachers and parents/guardians on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum:
- (1) Parent-teacher conferences in elementary schools, at least annually, during which the compact shall be discussed as it relates to the student's achievement
  - (2) Frequent reports to parents/guardians on their children's progress
  - (3) Reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's classroom, and observation of classroom activities
  - (4) Regular two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that family members can understand

7. Build the capacity of the school and parents/guardians for strong parent involvement by implementing the required activities described in item #2 in the section "District Strategies for Title I Schools" above
8. To the extent practicable, provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents/guardians and family members (including parents/guardians and family members with limited English proficiency, parents/guardians and family members with disabilities, and parents/guardians and family members of migrant children), including providing information and school reports required under 20 USC 6311(h) in a format and language such parents/guardians can understand

If the school has a parent involvement policy that applies to all parents/guardians, it may amend that policy to meet the above requirements. (20 USC 6318)

AR 6020(k)

#### **PARENT INVOLVEMENT** (continued)

Each school's parent/guardian and family engagement policy shall be made available to the local community. Parents/guardians shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents/guardians can understand. (20 USC 6318)

Note: The following paragraph is <b>optional</b> . Education Code 64001 requires that the single plan for student achievement covering the categorical programs in the state's consolidated application, including Title I schoolwide programs, be annually reviewed by the school site council and submitted to the Board for approval; see BP/AR 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils.
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Each school receiving Title I funds shall annually evaluate the effectiveness of its parent/guardian and family engagement policy. Such evaluation may be conducted during the process of reviewing the school's single plan for student achievement in accordance with Education Code 64001.

The school's policy shall be periodically updated to meet the changing needs of parents/guardians and the school. (20 USC 6318)

## District Strategies for Non-Title I Schools

Note: The following section is for use by districts that do not receive any Title I funds or that have one or more individual schools that do not receive Title I funds. Education Code 11504 **mandates** the Board to adopt a policy on parent/guardian involvement, applicable to each school that does not receive Title I funds, that is consistent with the purposes and goals in Education Code 11502 as reflected in items #1-5 below. Subitems under items #1-5 are **optional** strategies for carrying out the legal requirement and should be revised to reflect district practice.

For each school that does not receive federal Title I funds, the Superintendent or designee shall, at a minimum:

1. Engage parents/guardians positively in their children's education by helping them develop skills to use at home that support their children's academic efforts at school and their children's development as responsible members of society (Education Code 11502, 11504)

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Provide or make referrals to literacy training and/or parent education programs designed to improve the skills of parents/guardians and enhance their ability to support their children's education
- b. Provide information, in parent handbooks and through other appropriate means, regarding academic expectations and resources to assist with the subject matter  
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### PARENT INVOLVEMENT (continued)

- c. Provide parents/guardians with information about students' class assignments and homework assignments
2. Inform parents/guardians that they can directly affect the success of their children's learning, by providing them with techniques and strategies that they may use to improve their children's academic success and to assist their children in learning at home (Education Code 11502, 11504)

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Provide parents/guardians with information regarding ways to create an effective study environment for their children at home and to encourage good study habits
- b. Encourage parents/guardians to monitor their children's school attendance, homework completion, and television viewing
- c. Encourage parents/guardians to volunteer in their child's classroom and to participate in school advisory committees

3. Build consistent and effective communication between the home and school so that parents/guardians may know when and how to assist their children in support of classroom learning activities (Education Code 11502, 11504)

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Ensure that teachers provide frequent reports to parents/guardians on their children's progress and hold parent-teacher conferences at least once per year with parents/guardians of elementary school students
- b. Provide opportunities for parents/guardians to observe classroom activities and to volunteer in their child's classroom
- c. Provide information about parent/guardian and family engagement opportunities through district, school, and/or class newsletters, the district's web site, and other written or electronic communications
- d. To the extent practicable, provide notices and information to parents/guardians in a format and language they can understand
- e. Develop mechanisms to encourage parent/guardian input on district and school issues

AR 6020(m)

#### **PARENT INVOLVEMENT** (continued)

- f. Identify barriers to parent/guardian and family participation in school activities, including parents/guardians and family members who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background
  - g. Encourage greater parent/guardian participation by adjusting meeting schedules to accommodate parent/guardian needs and, to the extent practicable, by providing translation or interpreter services, transportation, and/or child care
4. Train teachers and administrators to communicate effectively with parents/guardians (Education Code 11502, 11504)

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Provide staff development to assist staff in strengthening two-way communications with parents/guardians, including parents/guardians who have limited English proficiency or limited literacy
  - b. Invite input from parents/guardians regarding the content of staff development activities pertaining to home-school communications
5. Integrate parent/guardian and family engagement programs into school plans for academic accountability

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Include parent/guardian and family engagement strategies in school reform or school improvement initiatives
- b. Involve parents/guardians and family members in school planning processes

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# CSBA Sample Board Policy

**Instruction**

BP 6173.2(a)

## **EDUCATION OF CHILDREN OF MILITARY FAMILIES**

Note: The following **optional** policy may be revised to reflect district practice.

The Governing Board recognizes that children of military families face challenges to their academic success caused by the frequent moves or deployments of their parents/guardians in fulfillment of military service. The district shall provide such students with academic resources, services, and opportunities for extracurricular and enrichment activities that are available to all district students.

*(cf. 5125 - Student Records)*  
*(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)*  
*(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)*  
*(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)*  
*(cf. 6179 - Supplemental Instruction)*

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 49700-49704, the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children is applicable to California school districts. Education Code 49700-49701 establish uniform means of assisting children of military families, as defined in the accompanying administrative regulation, by reducing or eliminating the barriers to their educational success caused by the frequent moves and deployments of their parents/guardians. Among other things, Education Code 49701 requires that districts be flexible in applying certain local rules to such students in order to facilitate their enrollment, placement, advancement, eligibility for extracurricular activities, and on-time graduation.

The Superintendent or designee may waive district policies or rules when necessary to facilitate the enrollment, placement, advancement, eligibility for extracurricular activities, or on-time graduation of children of military families, in accordance with the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children as ratified in Education Code 49700-49704.

*(cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)*  
*(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)*  
*(cf. 6146.3 - Reciprocity of Academic Credit)*

Note: The following **optional** paragraph reflects a recommendation in the California Department of Education's (CDE) Final Report to the Legislature on the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide information and/or training to administrators, other appropriate district staff, and military families regarding the provisions of the Interstate Compact and the educational rights of children of military families.

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

## **EDUCATION OF CHILDREN OF MILITARY FAMILIES** (continued)

Note: The following **optional** paragraph may be revised to reflect district practice. Each branch of the military appoints school liaison officers or comparable positions to serve as the primary point of contact for school-related matters. Their duties include coordinating with local school systems and assisting military families with school issues.

The Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with parents/guardians, school liaison officers from military installations, and/or other agencies within and outside the state to facilitate the transition of children of military families into and out of the district.

*(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)*

*(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)*

*(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)*

Note: The following paragraph may be revised to reflect district practice. Pursuant to 20 USC 6311, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (P.L. 114-95), states and districts are required to issue an annual report card which must include state achievement results for students who have parents/guardians who are members of the Armed Forces on active duty or full-time National Guard duty. The CDE has updated the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System to indicate such students. These students will be assigned a national identification number that will facilitate monitoring of their academic progress as they move across military bases and from state to state.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually report to the Board and the public on the educational outcomes of children of military families. Such reports may include, but are not limited to, school attendance, student achievement test results, promotion and retention rates by grade levels, and graduation rates.

*(cf. 0500 - Accountability)*

*(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)*

*(cf. 6162.51 - State Academic Achievement Tests)*

*Legal Reference: (see next page)*

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

35160.5 District policy rules and regulations; requirements; matters subject to regulation

35179 Interscholastic athletics; associations or consortia

35181 Students' responsibilities

35351 Assignment of students to particular schools

46600-46611 Interdistrict attendance agreements

48050-48054 Nonresidents

48200-48208 Persons included (compulsory education law)

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

49700-49704 Education of children of military families

51225.3 Requirements for graduation

51240-51246 Exemptions from requirements

51250-51251 School-age military dependents

66204 Certification of high school courses as meeting university admissions criteria

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 10

101 Definitions

1209 Transfer to inactive status list instead of separation

1211 Members on temporary disability retired list: return to active duty; promotion

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1400-1482 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

6311 State plan

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

794 Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act

*Management Resources:*

CALIFORNIA CHILD WELFARE COUNCIL

Partial Credit Model Policy and Practice Recommendations

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Final Report to the Legislature on the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children,

April 2014

WEB SITES

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

California Child Welfare Council: <http://www.chhs.ca.gov/Pages/CACChildWelfareCouncil.aspx> California

Department of Education, Educational Options Office: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/pf/mc>

Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission: <http://www.mic3.net>

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# CSBA Sample Administrative Regulation

Instruction

AR 6173.2(a)

## EDUCATION OF CHILDREN OF MILITARY FAMILIES

Note: The following administrative regulation is **optional**. Pursuant to Education Code 49701, districts are required to be flexible in applying their local rules to children of military families in order to facilitate their enrollment, placement, advancement, eligibility for extracurricular activities, and on-time graduation.

In addition, Education Code 51251 authorizes the Governing Board to establish a course credit transfer policy and to provide early entry transfer, pretranscript evaluation, student support services, and other similar assistance to any school-aged child of a military service member who is on active duty, or within one year of his/her discharge, or when the child's transfer to a new school is a direct result of the military transfer or discharge of his/her parent/guardian.

### Definitions

*Children of military families* are school-aged children in the household of: (Education Code 49701)

1. Members who are in full-time duty status in the active uniformed service of the United States, including any member of the National Guard and Reserve on active duty order pursuant to 10 USC 1209 or 1211
2. Members or veterans of the uniformed services who are severely injured and medically discharged or retired, for one year after their medical discharge or retirement
3. Members of the uniformed services who have died while on active duty or as a result of injuries sustained on active duty, for one year after their death

### Enrollment

The Superintendent or designee shall facilitate the enrollment of children of military families and ensure that they are not placed at a disadvantage due to difficulty in the transfer of their records from previous school districts and/or variations in entrance or age requirements. (Education Code 49701)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 48204.3, as amended by SB 455 (Ch. 239, Statutes of 2017), a student will be deemed to meet district residency requirements if his/her parent/guardian is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation, as defined, within the state. See AR 5111.1 - District Residency.

A child of a military family shall be deemed to meet district residency requirements if his/her parent/guardian, while on active military duty pursuant to an official military order, is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation within the state. The Superintendent or designee shall accept electronic submission of such a student's application for enrollment, including

enrollment in a specific school or program within the district, and for course registration. (Education Code 48204.3)

AR 6173.2(b)

## **EDUCATION OF CHILDREN OF MILITARY FAMILIES** (continued)

*(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)*

When a child of a military family is transferring into the district, the Superintendent or designee may enroll the child based on the child's placement in the previous district, pending receipt of the child's records. Upon enrollment, the Superintendent or designee shall immediately request the student's records from the student's previous district. The Superintendent or designee shall allow the student 30 days from the date of enrollment to obtain all required immunizations. (Education Code 49701)

*(cf. 5111 - Admission)*

*(cf. 5125 - Student Records)*

*(cf. 5141- Health Care and Emergencies)*

*(cf. 5141.31- Immunizations)*

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 48307, as amended by AB 99 (Ch. 15, Statutes of 2017), a district must not deny a student whose parent/guardian is on active military duty from transferring out of the district to any other district. In addition, Education Code 46600, as amended by AB 2659 (Ch. 186, Statutes of 2016), provides that districts must not prohibit the transfer of such a student out of the district to any other district that approves the transfer, regardless of whether or not an interdistrict transfer agreement exists or a permit is issued. Also see BP 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance.

A child of an active military duty parent/guardian shall not be prohibited from transferring out of the district, if the school district of proposed enrollment approves the application for transfer. (Education Code 46600, 48307)

*(cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)*

When a child of a military family is transferring out of the district, the Superintendent or designee shall provide the student's parents/guardians with a complete set of the student's records or, if the official student record cannot be released, an unofficial or "hand-carried" record. Upon request from the new district, the Superintendent or designee shall provide a copy of the student's record to the new district within 10 days. (Education Code 49701)

### **Placement**

Note: The following **optional** paragraph may be revised to reflect district practice. Pursuant to Education Code 51251, the district may provide pretranscript evaluations, as described below, in order to address the needs of children of military families.

Whenever a student's parent/guardian is serving on active duty or has been discharged from military service within the last year and the student transfers to a new school as the direct result of the military transfer or discharge, the Superintendent or designee may, prior to the receipt of

official transcript(s) or the arrival of the student, review the student's coursework to date, including any unofficial transcript(s), to determine the appropriate placement of the student in classes. The evaluation shall also include communication with school counselors and teachers at the former school by videoconferencing, email, and/or telephone calls. (Education Code 51251)

AR 6173.2(c)

## **EDUCATION OF CHILDREN OF MILITARY FAMILIES (continued)**

The Superintendent or designee shall initially honor the placement of any child of a military family in educational courses and programs based on the child's enrollment and/or assessment in his/her previous school. The Superintendent or designee may, to the extent permitted by Board policy, waive course or program prerequisites, preconditions, and/or application deadlines when making decisions regarding placement of children of military families and their eligibility for extracurricular academic, athletic, and social activities. (Education Code 49701)

*(cf. 6141.5 - Advanced Placement)*

*(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)*

*(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)*

*(cf. 6172 - Gifted and Talented Student Program)*

*(cf. 6174 - Education for English Learners)*

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 49701, the district is required to provide a child of a military family who has been identified as a student with a disability eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 USC 1400-1482) or Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act (29 USC 794) with services based on his/her current individualized education program or Section 504 plan, as appropriate. See BP/AR 6159 - Individualized Education Program and BP/AR 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504.

When a child of a military family transferring into the district has been identified as an individual with a disability pursuant to 20 USC 1400-1482, the Superintendent or designee shall provide comparable services to the student based on his/her current individualized education program. In addition, when the child of a military family transferring into the district is eligible for services under Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act, the Superintendent or designee shall make reasonable accommodations and modifications to address the needs of the student subject to the student's existing Section 504 plan. The district may authorize subsequent evaluations of the student to ensure appropriate placement. (Education Code 49701)

*(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)*

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

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

## **Transfer of Coursework and Credits**

Note: The following section is for use by districts maintaining high schools. Education Code 51225.2, as amended by AB 365 (Ch. 739, Statutes of 2017), requires districts to issue credit for coursework satisfactorily completed at another school, as provided below.

When a child of a military family transfers into a district school, the district shall accept and issue full credit for any coursework that the student has satisfactorily completed while attending another public school, a nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency, or a juvenile court school and shall not require the student to retake the course. (Education Code 51225.2)

AR 6173.2(d)

## **EDUCATION OF CHILDREN OF MILITARY FAMILIES (continued)**

*(cf. 6146.3 - Reciprocity of Academic Credit)*

*(cf. 6159.2 - Nonpublic, Nonsectarian School or Agency Services for Special Education)*

If the student did not complete the entire course, he/she shall be issued partial credit for the coursework completed and shall be required to take only the portion of the course that he/she did not complete at his/her previous school. However, the district may require the student to retake the portion of the course completed if, in consultation with the student's parent/guardian, the district finds that the student is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate from high school. Whenever partial credit is issued, the student shall be enrolled in the same or equivalent course, if applicable, so that he/she may continue and complete the entire course. (Education Code 51225.2)

Note: Although Education Code 51225.2 requires districts to award partial credits to children of military families who transfer from school to school, there is no uniform system for calculating and awarding partial credits. A recommendation for how to award partial credit is available in the California Child Welfare Council's Partial Credit Model Policy and Practice Recommendations and should be revised to reflect district practice.

Partial credits shall be awarded on the basis of 0.5 credits for every seven class periods attended per subject. If the school is on a block schedule, each block schedule class period attended shall be equal to two regular class periods per subject.

In no event shall the district prevent a child of a military family from taking or retaking a course to meet the eligibility requirements for admission to the California State University or the University of California. (Education Code 51225.2)

*(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)*

### **Absences**

Note: The California Department of Education's (CDE) Final Report to the Legislature on the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, available on its web site, contains a sample letter that may be provided to parents/guardians to report deployment-related absences.

When a student's parent/guardian is an active duty member and is called to duty for, is on leave from, or is immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or to combat support posting, the Superintendent or designee may grant additional excused absences to the student to visit with his/her parent/guardian. (Education Code 49701)

*(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)*

AR 6173.2(e)

## **EDUCATION OF CHILDREN OF MILITARY FAMILIES** (continued)

### **Graduation Requirements**

Note: The following section is for use by districts maintaining high schools. Education Code 51225.1, as amended by AB 365 (Ch. 739, Statutes of 2017), exempts children of military families from district-established graduation requirements, under certain conditions, when they transfer after completing two years of high school. Also see BP 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements.

To obtain a high school diploma, a child of a military family shall complete all courses required by Education Code 51225.3 and fulfill any additional graduation requirements prescribed by the Governing Board.

*(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)*

However, when a child of a military family who has completed his/her second year of high school transfers into the district from another school district or transfers between high schools within the district, he/she shall be exempted from all district-adopted coursework and other district-established graduation requirements, unless the district makes a finding that the student is reasonably able to complete the additional requirements in time to graduate from high school by the end of his/her fourth year of high school. Within 30 calendar days of the student's transfer, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the student and his/her parent/guardian of the availability of the exemption and whether the student qualifies for it. If the Superintendent or designee fails to provide this notification, the student shall be eligible for the exemption once notified, even if the notification occurs after the student no longer meets the definition of a child of a military family pursuant to Education Code 49701. (Education Code 51225.1)

To determine whether a child of a military family is in his/her third or fourth year of high school, the district shall use either the number of credits he/she has earned as of the date of the transfer or the length of his/her school enrollment, whichever qualifies him/her for the exemption. (Education Code 51225.1)

The Superintendent or designee shall notify any child of a military family who is granted an exemption and his/her parent/guardian how any requirements that are waived will affect the student's ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution and shall provide

information about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges. (Education Code 51225.1)

The district shall not require or request a child of a military family to transfer schools in order to qualify for an exemption, and no child of a military family or his/her parent/guardian shall be permitted to request a transfer solely to qualify for an exemption. (Education Code 51225.1)

AR 6173.2(f)

## **EDUCATION OF CHILDREN OF MILITARY FAMILIES** (continued)

If a child of a military family is exempted from local graduation requirements, the exemption shall continue to apply after the student no longer meets the definition of a child of a military family or if he/she transfers to another school or school district. (Education Code 51225.1)

If the Superintendent or designee determines that a child of a military family is reasonably able to complete district graduation requirements within his/her fifth year of high school, he/she shall: (Education Code 51225.1)

1. Inform the student and, if under 18 years of age, his/her parent/guardian of the option available to the student to remain in school for a fifth year to complete the district's graduation requirements and how that will affect his/her ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution
2. Provide information to the student about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges
3. Upon agreement with the student, or with the parent/guardian if the student is under 18 years of age, permit the student to stay in school for a fifth year to complete the district's graduation requirements

### **Notification and Complaints**

Note: Education Code 51225.1 and 51225.2, as amended by AB 365 (Ch. 739, Statutes of 2017), provide that complaints of noncompliance with specified requirements related to the educational rights of children of military families may be filed in accordance with the uniform complaint procedures specified in 5 CCR 4600-4687. As with other complaints covered under the uniform complaint procedures, a complainant may appeal the district's decision to the CDE and, if the district or CDE finds any merit in the complaint, the district must provide a remedy to the affected student. See BP/AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures.
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Information regarding the educational rights of children of military families, as specified in Education Code 51225.1 and 51225.2, shall be included in the annual uniform complaint

procedures notification distributed to students, parents/guardians, employees, and other interested parties pursuant to 5 CCR 4622. (Education Code 51225.1, 51225.2)

Any complaint alleging that the district has not complied with requirements regarding the education of children of military families, as specified in Education Code 51225.1 or 51225.2, may be filed in accordance with the district's procedures in AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures.

*(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)*

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