

CSBA Sample

Board Policy

Philosophy, Goals, Objectives, and Comprehensive Plans

BP 0420.41(a)

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT

Note: The following **optional** policy may be revised to reflect district practice. The Governing Board is obligated to monitor the performance of any charter school it authorizes in order to ensure the school's compliance with legal requirements and progress toward meeting measurable outcomes specified in the charter. Information about the school's performance is necessary when determining whether to grant a renewal of the charter or whether a revocation of the charter is warranted; see BP 0420.42 - Charter School Renewal and BP 0420.43 - Charter School Revocation. In addition, pursuant to Education Code 47604, if the district complies with all oversight responsibilities required by law, it will not be liable for the debts or obligations of any charter school that operates as or is operated by a nonprofit public benefit corporation pursuant to Corporations Code 5110-6910.

Pursuant to Education Code 47605, if the State Board of Education (SBE) approves a petition upon appeal after the Board and County Board of Education have denied the petition, the SBE may, by mutual agreement, designate its supervisory and oversight responsibilities to the Board or to any local educational agency in the county in which the charter school is located.

The Governing Board recognizes its ongoing responsibility to oversee that any charter school authorized by the Board is successfully fulfilling the terms of its charter and is providing a high-quality educational program for students enrolled in the charter school.

(cf. 0420.4 - Charter School Authorization)

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)

The Superintendent or designee shall identify at least one staff member to serve as a contact person for each charter school authorized by the Board. (Education Code 47604.32)

Note: Education Code 47604.32 requires the district to visit each charter school at least once every year. CSBA's publication Charter Schools: A Guide for Governance Teams recommends more frequent visits, perhaps two or three times during the school year, in order to monitor school operations more closely and develop relationships with the staff at the charter school.

The Superintendent or designee shall visit each charter school at least annually and may inspect or observe any part of the charter school at any time. (Education Code 47604.32, 47607)

Note: The following **optional** paragraph may be revised to reflect district practice. Pursuant to Education Code 47604, if a charter school operates as or is operated by a nonprofit public benefit corporation, the Board is entitled to a single representative on the board of directors of the nonprofit public benefit corporation. CSBA's publication Charter Schools: A Guide for Governance Teams recommends that the district consult with legal counsel and consider any potential conflict of interest that may arise from having an individual Board member vote as a member of the charter board of directors on issues on which the Board will need to provide oversight. CSBA's guide suggests that an alternative approach may be for the district to designate its charter school contact, appointed pursuant to Education Code 47604.32, to attend meetings of the charter school board.

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (continued)

The Superintendent or designee shall attend meetings of the charter school governing body whenever possible and shall periodically meet with a representative of the charter school.

Waivers

Note: A charter school is not authorized to submit general waiver requests to the SBE on its own behalf. Rather, the district must submit the waiver request for the charter school. A general waiver request form is available on the California Department of Education's (CDE) web site. Exceptions for which the charter school may directly apply for a waiver include a waiver of the federal Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act and a specific waiver of instructional time penalties.

If the charter school wishes to request a general waiver of any state law or regulation applicable to it, it shall request that the district submit a general waiver request to the State Board of Education (SBE) on its behalf. Upon approval of the Board, the Superintendent or designee shall submit such a waiver request to the SBE on behalf of the charter school.

(cf. 1431 - Waivers)

Provision of District Services

Note: The following **optional** section may be revised to reflect district practice. A charter school may elect to receive its funding directly from the County Superintendent of Schools pursuant to Education Code 47651 and be directly responsible for the provision of payroll, human resources, maintenance and operations, legal services, and other administrative operations. Alternatively, a charter school may receive its funding through the district that granted its charter. CSBA's publication Charter Schools: A Guide for Governance Teams recommends one or more memoranda of understanding to clarify the financial and operational agreements between the district and the charter school, including any services that will be provided by the district; see BP 0420.4 - Charter School Authorization.

The charter school may purchase administrative or other services from the district or any other source. (Education Code 47613)

Whenever the district agrees to provide administrative or support services, the district and charter school shall develop a memorandum of understanding which clarifies the financial and operational agreements between the district and charter school.

At the request of a charter school, the Superintendent or designee shall create and submit any reports required by the State Teachers' Retirement System or Public Employees' Retirement System on behalf of the charter school. The district may charge the charter school for the actual costs of the reporting services, but shall not require the charter school to purchase payroll processing services from the district as a condition for creating and submitting these reports. (Education Code 47611.3)

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (continued)

Material Revisions to Charter

Material revisions to a charter may only be made with Board approval. Material revisions shall be governed by the same standards and criteria that apply to new charter petitions as set forth in Education Code 47605 and shall include, but not be limited to, a reasonably comprehensive description of any new requirement for charter schools enacted into law after the charter was originally granted or last renewed. (Education Code 47607)

If an approved charter school proposes to establish or move operations to one or more additional sites, the charter school shall request a material revision to its charter and shall notify the Board of those additional locations. The Board shall consider approval of the additional locations at an open meeting. (Education Code 47605)

The Board shall have the authority to determine whether a proposed change in charter school operations constitutes a material revision of the approved charter.

Monitoring Charter School Performance

Note: The district has a responsibility to oversee that the charter school complies with all applicable legal requirements. Violation of any law may subject the school to revocation pursuant to Education Code 47607. See the accompanying Exhibit for a list of legal requirements pertaining to the operation of charter schools.

The Superintendent or designee shall monitor the charter school to determine whether it complies with all legal requirements applicable to charter schools, including making all reports required of charter schools in accordance with Education Code 47604.32. Any violations of law shall be reported to the Board.

Note: Education Code 47605 requires that measurable student outcomes for "all groups of students served by the charter school" be included in the school's charter petition and that these outcomes be aligned with the state priorities for the local control and accountability plan (LCAP) as stated in Education Code 52060; see AR 0420.4 - Charter School Authorization. Pursuant to Education Code 47607, "all groups of students served by the charter school" means all numerically significant subgroups of students served by the charter school, as defined in Education Code 52052. Pursuant to Education Code 52052, numerically significant subgroups include ethnic subgroups, socioeconomically disadvantaged students, English learners, students with disabilities, foster youth, and homeless students, when the subgroup consists of at least 30 students (or 15 foster youth or homeless students).

Education Code 47605 requires that the charter petition include methods for measuring the charter school's progress toward achieving student outcomes. Although the measures of the school's progress may vary, Education Code 47605 requires that charter schools conduct any statewide assessments applicable to other public schools. In addition, charter schools are included in the California School Dashboard, which reports the status of school performance on multiple state and local indicators and is intended to assist schools and districts in identifying strengths and areas in need of improvement in each priority area addressed by the LCAP. Charter schools that serve high-risk students may qualify for the state's Dashboard Alternative School Status (DASS) program, which uses modified methods of measurement for accountability indicators when appropriate.

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (continued)

The Board shall monitor the charter school to determine whether it is achieving the measurable student outcomes set forth in the charter, both schoolwide and for each numerically significant student subgroup served by the school, as defined in Education Code 52052. This determination shall be based on the measures specified in the approved charter petition and any applicable memorandum of understanding, and on the charter school's annual review and assessment of its progress toward the goals and actions identified in its local control and accountability plan (LCAP), as reported in the California School Dashboard.

The Board shall monitor the fiscal condition of the charter school based on any financial information obtained from the charter school, including, but not limited to, the charter school's preliminary budget, annual update of the charter school's LCAP, first and second interim financial reports, and final unaudited report for the full prior year. (Education Code 47604.32, 47604.33, 47606.5)

Note: Education Code 47613 authorizes the district to charge the charter school, within specified limits, for the costs of supervisory oversight of the school. Education Code 47613 provides that the costs of supervisory oversight include, but are not limited to, costs incurred for technical assistance or intervention pursuant to Education Code 47607.3; see the section "Technical Assistance/Intervention" below. CSBA's publication Charter Schools: A Guide for Governance Teams suggests that supervisory oversight activities also might include site visits, reviews of performance data and financial reports, and legal auditing. The actual provision of administrative or support services would not be considered supervisory oversight for purposes of charging supervisory oversight costs to the charter school. Those services may be purchased separately by the charter school.

The district may charge up to one percent of a charter school's revenue for the actual costs of supervisory oversight of the school. However, if the district is able to provide substantially rent-free facilities to the charter school, the district may charge up to three percent of the charter school's revenue for actual costs of supervisory oversight or, if the facility is provided under Education Code 47614, the pro-rata share facilities costs calculated pursuant to 5 CCR 11969.7. If the district charges the pro-rata share, it may also charge one percent of the charter school's revenue in oversight fees. (Education Code 47613)

(cf. 7160 - Charter School Facilities)

Technical Assistance/Intervention

If, in three out of four consecutive school years, a charter school fails to improve outcomes for three or more numerically significant student subgroups, or for all of the student subgroups if the school has fewer than three subgroups, in regard to one or more state or school priorities identified in the charter, the district: (Education Code 47607.3)

1. Shall provide technical assistance to the charter school based on the California School Dashboard

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (continued)

2. May request that the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI), with SBE approval, assign the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence to provide advice and assistance to the charter school pursuant to Education Code 52074

Note: Education Code 47607 requires the Board to consider specified criteria of academic performance when determining whether to deny a petition for charter renewal or to revoke a charter, with achievement of all student subgroups served by the charter school being the most important factor; see BP 0420.42 - Charter School Renewal and BP 0420.43 - Charter School Revocation. In addition, Education Code 47607.3 requires the Board to consider revocation of a charter whenever it finds that the charter school has failed, or is unable, to implement the recommendations of the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence or continues to demonstrate persistent or acute inadequate performance.

In accordance with law, the Board may deny a charter school's renewal petition or may revoke a charter based on the charter school's poor performance, especially with regard to the academic achievement of all numerically significant subgroups of students served by the charter school.

(cf. 0420.42 - Charter School Renewal)

(cf. 0420.43 - Charter School Revocation)

Complaints

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 52075, charter schools are required to establish policies and procedures for addressing complaints of noncompliance with Education Code 47606.5 (annual update of school goals, actions, and related expenditures) or 47607.3 (technical assistance or intervention based on the school's failure to improve student outcomes). See AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures for applicable procedures.

Each charter school shall establish and maintain policies and procedures to enable any person to file a complaint, in accordance with the uniform complaint procedures as specified in 5 CCR 4600-4670, alleging the school's noncompliance with Education Code 47606.5 or 47607.3. (Education Code 52075)

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

A complainant who is not satisfied with the decision may appeal the decision to the SPI. (Education Code 52075)

If the charter school finds merit in the complaint or the SPI finds merit in an appeal, a remedy shall be provided to all affected students and parents/guardians. (Education Code 52075)

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (continued)

School Closure

Note: The following **optional** section may be revised to reflect district practice. Pursuant to Education Code 47605, procedures to be followed in the event a charter school ceases operation for any reason must be specified in the charter; see AR 0420.4 - Charter School Authorization. 5 CCR 11962 lists components that must be included in these procedures, including (1) designation of a responsible entity to conduct closure-related activities; (2) notifications to specified persons and entities; (3) provision of information about students' grade level, course completion, and district of residence; (4) transfer and maintenance of student and personnel records; (5) completion of an independent final audit; and (6) disposal of any net assets remaining after all liabilities of the charter school have been paid or otherwise addressed.

Depending on the terms of the charter, these duties may be performed by the charter school, the district, or another specified entity. However, Education Code 47604.32 specifies that it is the responsibility of the district to notify the CDE when a charter school ceases operation for any reason. The CDE's web site also recommends that, in addition to the notifications required by 5 CCR 11962, either the district or the charter school should announce the closure to any school districts that may be responsible for providing education services to the former students of the charter school.

The CDE's web site recommends that charter school closures occur at the end of a school year if it is feasible to maintain a legally compliant program until then.

In the event that the Board revokes or denies renewal of a charter or the charter school ceases operation for any reason, the Superintendent or designee shall, when applicable in accordance with the charter and/or a memorandum of understanding, provide assistance to facilitate the transfer of the charter school's former students and to finalize financial reporting and close-out.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide notification to the California Department of Education, within 10 calendar days of the Board's action, if renewal of the charter is denied, the charter is revoked, or the charter school will cease operation for any reason.

Such notification shall include, but not be limited to, a description of the circumstances of the closure, the effective date of the closure, and the location of student and personnel records. (Education Code 47604.32; 5 CCR 11962.1)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

215 *Suicide prevention policy*
215.5 *Suicide prevention hotline contact information on student identification cards*
220 *Nondiscrimination*
221.61 *Posting of Title IX information on web site*
221.9 *Sex equity in competitive athletics*
222 *Lactation accommodations for students*
222.5 *Pregnant and parenting students, notification of rights*
234.4 *Mandated policy on bullying prevention*
234.7 *Student protections relating to immigration and citizenship status*
17070.10-17079.30 *Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act*
17280-17317 *Field Act*
17365-17374 *Field Act, fitness for occupancy*
32282 *Comprehensive safety plan*
32283.5 *Online training on bullying prevention*
33479-33479.9 *The Eric Parades Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act*
35179.4-35179.6 *Interscholastic athletic programs, safety*
35183.1 *Graduation ceremonies; tribal regalia or recognized object of religious/cultural significance*
35330 *Field trips and excursions; student fees*
38080-38086 *School meals*
39831.3 *Transportation safety plan*
39843 *Disciplinary action against bus driver; report to Department of Motor Vehicles*
41024 *Report of expenditure of state facility funds*
42100 *Annual statement of receipts and expenditures*
44030.5 *Reporting change in employment status due to alleged misconduct*
44237 *Criminal record summary*
44691 *Information on detection of child abuse*
44830.1 *Certificated employees, conviction of a violent or serious felony*
45122.1 *Classified employees, conviction of a violent or serious felony*
45125.1 *Fingerprinting; employees of contracting entity*
46015 *Accommodations for pregnant and parenting students; parental leave*
47600-47616.7 *Charter Schools Act of 1992*
47634.2 *Nonclassroom-based instruction*
47640-47647 *Special education funding for charter schools*
47651 *Apportionment of funds, charter schools*
48000 *Minimum age of admission for kindergarten; transitional kindergarten*
48010-48011 *Minimum age of admission (first grade)*
48206.3-48208 *Students with temporary disabilities; individual instruction*
48850-48859 *Educational placement of foster youth and homeless students*
48907 *Students' exercise of free expression; rules and regulations*
48950 *Student speech and other communication*
49005-49006.4 *Seclusion and restraint*
49011 *Student fees*
49014 *Public School Fair Debt Collection Act*
49061 *Student records*
49073.2 *Privacy of student and parent/guardian personal information*
49076.7 *Student records; data privacy; Social Security numbers*

Legal Reference continued: (see next page)

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (continued)

Legal Reference: (continued)

EDUCATION CODE (continued)

49110 Authority to issue work permits

49381 Human trafficking prevention

49414 Epinephrine auto-injectors

49414.3 Administration of opioid antagonist

49428 Notification of mental health services

49430-49434 The Pupil Nutrition, Health, and Achievement Act of 2001, especially:

49431.9 Advertisement of non-nutritious foods

49475 Health and safety, concussions and head injuries

49557.5 Child Hunger Prevention and Fair Treatment Act of 2017

49564 Meals for needy students

51224.7 Mathematics placement policy

51225.1-51225.2 Exemption from local graduation requirements; acceptance of coursework

51225.6 Instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation

51513 Diploma of graduation, without passage of high school exit examination

51745-51749.6 Independent study

51930-51939 California Healthy Youth Act

52052 Accountability; numerically significant student subgroups

52060-52077 Local control and accountability plans

52075 Uniform complaint procedures

56026 Special education

56145-56146 Special education services in charter schools

60600-60649 Assessment of academic achievement

64000 Categorical programs included in consolidated application

64001 School plan for student achievement, consolidated application programs

65000-65001 School site councils

69432.9-69432.92 Cal Grant program; notification of grade point average and high school graduation

CORPORATIONS CODE

5110-6910 Nonprofit public benefit corporations

GOVERNMENT CODE

1090-1099 Prohibitions applicable to specified officers

3540-3549.3 Educational Employment Relations Act

6250-6270 California Public Records Act

54950-54963 Ralph M. Brown Act

81000-91014 Political Reform Act of 1974

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

104420 Tobacco Use Prevention Education grant program

104559 Tobacco-free schools

LABOR CODE

1198.5 Personnel records related to performance and grievance

PENAL CODE

667.5 Definition of violent felony

1192.7 Definition of serious felony

VEHICLE CODE

28160 Child safety alert system

CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

Article 9, Section 5 Common school system

Article 16, Section 8.5 Public finance; school accountability report card

Legal Reference continued: (see next page)

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (continued)

Legal Reference: (continued)

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4600-4687 *Uniform complaint procedures*

11700.1-11705 *Independent study*

11960-11969 *Charter schools*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 24

101 *et seq.* *California Building Standards Code*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1681-1688 *Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; discrimination based on sex*

6311 *State plan*

7221-7221j *Charter schools*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

11431-11435 *McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

200.1-200.78 *Accountability*

COURT DECISIONS

Ridgecrest Charter School v. Sierra Sands Unified School District, (2005) 130 Cal.App.4th 986

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

Opinion No. 11-201 (2018)

89 *Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen.* 166 (2006)

80 *Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen.* 52 (1997)

78 *Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen.* 297 (1995)

CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS DECISIONS

Student v. Horizon Instructional Systems Charter School, (2012) OAH Case No. 2011060763

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Uncharted Waters: Recommendations for Prioritizing Student Achievement and Effective Governance in California's Charter Schools, September 2018

Charter Schools in Focus, Issue 2: Ensuring Effective Oversight, Governance Brief, October 2017

Charter Schools: A Guide for Governance Teams, rev. 2016

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

California School Accounting Manual

Sample Copy of a Memorandum of Understanding

Pupil Fees, Deposits, and Other Charges, Fiscal Management Advisory 17-01, July 28, 2017

Special Education and Charter Schools: Questions and Answers, September 10, 2002

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GUIDANCE

Charter Schools Program: Title V, Part B of the ESEA, January 2014

WEB SITES

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

California Charter Schools Association: <http://www.calcharters.org>

California Department of Education, Charter Schools: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cs>

National Association of Charter School Authorizers: <http://www.qualitycharters.org>

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

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Policy Reference UPDATE Service

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CSBA Sample

Exhibit

Philosophy, Goals, Objectives, and Comprehensive Plans

E 0420.41(a)

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT

REQUIREMENTS FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 47610, charter schools are exempt from Education Code provisions governing school districts unless otherwise specified in law. However, charter schools, like other public schools, are subject to the state and federal constitutions, applicable federal laws, state laws that apply to governmental agencies in general, and state laws that are expressly applicable to charter schools. The following Exhibit lists some, but not necessarily all, legal requirements that apply to charter schools and may be used by districts to monitor a charter school's compliance with law. Violation of any law may subject the charter school to revocation pursuant to Education Code 47607; see BP 0420.43 - Charter School Revocation.

A charter school shall be subject to the terms of its charter; any memorandum of understanding between the school and the district Governing Board; the state and federal constitutions; applicable federal laws; state laws that apply to governmental agencies in general; and other legal requirements that are expressly applicable to charter schools, including, but not limited to, requirements that each charter school or the entity managing the charter school:

Governance

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 47604.1, as added by SB 126 (Ch. 3, Statutes of 2019), charter schools are subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act, the California Public Records Act, the Political Reform Act of 1974, and conflict of interest laws, as provided in item #1 below. Although Education Code 47604.1 is not effective until January 1, 2020, a 2018 Attorney General opinion also concluded that, under current law, those statutes govern all local agencies including charter schools.

1. Comply with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code 54950-54963), California Public Records Act (Government Code 6250-6270), conflict of interest laws (Government Code 1090-1099), and Political Reform Act (Government Code 81000-91014), including the adoption of a conflict of interest code pursuant to Government Code 87300 (Education Code 47604.1)
2. Except as otherwise authorized by Government Code 54954, hold the meetings of its governing body within the physical boundaries of the county in which the charter school is located or, if a nonclassroom-based charter school that does not have a facility or operates one or more resource centers, hold governing body meetings within the physical boundaries of the county in which the greatest number of students enrolled in the charter school reside. In addition, a two-way teleconference location shall be established at the school site and/or resource center, as applicable. (Education Code 47604.1)

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (continued)

Operations

3. Not be operated as, or be operated by, a for-profit corporation, a for-profit educational management organization, or a for-profit charter management organization (Education Code 47604)
4. Be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations (Education Code 47605)

Admission/Enrollment

5. Adhere to all laws establishing the minimum age for public school attendance (Education Code 47610)
6. Serve students who are California residents and who, if over 19 years of age, are continuously enrolled in a public school and making "satisfactory progress" toward a high school diploma as defined in 5 CCR 11965 (Education Code 47612)

Note: Education Code 56145 requires charter schools to serve students with disabilities in the same manner as other public schools. Pursuant to Education Code 47646, districts must ensure that each charter school that is deemed to be a public school of the district, and is not its own local educational agency (LEA) for special education purposes, receives an equitable share of special education funding and services for students with disabilities who are enrolled in the charter school.

If a charter school is operating as a public school of the district for purposes of special education, the district retains responsibility and must determine how to ensure that students with disabilities receive a free appropriate public education (FAPE). However, as indicated in the California Office of Administrative Hearings ruling in Student v. Horizon Instructional Systems Charter School, a charter school operating as its own LEA for purposes of special education, including a charter school offering an independent study program, is the entity responsible for providing FAPE.

7. Serve students with disabilities in the same manner as such students are served in other district schools (Education Code 47646, 56145)
8. Admit all students who wish to attend the charter school, according to the following criteria and procedures:
 - a. Admission to the charter school shall not be determined according to the student's or parent/guardian's place of residence within the state, except that any existing public school converting partially or entirely to a charter school shall adopt and maintain a policy giving admission preference to students who reside within that school's former attendance area. (Education Code 47605)

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (continued)

If a charter school will be physically located in a public elementary school attendance area in which 50 percent or more of the student enrollment is eligible for free or reduced-price meals, it may also establish an admission preference for students who are currently enrolled in that public elementary school and for students who reside in the public school attendance area. (Education Code 47605.3)

- b. If the number of students who wish to attend the charter school exceeds the school's capacity, attendance shall be determined by a public random drawing, with preference extended to students currently attending the charter school and students who reside in the district, except as provided for in Education Code 47614.5. (Education Code 47605)
 - c. Other admission preferences may be permitted by the Board of the district on an individual school basis consistent with law. (Education Code 47605)
- 9. Immediately enroll a homeless student, except where such enrollment would conflict with Education Code 47605(d) (Education Code 48850; 42 USC 11431-11435)
 - 10. Comply with the requirements of Education Code 48850-48859 regarding the enrollment and placement of foster youth (Education Code 48853.5, 48859)
 - 11. Allow a student who is enrolled in the charter school but receiving individual instruction at home or a hospital due to a temporary disability to return to the charter school when well enough to do so, provided the student returns during the school year in which the individual instruction was initiated (Education Code 48207.3)

Nondiscrimination

- 12. Not discriminate against any student on the basis of the characteristics listed in Education Code 220 (Education Code 47605)
- 13. Adopt policy that is consistent with the model policy developed by the California Attorney General addressing the charter school's response to immigration enforcement, notify parents/guardians of their children's right to a free public education regardless of immigration status or religious beliefs, prohibit the collection of information or documents regarding the immigration status of students or their family members, and fulfill other requirements of Education Code 234.7
- 14. Post specified information related to the prohibition against discrimination under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 in a prominent and conspicuous location on the school web site or on the web site of the charter operator (Education Code 221.61)

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (continued)

15. If the charter school offers competitive athletics, annually post on the school's web site or on the web site of the charter operator the total enrollment of the school classified by gender, the number of students who participate in competitive athletics classified by gender, and the number of boys' and girls' teams classified by sport and by competition level (Education Code 221.9)
16. Provide specified accommodations to pregnant and parenting students, including, but not limited to, the provision of parental leave and reasonable accommodations on campus to a lactating student to express breast milk, breastfeed an infant child, or address other needs related to breastfeeding. The charter school shall notify pregnant and parenting students and parents/guardians of the rights and options available to pregnant and parenting students. (Education Code 222, 222.5, 46015)
17. If a direct-funded charter school, adopt and implement uniform complaint procedures to resolve complaints of unlawful discrimination or alleged violation of a state or federal law or regulation governing educational programs, in accordance with 5 CCR 4600-4670 (5 CCR 4600)

Tuition and Fees

18. Not charge tuition (Education Code 47605)

Note: Education Code 47605 specifically prohibits a charter school from charging tuition, but does not mention fees or other charges. As clarified in the California Department of Education's (CDE) advisory Pupil Fees, Deposits, and Other Charges, because charter schools are subject to the California Constitution, the free school guarantee of the California Constitution, Article 9, Section 5, applies to charter schools. Charter schools may only charge fees which are explicitly authorized by law for charter schools. For example, charter schools may charge fees for meals and field trips pursuant to Education Code 35330, 38082, and 38084 because those provisions apply to charter schools, but charter schools may not necessarily charge other fees authorized by law for school districts.

19. Not charge student fees for any activity that is an integral component of the educational program, except as authorized by those Education Code provisions that explicitly apply to charter schools
20. Not bill, nor take any negative action against, a student or former student for a debt owed to the charter school. The school shall provide an itemized invoice for any amount owed by the parent/guardian on behalf of a student or former student before pursuing payment of the debt and shall provide a receipt to the parent/guardian for each payment made to the school. (Education Code 49014)

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (continued)**School Plans**

21. Adopt a local control and accountability plan (LCAP) and update the plan by July 1 each year, in consultation with specified stakeholders and using the template adopted by the State Board of Education (SBE). To the extent practicable, data shall be reported in a manner consistent with how information is reported on the California School Dashboard. As part of the LCAP adoption and annual update to the LCAP, the governing body of the charter school shall separately adopt a local control funding formula budget overview for parents/guardians, based on the template developed by the SBE, which includes specified information relating to the school's budget. (Education Code 47604.33, 47606.5, 52064, 52064.1)
22. If the charter school applies for federal and/or state categorical program funding through the state's consolidated application, establish a school site council to develop and annually review a school plan for student achievement, unless the school chooses to use its LCAP for this purpose (Education Code 64000-64001, 65000-65001)
23. Develop a comprehensive safety plan in accordance with Education Code 32282 and review and update the plan by March 1 each year (Education Code 47605)
24. Develop a transportation safety plan that includes procedures to ensure that a student is not left unattended on a school bus, student activity bus, youth bus, or child care motor vehicle and procedures for designating an adult chaperone, other than the driver, to accompany students on a school activity bus. In addition, ensure that each school bus, student activity bus, youth bus, or child care motor vehicle is equipped with a child safety alert system that requires the driver to either manually contact or scan the device, thereby prompting the driver to inspect the entirety of the interior of the vehicle before exiting, unless the student activity bus is exempted by law. (Education Code 39831.3; Vehicle Code 28160)

Curriculum and Instruction

Note: Education Code 47612.5 specifies, by grade level, the minimum number of instructional minutes that must be offered each fiscal year. Any charter school that fails to meet this requirement will have its state apportionment reduced in proportion to the percentage of instructional minutes that the school fails to offer. Education Code 47612.5 and 47612.6 provide that neither the State Board of Education nor the Superintendent of Public Instruction may waive the required number of instructional minutes but may waive the fiscal penalties under specified conditions.

25. Offer at least the number of instructional minutes required by law for the grade levels provided by the charter school (Education Code 47612.5)

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (continued)

26. If the charter school offers a kindergarten program, also offer a transitional kindergarten program to students whose fifth birthday is from September 2 through December 2 (Education Code 48000)
27. If the charter school serves students in grade 9, adopt a fair, objective, and transparent mathematics placement policy with specified components (Education Code 51224.7)
28. If the charter school serves students in any of grades 7-12, provide comprehensive sexual health education and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) prevention education at least once in junior high or middle school and once in high school, beginning in the 2019-2020 school year (Education Code 51931, 51934)
29. If the charter school serves students in any of grades 6-12, identify and implement methods of informing parents/guardians of human trafficking prevention resources by January 1, 2020 (Education Code 49381)

Note: Education Code 47612.5 provides that charter schools offering independent study are subject to Education Code 51745-51749.6. Education Code 51745 requires that no course included among the courses required for graduation may be offered solely through independent study. However, pursuant to 5 CCR 11705, a charter school offering grades 9-12 shall be deemed to be an "alternative school" for purposes of independent study and thus, according to the CDE, would comply with this provision because students in such alternative schools are enrolled voluntarily and, if they wished, could attend any other district high school in which the courses were offered via classroom instruction.

30. If the charter school provides independent study, meet the requirements of Education Code 51745-51749.6, except that the school may be allowed to offer courses required for graduation solely through independent study as an exception to Education Code 51745(e) (Education Code 47612.5, 51747.3; 5 CCR 11705)
31. Meet all statewide standards and conduct any statewide assessments applicable to noncharter public schools (Education Code 47605, 47612.5, 60605)

High School Graduation

32. Exempt a foster youth, homeless student, former juvenile court school student, child of a military family, or migrant student who transfers between schools after the second year of high school, or a student participating in a newcomer program for newly immigrant students in grades 11-12, from any graduation requirements established by the charter school that exceed state requirements, unless the school determines that the student is reasonably able to complete the requirements by the end of the fourth year of high school (Education Code 51225.1, 51225.2)

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (continued)

- 33. Grant a high school diploma to any student who completed grade 12 in the 2003-04 through 2014-15 school year and met all applicable graduation requirements other than the passage of the high school exit examination (Education Code 51413)
- 34. Allow a student to wear traditional tribal regalia or recognized objects of religious or cultural significance as an adornment at school graduation ceremonies, unless the charter school determines that an item is likely to cause a substantial disruption of, or material interference with, the ceremony (Education Code 35183.1)

Student Expression

Note: Education Code 48907 requires charter schools to establish a written "publications code" related to students' rights to freedom of speech and of the press. These written rules and regulations must include reasonable provisions for the time, place, and manner in which free expression may take place within the charter school's jurisdiction.

- 35. Provide students the right to exercise freedom of speech and of the press including, but not limited to, the use of bulletin boards; the distribution of printed materials or petitions; the wearing of buttons, badges, and other insignia; and the right of expression in official publications (Education Code 48907, 48950)

Staffing

- 36. Require its teachers to hold a certificate, permit, or other document issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) equivalent to that which a teacher in other public schools would be required to hold (Education Code 47605)
- 37. Not hire any person who has been convicted of a violent or serious felony except as otherwise provided by law, and, if the charter school contracts with an entity for specified services, verify that any employee of that entity who will have contact with students has had a criminal background check (Education Code 44830.1, 45122.1, 45125.1)
- 38. Report to the CTC any change in a certificated employee's employment status (dismissal, nonreelection, resignation, suspension, unpaid administrative leave for more than 10 days, retirement, or other decision not to employ or reemploy) as a result of an allegation of misconduct or while an allegation of misconduct is pending (Education Code 44030.5)
- 39. Meet the requirements of Education Code 47611 regarding the State Teachers' Retirement System (Education Code 47610)

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (continued)

40. Meet the requirements of Government Code 3540-3549.3 related to collective bargaining in public education employment (Education Code 47611.5)

Parent/Guardian Involvement

41. On a regular basis, consult with parents/guardians and teachers regarding the charter school's educational programs (Education Code 47605)
42. Notify parents/guardians of applicant students and currently enrolled students that parental involvement is not a requirement for acceptance to, or continued enrollment at, the charter school (Education Code 47605)

Nutrition

43. Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, provide each eligible student with one nutritionally adequate free or reduced-price meal during each school day, except as provided for a charter school that offers nonclassroom-based instruction (Education Code 47613.5)
44. If the charter school participates in the National School Lunch and/or Breakfast program, not promote any food or beverage during the school day that does not comply with state nutritional standards pursuant to Education Code 49430-49434, and not participate in a corporate incentive program that offers free or discounted non-nutritious foods or beverages as rewards for students who reach certain academic goals (Education Code 49431.9)
45. If the charter school participates in the National School Lunch and/or Breakfast program, notify parents/guardians within 10 days of their child's meal account reaching a negative balance; ensure that a student with unpaid school meal fees is not shamed, treated differently, or served a meal that differs from other students; and prohibit student discipline from resulting in the denial or delay of a nutritionally adequate meal (Education Code 49557.5)
46. If the charter school participates in the National School Lunch and/or Breakfast program and is a very high poverty school, as defined, apply to the California Department of Education (CDE) to provide lunch and/or breakfast free of charge to all students under a federal universal service provision (Education Code 49564)

Student Health

47. If the charter school serves students in grades 7-12, adopt a policy on suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention with specified components, review the

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (continued)

- policy at least every five years, and, if the school issues student identification cards, print the telephone number of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline on those cards (Education Code 215, 215.5)
48. Notify students and parents/guardians at least twice during the school year on how to initiate access to available student mental health services on campus or in the community (Education Code 49428)
 49. Provide annual training on child abuse and neglect reporting requirements to employees and persons working on the charter school's behalf who are mandated reporters, within the first six weeks of each school year or within six weeks of employment (Education Code 44691)
 50. If the charter school offers an athletic program, annually provide information sheets about concussions/head injuries and sudden cardiac arrest to athletes and their parents/guardians, which must be signed and returned to the school before the athlete initiates practice or competition. In the event that an athlete is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury, passes out, or faints during or immediately after participation in an athletic activity, the student shall be immediately removed from the activity for the remainder of the day and shall not be permitted to return to the activity until the student is evaluated by a licensed health care provider and receives written clearance to do so. (Education Code 33479-33479.5, 49475)
 51. If the charter school offers an interscholastic athletic program, develop and post a written emergency action plan that describes procedures to be followed in the event of sudden cardiac arrest and other medical emergencies, acquire at least one automated external defibrillator (AED) for the school, and make the AED available at on-campus athletic activities or events (Education Code 35179.4, 35179.6)
 52. Provide school nurses or other voluntary, trained personnel with emergency epinephrine auto-injectors of the type required pursuant to Education Code 49414 (Education Code 49414)
 53. If the charter school chooses to make an opioid antagonist available to persons suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering, from an opioid overdose, comply with the requirements of Education Code 49414.3, including, but not limited to, providing training to personnel who volunteer to administer the opioid antagonist

Student Conduct/Discipline

54. Adopt a policy on bullying and cyberbullying prevention by December 31, 2019, and annually make CDE's online training module on bullying prevention available to school site certificated employees and other employees who have regular interaction with students (Education Code 234.4, 32283.5)

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (continued)

55. Prohibit seclusion and behavioral restraint of students as a means of discipline, and only use such methods to control student behavior that poses a clear and present danger of serious physical harm to a student or others that cannot be immediately prevented by a less restrictive response (Education Code 49005-49006.4)

Student and Parent/Guardian Records

56. Not collect or solicit social security numbers or the last four digits of social security numbers from students or their parents/guardians unless otherwise required to do so by state or federal law (Education Code 49076.7)
57. Upon written request, not include the directory information of a student or the personal information of a parent/guardian, as defined, in the minutes of a meeting of the governing body (Education Code 49073.2)
58. If a student subject to compulsory full-time education is expelled or leaves the charter school without graduating or completing the school year for any reason, notify the Superintendent of the school district of the student's last known address within 30 days and, upon request, provide that district with a copy of the student's cumulative record, including a transcript of grades or report card, and health information (Education Code 47605)
59. If the charter school serves high school students, submit to the Student Aid Commission, for use in the Cal Grant program, the grade point average (GPA) of all students in grade 12 and verification of high school graduation or its equivalent for students who graduated in the prior academic year. However, such information shall not be submitted when students opt out or are permitted by the rules of the Student Aid Commission to provide test scores in lieu of the GPA. (Education Code 69432.9, 69432.92)

Facilities

60. Comply with the California Building Standards Code as adopted and enforced by the local building enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the area in which the charter school is located, unless the charter school facility meets either of the following conditions: (Education Code 47610, 47610.5)
- a. The facility complies with the Field Act pursuant to Education Code 17280-17317 and 17365-17374.
 - b. The facility is exclusively owned or controlled by an entity that is not subject to the California Building Standards Code, including, but not limited to, the federal government.

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (continued)

Finance

61. Promptly respond to all reasonable inquiries from the district, the county office of education, or the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI), including, but not limited to, inquiries regarding the charter school's financial records (Education Code 47604.3)
62. Maintain written contemporaneous records that document all student attendance and make these records available for audit and inspection (Education Code 47612.5)
63. Identify and report to the SPI any portion of the charter school's average daily attendance that is generated through nonclassroom-based instruction, including, but not limited to, independent study, home study, work study, and distance and computer-based education (Education Code 47612.5, 47634.2; 5 CCR 11963.2)
64. Annually prepare and submit financial reports to the district Board and the County Superintendent of Schools in accordance with the following reporting cycle:
 - a. By July 1, a preliminary budget for the current fiscal year. For a charter school in its first year of operation, financial statements submitted with the charter petition pursuant to Education Code 47605(g) will satisfy this requirement. (Education Code 47604.33)
 - b. By December 15, an interim financial report for the current fiscal year reflecting changes through October 31. (Education Code 47604.33)
 - c. By March 15, a second interim financial report for the current fiscal year reflecting changes through January 31. (Education Code 47604.33)
 - d. By September 15, a final unaudited report for the full prior year. The report submitted to the Board shall include an annual statement of all the charter school's receipts and expenditures for the preceding fiscal year. (Education Code 42100, 47604.33)
 - e. By December 15, a copy of the charter school's annual, independent financial audit report for the preceding fiscal year, unless the charter school's audit is encompassed in the district's audit. The audit report shall also be submitted to the State Controller and CDE. (Education Code 47605)
65. If the charter school receives state facilities funding pursuant to the Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act (Education Code 17070.10-17079.30), annually report a detailed list of all expenditures of state funds and of the school's matching funds for completed projects, and submit an audit of completed facilities projects within one year of project completion (Education Code 41024)

CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (continued)

Accountability

66. Annually adopt a school accountability report card (Education Code 47612; California Constitution, Article 16, Section 8.5)

CSBA Sample

Board Policy

Community Relations

BP 1312.3(a)

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Note: To address prohibited discrimination and violations of state and federal laws governing educational programs, 5 CCR 4621 **mandates** districts to adopt uniform complaint procedures (UCP) consistent with the state's complaint procedures specified in 5 CCR 4600-4670. See the section "Complaints Subject to UCP" below for a list of programs and activities subject to these procedures pursuant to state law.

The California Department of Education (CDE) monitors district programs and operations for compliance with these requirements through its Federal Program Monitoring (FPM) process. The FPM consists of a review of (1) written district policies and procedures for required statements, including prohibition of discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying) against students pursuant to Education Code 234.1; and (2) records of required activities, such as annual notification provided to students, parents/guardians, employees, and other school community members.

The U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) enforces federal anti-discrimination laws, including Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 USC 12101-12213), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC 2000d-2000e-17), Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 (20 USC 1681-1688), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC 794), and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 USC 6101-6107). OCR has issued guidance describing federal requirements for discrimination complaint procedures. OCR requires such complaint procedures to be "prompt and equitable." OCR evaluates a district's procedures based on factors specified in the accompanying administrative regulation, including whether the procedures (1) provide notice to the district's students, parents/guardians, and employees; (2) ensure adequate, reliable, and impartial investigation of complaints; (3) contain reasonably prompt timeframes for major stages of the complaint process; (4) provide notice to the complainant of the resolution of the complaint; and (5) provide an assurance that action will be taken to prevent recurrence of any discrimination found and to correct its effects.

The following policy and accompanying administrative regulation reflect all components required by law and the FPM instrument. Additional details provided herein may help districts during a compliance check by CDE or in the event that a CDE or OCR investigation occurs.

The Governing Board recognizes that the district has the primary responsibility to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations governing educational programs. The Board encourages early resolution of complaints whenever possible. To resolve complaints which may require a more formal process, the Board adopts the uniform system of complaint processes specified in 5 CCR 4600-4670 and the accompanying administrative regulation.

Complaints Subject to UCP

Note: The FPM process includes a review of a district's policies and procedures to determine whether all district programs and activities that are subject to the UCP, as listed in the FPM instrument, are addressed. Items #1-12 list all programs and activities identified in the FPM instrument. The district may revise the following items to reflect the programs it offers and the grade levels it serves.

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

The district's uniform complaint procedures (UCP) shall be used to investigate and resolve the following complaints:

1. Any complaint alleging district violation of applicable state or federal laws or regulations governing any program subject to the UCP which is offered by the district, including adult education programs; After School Education and Safety programs; agricultural career technical education; American Indian education centers and early childhood education program assessments; bilingual education; California Peer Assistance and Review programs for teachers; state career technical and technical education, career technical, and technical training programs; federal career technical education; child care and development programs; child nutrition programs; compensatory education; consolidated categorical aid programs; Economic Impact Aid; the federal Every Student Succeeds Act; migrant education; Regional Occupational Centers and Programs; school safety plans; special education programs; California State Preschool Programs; Tobacco-Use Prevention Education programs; and any other district-implemented state categorical program that is not funded through the local control funding formula pursuant to Education Code 64000

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

(cf. 3555 - Nutrition Program Compliance)

(cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)

(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)

(cf. 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education)

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)

(cf. 6174 - Education for English Learners)

(cf. 6175 - Migrant Education Program)

(cf. 6178 - Career Technical Education)

(cf. 6178.1 - Work-Based Learning)

(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)

(cf. 6200 - Adult Education)

2. Any complaint, by a student, employee, or other person participating in a district program or activity, alleging the occurrence of unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) in district programs and activities, including in those programs or activities funded directly by or that receive or benefit from any state financial assistance, based on the person's actual or perceived characteristics of race or ethnicity, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information, or any other characteristic identified in Education Code 200 or 220, Government Code 11135, or Penal Code 422.55, or based on the person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics (5 CCR 4610)

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

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

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

3. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the requirement to provide reasonable accommodation to a lactating student on school campus to express breast milk, breastfeed an infant child, or address other breastfeeding-related needs of the student (Education Code 222)

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

Note: Education Code 46015, as added by AB 2289 (Ch. 942, Statutes of 2018), authorizes the use of UCP for complaints alleging the district's noncompliance with requirements related to the provision of parental leave to a pregnant or parenting student or other accommodations to which pregnant and parenting students are entitled pursuant to Education Code 46015.

4. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with requirements to provide a pregnant or parenting student the accommodations specified in Education Code 46015, including those related to the provision of parental leave, right of return to the school of previous enrollment or to an alternative education program, if desired, and possible enrollment in school for a fifth year of instruction to enable the student to complete state and Board-imposed graduation requirements (Education Code 46015)
5. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the prohibition against requiring students to pay fees, deposits, or other charges for participation in educational activities (5 CCR 4610)

(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)

(cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 52075, any complaint alleging noncompliance with the requirements of Education Code 52060-52077 may be filed in accordance with the district's UCP. Pursuant to Education Code 52064.1, as added by AB 1808 (Ch. 32, Statutes of 2018), by July 1, 2019 districts are required to develop a local control funding formula budget overview for parents/guardians in conjunction with the LCAP.

6. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with applicable requirements of Education Code 52060-52077 related to the implementation of the local control and accountability plan, including the development of a local control funding formula budget overview for parents/guardians (Education Code 52075)

(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)

(cf. 3100 - Budget)

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

Note: Education Code 64001, as amended by AB 716 (Ch. 471, Statutes of 2018), provides for the use of UCP for complaints alleging noncompliance with requirements to develop a school plan for student achievement pursuant to Education Code 64001 and to establish a school site council pursuant to Education Code 65000-65001.

7. Any complaint alleging noncompliance with requirements related to the development of a school plan for student achievement or the establishment of a school site council, as required for the consolidated application for specified federal and/or state categorical funding (Education Code 64000-64001, 65000-65001)

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

8. Any complaint, by or on behalf of a student who is a foster youth as defined in Education Code 51225.2, alleging district noncompliance with any requirement applicable to the student regarding placement decisions; the responsibilities of the district's educational liaison to the student; the award of credit for coursework satisfactorily completed in another school, district, or country; school or records transfer; or the grant of an exemption from Board-imposed graduation requirements (Education Code 48853, 48853.5, 49069.5, 51225.1, 51225.2)

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

Note: Items #9-11 are for use by districts that maintain high schools.

AB 2121 (Ch. 581, Statutes of 2018) amended Education Code 51225.1 and 51225.2 to add authorization to use the district's UCP for any complaint alleging the district's noncompliance with specified educational rights of migrant students and of students enrolled in a newcomer program (i.e., a program designed to meet the academic and transitional needs of newly arrived immigrant students that has as a primary objective the development of English language proficiency). Also see AR 6175 - Migrant Education Program.

9. Any complaint, by or on behalf of a student who transfers into the district after the second year of high school and is a homeless child or youth as defined in 42 USC 11434a, a former juvenile court school student currently enrolled in the district, a child of a military family as defined in Education Code 49701, or a migrant student as defined in Education Code 54441, or by or on behalf of an immigrant student participating in a newcomer program as defined in Education Code 51225.2 in the third or fourth year of high school, alleging district noncompliance with any requirement applicable to the student regarding the grant of an exemption from Board-imposed graduation requirements (Education Code 51225.1)

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)

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

(cf. 6173.3 - Education for Juvenile Court School Students)

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

10. Any complaint, by or on behalf of a student who is a homeless child or youth as defined in 42 USC 11434a, a former juvenile court school student, a child of a military family as defined in Education Code 49701, a migrant child as defined in Education Code 54441, or a newly arrived immigrant student who is participating in a newcomer program as defined in Education Code 51225.2, alleging district noncompliance with requirements for the award of credit for coursework satisfactorily completed in another school, district, or country (Education Code 51225.2)
11. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the requirements of Education Code 51228.1 and 51228.2 that prohibit the assignment of a student in grades 9-12 to a course without educational content for more than one week in any semester or to a course the student has previously satisfactorily completed, without meeting specified conditions (Education Code 51228.3)

(cf. 6152 - Class Assignment)

Note: Item #12 is for use by districts that maintain elementary schools.
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12. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the physical education instructional minutes requirement for students in elementary school (Education Code 51210, 51223)

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)

Note: 5 CCR 4621 mandates that district policy ensure that complainants are protected from retaliation as specified in item #13 below.

13. Any complaint alleging retaliation against a complainant or other participant in the complaint process or anyone who has acted to uncover or report a violation subject to this policy

Note: Pursuant to 5 CCR 4610, a district may, at its discretion, use the UCP to investigate and resolve other complaints.

14. Any other complaint as specified in a district policy

Note: 5 CCR 4631 authorizes the district to utilize alternative dispute resolution (ADR) methods, including mediation, to resolve complaints before initiating a formal investigation. However, the district should ensure that any ADR it uses, particularly "in-person ADR," is appropriate for the particular situation. For example, in some instances (e.g., sexual assault), face-to-face mediation should not be used, even if all parties voluntarily agree, given the risk that a student might feel pressured to "voluntarily" agree to it. The following optional paragraph provides for a neutral mediator and should be revised to reflect district practice.

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

The Board recognizes that alternative dispute resolution (ADR) can, depending on the nature of the allegations, offer a process to reach a resolution to the complaint that is acceptable to all parties. ADR such as mediation may be offered to resolve complaints that involve more than one student and no adult. However, mediation shall not be offered or used to resolve any complaint involving sexual assault or where there is a reasonable risk that a party to the mediation would feel compelled to participate. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the use of ADR is consistent with state and federal laws and regulations.

Note: The following paragraph is **mandated** pursuant to 5 CCR 4621. Appropriate disclosure will vary in each case depending on the facts and circumstances.

The district shall protect all complainants from retaliation. In investigating complaints, the confidentiality of the parties involved shall be protected as required by law. For any complaint alleging retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the Superintendent or designee shall keep the identity of the complainant, and/or the subject of the complaint if different from the complainant, confidential when appropriate and as long as the integrity of the complaint process is maintained.

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)

When an allegation that is not subject to UCP is included in a UCP complaint, the district shall refer the non-UCP allegation to the appropriate staff or agency and shall investigate and, if appropriate, resolve the UCP-related allegation(s) through the district's UCP.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training to district staff to ensure awareness and knowledge of current law and requirements related to UCP, including the steps and timelines specified in this policy and the accompanying administrative regulation.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

Note: It is important to maintain records of all UCP complaints and the investigations of those complaints. If the district is investigated by OCR or CDE, these are important documents in demonstrating that the district has complied with federal law, state law, and its own policies and regulations.

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a record of each complaint and subsequent related actions, including steps taken during the investigation and all information required for compliance with 5 CCR 4631 and 4633.

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

Non-UCP Complaints

Note: 5 CCR 4611 details complaint issues that are not subject to UCP. Such issues include, but are not limited to, allegations of child abuse, health and safety complaints regarding a child development program, allegations of fraud, and employment discrimination complaints.

The following complaints shall not be subject to the district's UCP but shall be referred to the specified agency: (5 CCR 4611)

1. Any complaint alleging child abuse or neglect shall be referred to the County Department of Social Services Protective Services Division and the appropriate law enforcement agency.

(cf. 5141.4 - *Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting*)

2. Any complaint alleging health and safety violations by a child development program shall, for licensed facilities, be referred to Department of Social Services and shall, for licensing-exempt facilities, be referred to the appropriate Child Development regional administrator.
3. Any complaint alleging fraud shall be referred to the Legal, Audits and Compliance Branch of the California Department of Education.

Note: Complaints of employment discrimination are not subject to the UCP. Instead, pursuant to 2 CCR 11023, the district must establish an impartial and prompt process for addressing such complaints. In addition, 5 CCR 4611 requires that employment discrimination complaints be referred to the Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH). See AR 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment for applicable complaint procedures.

Any complaint alleging employment discrimination or harassment shall be investigated and resolved by the district in accordance with the procedures specified in AR 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment, including the right to file the complaint with the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing.

Note: Education Code 35186 requires the district to use UCP, with modifications, to investigate and resolve complaints related to the issues stated in the following paragraph (i.e., "Williams complaints"). Because Education Code 35186 sets forth different timelines for investigation and resolution of these kinds of complaints than the timelines specified in law for other uniform complaints, CDE has created a separate uniform complaint process for the Williams complaints. See AR 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures for the separate procedure.

In addition, Education Code 8235.5, as added by AB 1808, authorizes the use of Williams uniform complaint procedures to address any complaints alleging violations of health and safety requirements applicable to California State Preschool Programs (Education Code 8235-8239.1) that are exempt from licensing pursuant to Health and Safety Code 1596.792.

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

Any complaint related to sufficiency of textbooks or instructional materials, emergency or urgent facilities conditions that pose a threat to the health or safety of students or staff, teacher vacancies and misassignments, or health and safety violations in any license-exempt California State Preschool Program shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with the procedures in AR 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures. (Education Code 8235.5, 35186)

(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination
8200-8498 Child care and development programs
8500-8538 Adult basic education
18100-18203 School libraries
32280-32289 School safety plan, uniform complaint procedures
33380-33384 California Indian Education Centers
35186 Williams uniform complaint procedures
44500-44508 California Peer Assistance and Review Program for Teachers
46015 Parental leave for students
48853-48853.5 Foster youth
48985 Notices in language other than English
49010-49014 Student fees
49060-49079 Student records, especially:
49069.5 Records of foster youth
49490-49590 Child nutrition programs
49701 Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children
51210 Courses of study grades 1-6
51223 Physical education, elementary schools
51225.1-51225.2 Foster youth, homeless children, former juvenile court school students, military-connected students, migrant students, and newly arrived immigrant students; course credits; graduation requirements
51226-51226.1 Career technical education
51228.1-51228.3 Course periods without educational content
52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan, especially:
52075 Complaint for lack of compliance with local control and accountability plan requirements
52160-52178 Bilingual education programs
52300-52462 Career technical education
52500-52616.24 Adult schools
54000-54029 Economic Impact Aid
54400-54425 Compensatory education programs
54440-54445 Migrant education
54460-54529 Compensatory education programs
56000-56865 Special education programs
59000-59300 Special schools and centers

Legal Reference continued: (see next page)

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

Legal Reference: (continued)

EDUCATION CODE (continued)

64000-64001 Consolidated application process; school plan for student achievement

65000-65001 School site councils

GOVERNMENT CODE

11135 Nondiscrimination in programs or activities funded by state

12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

1596.792 California Child Day Care Act; general provisions and definitions

1596.7925 California Child Day Care Act; health and safety regulations

104420 Tobacco-Use Prevention Education

PENAL CODE

422.55 Hate crime; definition

422.6 Interference with constitutional right or privilege

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2

11023 Harassment and discrimination prevention and correction

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

3080 Applicability of uniform complaint procedures to complaints regarding students with disabilities

4600-4670 Uniform complaint procedures

4680-4687 Williams uniform complaint procedures

4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1221 Application of laws

1232g Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

1681-1688 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

6301-6576 Title I Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged

6801-7014 Title III language instruction for limited English proficient and immigrant students

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

794 Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

2000d-2000e-17 Title VI and Title VII Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended

2000h-2-2000h-6 Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

6101-6107 Age Discrimination Act of 1975

12101-12213 Title II equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28

35.107 Nondiscrimination on basis of disability; complaints

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

99.1-99.67 Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

100.3 Prohibition of discrimination on basis of race, color or national origin

104.7 Designation of responsible employee for Section 504

106.8 Designation of responsible employee for Title IX

106.9 Notification of nondiscrimination on basis of sex

110.25 Notification of nondiscrimination on the basis of age

Management Resources: (see next page)

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Sample UCP Board Policies and Procedures

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

Dear Colleague Letter, September 22, 2017

Dear Colleague Letter: Title IX Coordinators, April 2015

Dear Colleague Letter: Responding to Bullying of Students with Disabilities, October 2014

Dear Colleague Letter: Harassment and Bullying, October 2010

Revised Sexual Harassment Guidance: Harassment of Students by School Employees, Other Students, or Third Parties, January 2001

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PUBLICATIONS

Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons, 2002

WEB SITES

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

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

Family Policy Compliance Office: <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco>

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

U.S. Department of Justice: <http://www.justice.gov>

CSBA Sample

Administrative Regulation

Community Relations

AR 1312.3(a)

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Note: 5 CCR 4621 **mandates** that the district's uniform complaint procedures (UCP) be consistent with the procedures of 5 CCR 4600-4670. Additionally, Education Code 52075 **mandates** districts to adopt policies and procedures implementing the use of UCP to investigate and resolve complaints alleging noncompliance with requirements related to the local control and accountability plan (LCAP).

Furthermore, a number of federal civil rights statutes and their implementing regulations mandate districts to adopt policies and procedures for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints of unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying). For example, all districts are **mandated** pursuant to 28 CFR 35.107 to adopt policy and procedures to address discrimination on the basis of disability, while districts that receive federal financial assistance are **mandated** pursuant to 34 CFR 106.8 and 34 CFR 110.25 to adopt such policies and procedures to address discrimination on the basis of sex and age. Some of the factors considered by the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) when determining whether a district's procedures are "prompt and equitable" are addressed throughout the following administrative regulation.

Apart from these mandates, state law authorizes the use of UCP to resolve complaints of noncompliance with laws related to the development of a school plan for student achievement and the establishment of school site councils; accommodations for pregnant and parenting students; prohibition against the charging of student fees; educational rights of foster youth, homeless students, former juvenile court school students, children of military families, migrant students, and students participating in a newcomer program for newly arrived immigrants; assignment of students to courses without educational content; and physical education instructional minutes. See the section "Complaints Subject to UCP" in the accompanying Board policy.

Except as the Governing Board may otherwise specifically provide in other district policies, these uniform complaint procedures (UCP) shall be used to investigate and resolve only the complaints specified in BP 1312.3.

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)

(cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)

(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)

(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)

Compliance Officers

Note: 5 CCR 4621 **mandates** the district to identify in its policies and procedures the person(s), position(s), or unit(s) responsible for ensuring compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations governing educational programs, including the receiving and investigating of complaints alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) and retaliation. During its Federal Program Monitoring (FPM) process, California Department of Education (CDE) staff will check to ensure that the district's procedures list the specific title(s) of the employee(s) responsible for receiving and investigating complaints. Districts should identify the specific title(s) of the compliance officer(s) in the space provided below. If a district identifies multiple compliance officers, it is recommended that one be designated the "lead compliance officer."

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

The district designates the individual(s), position(s), or unit(s) identified below as responsible for coordinating the district's response to complaints and for complying with state and federal civil rights laws. The individual(s), position(s), or unit(s) also serve as the compliance officer(s) specified in AR 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment responsible for handling complaints regarding unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying). The compliance officer(s) shall receive and coordinate the investigation of complaints and shall ensure district compliance with law.

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

(title or position)

(unit or office)

(address)

(telephone number)

(email)

Note: The following paragraph is for use by districts that have designated more than one compliance officer.
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The compliance officer who receives a complaint may assign another compliance officer to investigate and resolve the complaint. The compliance officer shall promptly notify the complainant and respondent, if applicable, if another compliance officer is assigned to the complaint.

In no instance shall a compliance officer be assigned to a complaint in which the compliance officer has a bias or conflict of interest that would prohibit the fair investigation or resolution of the complaint. Any complaint against a compliance officer or that raises a concern about the compliance officer's ability to investigate the complaint fairly and without bias shall be filed with the Superintendent or designee who shall determine how the complaint will be investigated.

Note: 5 CCR 4621 mandates that the district's policy provide that employees responsible for compliance and/or for investigating and resolving complaints are knowledgeable about the laws and programs at issue in the complaints they are assigned. OCR requires that the compliance officer(s) involved in implementing discrimination complaint procedures be knowledgeable about the procedures and be able to explain them to parents/guardians and students. They must also have training or experience in handling discrimination complaints, including appropriate investigative techniques and understanding of the applicable legal standards.

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that employees assigned to investigate and resolve complaints receive training and are knowledgeable about the laws and programs at issue in the complaints to which they are assigned. Training provided to such employees shall cover current state and federal laws and regulations governing the program, applicable processes for investigating and resolving complaints, including those alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), applicable standards for reaching decisions on complaints, and appropriate corrective measures. Assigned employees may have access to legal counsel as determined by the Superintendent or designee.

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

(cf. 9124 - Attorney)

The compliance officer or, if necessary, any appropriate administrator shall determine whether interim measures are necessary during and pending the result of an investigation. If interim measures are determined to be necessary, the compliance officer or the administrator shall consult with the Superintendent, the Superintendent's designee, or, if appropriate, the site principal to implement one or more interim measures. The interim measures shall remain in place until the compliance officer determines that they are no longer necessary or until the district issues its final written decision, whichever occurs first.

Notifications

The district's UCP policy and administrative regulation shall be posted in all district schools and offices, including staff lounges and student government meeting rooms. (Education Code 234.1)

Note: During the FPM process, CDE staff will check to ensure that the district's policy contains a statement ensuring annual dissemination of notice of the district's UCP to the persons specified below.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall annually provide written notification of the district's UCP to students, employees, parents/guardians of district students, district advisory committee members, school advisory committee members, appropriate private school officials or representatives, and other interested parties. (5 CCR 4622)

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

Note: 5 CCR 4622 requires the district to include specified information in its annual UCP notice to students, parents/guardians, employees, and others. During the FPM process, CDE staff will check the notice to ensure that it contains the components specified below.

A sample of the annual notice is available through the CDE web site. It is the district's responsibility to update the notice as necessary to reflect new law.

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

The notice shall include:

1. A statement that the district is primarily responsible for compliance with federal and state laws and regulations, including those related to prohibition of unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying against any protected group and all programs and activities that are subject to UCP as identified in the section "Complaints Subject to UCP" in the accompanying Board policy
2. A statement that a complaint regarding student fees or the local control and accountability plan (LCAP) may be filed anonymously if the complainant provides evidence or information leading to evidence to support the complaint

(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)

(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)

3. A statement that a student enrolled in a public school shall not be required to pay a fee for participation in an educational activity that constitutes an integral fundamental part of the district's educational program, including curricular and extracurricular activities
4. A statement that a complaint regarding student fees must be filed no later than one year from the date the alleged violation occurred
5. A statement that the district will post a standardized notice of the educational rights of foster youth, homeless students, former juvenile court school students now enrolled in the district, children of military families, migrant students, and immigrant students enrolled in a newcomer program, as specified in Education Code 48853, 48853.5, 49069.5, 51225.1, and 51225.2, and the complaint process

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

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

(cf. 6173.3 - Education for Juvenile Court School Students)

(cf. 6175 - Migrant Education Program)

6. Identification of the responsible staff member(s), position(s), or unit(s) designated to receive complaints
7. A statement that complaints will be investigated in accordance with the district's UCP and a written decision will be sent to the complainant within 60 days from the receipt of the complaint, unless this time period is extended by written agreement of the complainant

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

8. A statement that the complainant has a right to appeal the district's decision to CDE by filing a written appeal, including a copy of the original complaint and the district's decision, within 15 days of receiving the district's decision
9. A statement advising the complainant of any civil law remedies, including, but not limited to, injunctions, restraining orders, or other remedies or orders that may be available under state or federal antidiscrimination laws, if applicable
10. A statement that copies of the district's UCP are available free of charge

Note: The following paragraph may be modified to reflect district practice. Pursuant to Education Code 221.61, districts are required to post information related to Title IX on their web sites, including specified information about complaint procedures under Title IX. See AR 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment. A district that does not maintain a web site may comply by posting the information on the web site of its county office of education. A comprehensive list of rights based on the provisions of the federal regulations implementing Title IX can be found in Education Code 221.8. In addition, in its April 2015 Dear Colleague Letter: Title IX Coordinators, OCR recommends that districts use web posting and social media to disseminate their nondiscrimination notices, policies, and procedures and communicate current compliance officer(s)' contact information to students, parents/guardians, and employees.

The annual notification, complete contact information of the compliance officer(s), and information related to Title IX as required pursuant to Education Code 221.61 shall be posted on the district web site and may be provided through district-supported social media, if available.

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

(cf. 1114 - District-Sponsored Social Media)

Note: Both federal and state laws contain requirements for translation of certain information and documents. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 requires districts to ensure meaningful access to their programs and activities by persons with limited English proficiency. OCR has interpreted this to require that, whenever information is provided to parents/guardians, districts must notify limited-English-proficient (LEP) parents/guardians in a language other than English in order to be adequate. OCR enforces this requirement consistent with the Department of Justice's 2002 Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons. Under the Guidance, a recipient of federal funds has an obligation to provide language assistance to LEP individuals based on balancing four factors: (1) the number or proportion of LEP individuals likely to encounter the program, (2) the frequency with which LEP individuals come in contact with the program, (3) the nature and importance of the services provided by the program, and (4) the resources available to the recipient. State law is more specific than federal law: Education Code 48985 requires translation of certain information and documents if 15 percent or more of students enrolled in the school speak a single primary language other than English.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all students and parents/guardians, including students and parents/guardians with limited English proficiency, have access to the relevant information provided in the district's policy, regulation, forms, and notices concerning the UCP.

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

If 15 percent or more of students enrolled in a particular district school speak a single primary language other than English, the district's policy, regulation, forms, and notices concerning the UCP shall be translated into that language, in accordance with Education Code 234.1 and 48985. In all other instances, the district shall ensure meaningful access to all relevant UCP information for parents/guardians with limited English proficiency.

Filing of Complaints

Note: Complaints filed under UCP may be filed directly with a compliance officer or with any site administrator not designated as a compliance officer. For example, acts of unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) may initially be reported to a principal. See AR 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment and AR 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment. If a site administrator not designated as a compliance officer receives a UCP complaint, the site administrator must notify a compliance officer. A district may also establish a site-level process for receiving informal reports about incidents for which a UCP complaint may be filed and notifying students and parents/guardians of their right to file a UCP complaint. Any site-level process established by a district should be in writing and distributed in the same manner as the grievance procedures listed herein with an explanation of how it interacts with the UCP complaint process.

The complaint shall be presented to the compliance officer who shall maintain a log of complaints received, providing each with a code number and a date stamp.

All complaints shall be filed in writing and signed by the complainant. If a complainant is unable to put a complaint in writing due to conditions such as a disability or illiteracy, district staff shall assist in the filing of the complaint. (5 CCR 4600)

Complaints shall also be filed in accordance with the following rules, as applicable:

1. A complaint alleging district violation of applicable state or federal law or regulations governing the programs specified in the accompanying Board policy (item #1 of the section "Complaints Subject to UCP") may be filed by any individual, public agency, or organization. (5 CCR 4630)

Note: Education Code 49013 **mandates** districts to adopt procedures that allow for anonymous complaints to be filed when a district allegedly violates the prohibition against the charging of student fees. Pursuant to Education Code 52075, anonymous complaints are permitted with regard to the LCAP, as long as evidence, or information leading to evidence, to support the allegation of noncompliance is provided in the complaint.

2. Any complaint alleging noncompliance with law regarding the prohibition against student fees, deposits, and charges or any requirement related to the LCAP may be filed anonymously if the complaint provides evidence, or information leading to evidence, to support an allegation of noncompliance. A complaint about a violation of the prohibition against the charging of unlawful student fees may be filed with the principal of the school or with the Superintendent or designee. However, any such complaint shall be filed no later than one year from the date the alleged violation occurred. (Education Code 49013, 52075; 5 CCR 4630)

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

3. A complaint alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) may be filed only by persons who allege that they have personally suffered unlawful discrimination or who believe that an individual or any specific class of individuals has been subjected to unlawful discrimination. The complaint shall be initiated no later than six months from the date that the alleged unlawful discrimination occurred, or six months from the date that the complainant first obtained knowledge of the facts of the alleged unlawful discrimination. The time for filing may be extended for up to 90 days by the Superintendent or designee for good cause upon written request by the complainant setting forth the reasons for the extension. (5 CCR 4630)
4. When a complaint alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) is filed anonymously, the compliance officer shall pursue an investigation or other response as appropriate, depending on the specificity and reliability of the information provided and the seriousness of the allegation.

Note: OCR's Revised Sexual Harassment Guidance indicates that if a complainant in a sexual harassment case requests that the complainant's name or that of the victim not be revealed to the alleged perpetrator or asks that the complaint not be pursued, the district should first inform the complainant that honoring the request may limit its ability to respond and pursue disciplinary action against the alleged perpetrator. The OCR publication acknowledges that situations may exist in which a district cannot honor a student's request for confidentiality, but cautions that, in all instances, the district must still continue to ensure that it provides a safe and nondiscriminatory environment for all students. Districts should consult legal counsel before honoring a confidentiality request to withhold the victim's name from the alleged perpetrator, especially in the case of alleged sexual assault. These guiding principles would also apply to harassment on the basis of race, gender, disability, or other protected characteristic.

5. When the complainant of unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) or the alleged victim, when not the complainant, requests confidentiality, the compliance officer shall inform the complainant or victim that the request may limit the district's ability to investigate the conduct or take other necessary action. When honoring a request for confidentiality, the district shall nevertheless take all reasonable steps to investigate and resolve/respond to the complaint consistent with the request.

Mediation

Note: The following section should be used only by those districts that have decided to establish procedures for attempting to resolve complaints through alternative dispute resolution procedures such as mediation; see the accompanying Board policy. **The following section may be modified to specify the alternative dispute resolution method and timelines used within the district.**

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

Within three business days after receiving the complaint, the compliance officer may informally discuss with all the parties the possibility of using mediation. Mediation shall be offered to resolve complaints that involve more than one student and no adult. However, mediation shall not be offered or used to resolve any complaint involving an allegation of sexual assault or where there is a reasonable risk that a party to the mediation would feel compelled to participate. If the parties agree to mediation, the compliance officer shall make all arrangements for this process.

Before initiating the mediation of a complaint alleging retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the compliance officer shall ensure that all parties agree to make the mediator a party to relevant confidential information. The compliance officer shall also notify all parties of the right to end the informal process at any time.

If the mediation process does not resolve the problem within the parameters of law, the compliance officer shall proceed with an investigation of the complaint.

The use of mediation shall not extend the district's timelines for investigating and resolving the complaint unless the complainant agrees in writing to such an extension of time. If mediation is successful and the complaint is withdrawn, then the district shall take only the actions agreed upon through the mediation. If mediation is unsuccessful, the district shall then continue with subsequent steps specified in this administrative regulation.

Investigation of Complaint

Note: 5 CCR 4631, which requires the district to provide the complainant with the opportunity to present relevant information, does not provide any timeline. Thus, **the timeline specified below may be modified to reflect district practice.**

Within 10 business days after the compliance officer receives the complaint, the compliance officer shall begin an investigation into the complaint.

Within one business day of initiating the investigation, the compliance officer shall provide the complainant and/or the complainant's representative with the opportunity to present the information contained in the complaint to the compliance officer and shall notify the complainant and/or representative of the opportunity to present the compliance officer with any evidence, or information leading to evidence, to support the allegations in the complaint. Such evidence or information may be presented at any time during the investigation.

Note: In the investigation, the compliance officer should consider all relevant circumstances, such as how the misconduct affected one or more students' education; the type, frequency, and duration of the misconduct; the identity, age, and sex of the individuals involved in and impacted by the conduct and the relationship between them; the number of persons engaged in the conduct and at whom the conduct was directed; the size of the school, location of the incidents, and context in which they occurred; and other incidents at the school involving different individuals.

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

In conducting the investigation, the compliance officer shall collect all available documents and review all available records, notes, or statements related to the complaint, including any additional evidence or information received from the parties during the course of the investigation. The compliance officer shall individually interview all available witnesses with information pertinent to the complaint, and may visit any reasonably accessible location where the relevant actions are alleged to have taken place. At appropriate intervals, the compliance officer shall inform both parties of the status of the investigation.

To investigate a complaint alleging retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the compliance officer shall interview the alleged victim(s), any alleged offenders, and other relevant witnesses privately, separately, and in a confidential manner. As necessary, additional staff or legal counsel may conduct or support the investigation.

Note: 5 CCR 4631 allows the district to dismiss a complaint when the complainant refuses to provide the investigator with relevant documents or otherwise obstructs the investigation. 5 CCR 4631 also provides that, if the district refuses to provide the investigator with access to records or other documents, the investigator may issue a finding in favor of the complainant. During the FPM process, CDE staff will check to ensure that both of these statements regarding the provision of access to information are included in the district's policy or procedures, as specified below.

A complainant's refusal to provide the district's investigator with documents or other evidence related to the allegations in the complaint, failure or refusal to cooperate in the investigation, or engagement in any other obstruction of the investigation may result in the dismissal of the complaint because of a lack of evidence to support the allegation. Similarly, a respondent's refusal to provide the district's investigator with documents or other evidence related to the allegations in the complaint, failure or refusal to cooperate in the investigation, or engagement in any other obstruction of the investigation may result in a finding, based on evidence collected, that a violation has occurred and in the imposition of a remedy in favor of the complainant. (5 CCR 4631)

In accordance with law, the district shall provide the investigator with access to records and other information related to the allegation in the complaint and shall not in any way obstruct the investigation. Failure or refusal of the district to cooperate in the investigation may result in a finding based on evidence collected that a violation has occurred and in the imposition of a remedy in favor of the complainant. (5 CCR 4631)

Timeline for Final Decision

Note: Pursuant to 5 CCR 4631, the district's written decision must be sent to the complainant within 60 calendar days of receiving the complaint. Option 1 below is for districts that do not allow complainants to appeal the compliance officer's decision to the Governing Board. Option 2 is for districts that allow appeals to the Board, and it requires the compliance officer's decision within 30 calendar days so that the Board's decision can still be given within the 60-day time limit.

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

Pursuant to 5 CCR 4631, only a complainant has the right to receive a written report and to file a complaint with the Board if dissatisfied with the compliance officer's decision. However, OCR has recommended that the same rights be extended to a respondent to a complaint alleging unlawful discrimination to ensure the process is equitable for all involved. Furthermore, OCR recommends notifying the respondent in such a complaint whenever the complainant approves an extension of the timeline. Options 1 and 2 reflect these recommendations and may be modified to reflect district practice.

Pursuant to 5 CCR 4640, when a UCP complaint is erroneously sent to CDE without first being filed with the district, the 60-day period specified in 5 CCR 4631 begins when the district receives the complaint.

OPTION 1:

Unless extended by written agreement with the complainant, the compliance officer shall prepare and send to the complainant a written report, as described in the section "Final Written Decision" below, within 60 calendar days of the district's receipt of the complaint. (5 CCR 4631)

For any complaint alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying), the respondent shall be informed of any extension of the timeline agreed to by the complainant. The respondent also shall be sent the district's final written decision at the same time it is provided to the complainant.

OPTION 2:

Unless extended by written agreement with the complainant, a final decision shall be sent to the complainant within 60 calendar days of the district's receipt of the complaint. Within 30 calendar days of receiving the complaint, the compliance officer shall prepare and send to the complainant a written report, as described in the section "Final Written Decision" below. If the complainant is dissatisfied with the compliance officer's decision, the complainant may, within five business days, file the complaint in writing with the Board.

The Board may consider the matter at its next regular Board meeting or at a special Board meeting convened in order to meet the 60-day time limit within which the complaint must be answered. When required by law, the matter shall be considered in closed session. The Board may decide not to hear the complaint, in which case the compliance officer's decision shall be final.

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)
(cf. 9321.1 - Closed Session Actions and Reports)

If the Board hears the complaint, the compliance officer shall send the Board's decision to the complainant within 60 calendar days of the district's initial receipt of the complaint or within the time period that has been specified in a written agreement with the complainant. (5 CCR 4631)

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

For any complaint alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying), the respondent shall be informed of any extension of the timeline agreed to by the complainant, shall be sent the district's final written decision, and, in the same manner as the complainant, may file a complaint with the Board if dissatisfied with the decision.

Final Written Decision

Note: 5 CCR 4631 and guidance provided by OCR specify components that should be part of the district's decision. Inclusion of these items will help protect the district's position in case of an appeal to CDE, a complaint submitted to OCR, or if litigation is filed.

For all complaints, the district's final written decision shall include: (5 CCR 4631)

1. The findings of fact based on the evidence gathered. In reaching a factual determination, the following factors may be taken into account:
 - a. Statements made by any witnesses
 - b. The relative credibility of the individuals involved
 - c. How the complaining individual reacted to the incident
 - d. Any documentary or other evidence relating to the alleged conduct
 - e. Past instances of similar conduct by any alleged offenders
 - f. Past false allegations made by the complainant
2. The conclusion(s) of law
3. Disposition of the complaint
4. Rationale for such disposition

For complaints of retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the disposition of the complaint shall include a determination for each allegation as to whether retaliation or unlawful discrimination has occurred.

The determination of whether a hostile environment exists may involve consideration of the following:

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

- a. The manner in which the misconduct affected one or more students' education
 - b. The type, frequency, and duration of the misconduct
 - c. The relationship between the alleged victim(s) and offender(s)
 - d. The number of persons engaged in the conduct and at whom the conduct was directed
 - e. The size of the school, location of the incidents, and context in which they occurred
 - f. Other incidents at the school involving different individuals
5. Corrective action(s), including any actions that have been taken or will be taken to address the allegations in the complaint and including, with respect to a student fees complaint, a remedy that comports with Education Code 49013 and 5 CCR 4600

For complaints of unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the decision may, as required by law, include:

- a. The corrective actions imposed on the respondent
 - b. Individual remedies offered or provided to the complainant or another person who was the subject of the complaint, but this information should not be shared with the respondent.
 - c. Systemic measures the school has taken to eliminate a hostile environment and prevent recurrence
6. Notice of the complainant's and respondent's right to appeal the district's decision to CDE within 15 calendar days, and procedures to be followed for initiating such an appeal

The decision may also include follow-up procedures to prevent recurrence or retaliation and for reporting any subsequent problems.

<p>Note: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 USC 1232g; 34 CFR 99.1-99.67) protects student privacy, including student records containing details of the actions taken in response to a UCP complaint. However, pursuant to 20 USC 1221, FERPA may not "be construed to affect the applicability of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of Education Amendments of 1972, Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act, or other statutes prohibiting discrimination, to any applicable program." In February 2015, the Family Policy Compliance Office</p>
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UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

(FPCO), the federal agency which administers FERPA, released a letter concluding that FERPA permits a district to disclose to a student who was subjected to unlawful discrimination certain information about the sanctions imposed upon the offender when the sanctions directly relate to that student. Thus, if properly remedying the impact of discrimination would require disclosing to the alleged victim certain information on how the district disciplined the alleged student offender (e.g., an order that the alleged offender stay away from the alleged victim), FPCO interprets FERPA as allowing the district to disclose that information.

Given the potential liability from improperly disclosing such information, districts are advised to consult with legal counsel when presented with a situation where a victim of unlawful discrimination requests information about sanctions imposed upon the offender.

In consultation with district legal counsel, information about the relevant part of a decision may be communicated to a victim who is not the complainant and to other parties who may be involved in implementing the decision or are affected by the complaint, as long as the privacy of the parties is protected. In a complaint alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying), notice of the district's decision to the alleged victim shall include information about any sanction to be imposed upon the respondent that relates directly to the alleged victim.

Note: Education Code 48985 requires that reports sent to parents/guardians be written in their primary language when 15 percent or more of a school's enrolled students speak a single primary language other than English. During the FPM process, CDE staff will check to ensure compliance with this requirement. Based on Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, OCR requires districts to ensure meaningful access to all relevant UCP information for parents/guardians with limited English proficiency.

If the complaint involves a limited-English-proficient student or parent/guardian and the student involved is enrolled in a school at which 15 percent or more of the students speak a single primary language other than English, then the decision shall also be translated into that language pursuant to Education Code 48985. In all other instances, the district shall ensure meaningful access to all relevant information for parents/guardians with limited English proficiency.

Note: During the FPM process, CDE staff will expect to see a statement detailing a complainant's right to pursue civil law remedies (i.e., action in a court of law) in addition to or in conjunction with the right to pursue administrative remedies from CDE.

For complaints alleging unlawful discrimination based on state law (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying), the decision shall also include a notice to the complainant that:

1. The complainant may pursue available civil law remedies outside of the district's complaint procedures, including seeking assistance from mediation centers or public/private interest attorneys, 60 calendar days after the filing of an appeal with CDE. (Education Code 262.3)

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

2. The 60 days moratorium does not apply to complaints seeking injunctive relief in state courts or to discrimination complaints based on federal law. (Education Code 262.3)
3. Complaints alleging discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, gender, disability, or age may also be filed with the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights at www.ed.gov/ocr within 180 days of the alleged discrimination.

Corrective Actions

Note: The following section may be revised to reflect district practice.
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When a complaint is found to have merit, the compliance officer shall adopt any appropriate corrective action permitted by law. Appropriate corrective actions that focus on the larger school or district environment may include, but are not limited to, actions to reinforce district policies; training for faculty, staff, and students; updates to school policies; or school climate surveys.

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

For complaints involving retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), appropriate remedies that may be offered to the victim but not communicated to the respondent may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Counseling
- (cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)*
2. Academic support
 3. Health services
 4. Assignment of an escort to allow the victim to move safely about campus
 5. Information regarding available resources and how to report similar incidents or retaliation
 6. Separation of the victim from any other individuals involved, provided the separation does not penalize the victim
 7. Restorative justice
 8. Follow-up inquiries to ensure that the conduct has stopped and there has been no retaliation

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

For complaints involving retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), appropriate corrective actions that focus on a student offender may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Transfer from a class or school as permitted by law
2. Parent/guardian conference
3. Education regarding the impact of the conduct on others
4. Positive behavior support
5. Referral to a student success team

(cf. 6164.5 - Student Success Teams)

6. Denial of participation in extracurricular or cocurricular activities or other privileges as permitted by law

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

7. Disciplinary action, such as suspension or expulsion, as permitted by law

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

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

When an employee is found to have committed retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the district shall take appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, in accordance with applicable law and collective bargaining agreement.

(cf. 4118 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

The district may also consider training and other interventions for the larger school community to ensure that students, staff, and parents/guardians understand the types of behavior that constitute unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), that the district does not tolerate it, and how to report and respond to it.

<p>Note: Generally, when a complaint is found to have merit, an appropriate remedy is provided to the complainant or other affected person. However, in certain instances, the law may require a remedy to be provided to all affected persons, not just the complainant or subject of the complaint. For example, pursuant to Education Code 49013 and 5 CCR 4600, if the district, or CDE on appeal, finds merit in the complaint</p>

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

alleging noncompliance with the law regarding student fees and charges, the district is required to provide a remedy to all affected students and parents/guardians, as specified below. The same requirement applies to allegations of noncompliance with the LCAP requirements, pursuant to Education Code 52075, and to noncompliance with required instructional minutes for elementary students' physical education, pursuant to Education Code 51223. Districts that do not maintain elementary schools should delete reference to physical education below.

When a complaint is found to have merit, an appropriate remedy shall be provided to the complainant or other affected person.

However, if a complaint alleging noncompliance with the laws regarding student fees, deposits, and other charges, physical education instructional minutes for students in elementary schools, or any requirement related to the LCAP is found to have merit, the district shall provide a remedy to all affected students and parents/guardians subject to procedures established by regulation of the State Board of Education. (Education Code 49013, 51223, 52075)

For complaints alleging noncompliance with the laws regarding student fees, the district shall attempt in good faith, by engaging in reasonable efforts, to identify and fully reimburse all affected students and parents/guardians who paid the unlawful student fees within one year prior to the filing of the complaint. (Education Code 49013; 5 CCR 4600)

Appeals to the California Department of Education

Note: 5 CCR 4632-4633 provide that complainants may appeal to CDE if they disagree with the district's decision on any matter within the scope of the UCP, as provided below.

Any complainant who is dissatisfied with the district's final written decision on a complaint regarding any specified federal or state educational program subject to UCP may file an appeal in writing with CDE within 15 calendar days of receiving the district's decision. (5 CCR 4632)

The complainant shall specify the basis for the appeal of the decision and how the facts of the district's decision are incorrect and/or the law has been misapplied. The appeal shall be sent to CDE with a copy of the original locally filed complaint and a copy of the district's decision in that complaint. (5 CCR 4632)

Note: Although not required pursuant to 5 CCR 4631-4633, OCR recommends that the right to appeal the district's decision to CDE be extended to the respondent to an allegation of unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) to ensure fairness for all parties involved. The following paragraphs reflect OCR's recommendation.

When a respondent in any complaint alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying) is dissatisfied with the district's final written decision, the respondent, in the same manner as the complainant, may file an appeal with CDE.

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

Upon notification by CDE that the district's decision has been appealed, the Superintendent or designee shall forward the following documents to CDE: (5 CCR 4633)

1. A copy of the original complaint
2. A copy of the written decision
3. A summary of the nature and extent of the investigation conducted by the district, if not covered by the decision
4. A copy of the investigation file including, but not limited to, all notes, interviews, and documents submitted by the parties and gathered by the investigator
5. A report of any action taken to resolve the complaint
6. A copy of the district's UCP
7. Other relevant information requested by CDE

Note: CDE may directly intervene in a complaint without waiting for action by the district when certain conditions exist, including the following: (1) the complaint alleges failure to comply with the UCP, including failure to follow the required timelines and failure to implement the final written decision; (2) the complainant requires anonymity due to the possibility of retaliation and would suffer immediate and irreparable harm if a complaint was filed and the complainant was named; (3) the complainant would suffer immediate and irreparable harm as a result of an application of a districtwide policy that is in conflict with state or federal law and that filing a complaint would be futile; (4) the complainant alleges failure to comply with the due process procedures established pursuant to special education law and regulation to implement a due process hearing order; (5) the complainant alleges facts that indicate that one or more students may be in immediate physical danger or that the health, safety, or welfare of one or more students is threatened; or (6) the complainant alleges failure to follow a student's individualized education program.

(5/17 3/18) 3/19

CSBA Sample

Administrative Regulation

Community Relations

AR 1312.4(a)

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Note: Education Code 35186 **mandates** that districts establish policies and procedures to address complaints regarding insufficiency of textbooks and instructional materials, teacher vacancy or misassignment, and emergency or urgent facilities conditions that pose a threat to the health and safety of students or staff. When such a complaint is filed with the district, the district is required to investigate and resolve the complaint in accordance with the Williams uniform complaint procedures established pursuant to 5 CCR 4680-4687. In addition, pursuant to Education Code 8235.5, as added by AB 1808 (Ch. 32, Statutes of 2018), California State Preschool Programs (CSPP) (Education Code 8235-8239.1) that are exempt from licensing pursuant to Health and Safety Code 1596.792 must utilize district complaint procedures, with modifications as necessary, to resolve allegations of noncompliance with applicable health and safety requirements. The Legislative Counsel's Digest of AB 1808 clarifies that the Williams uniform complaint procedures are the applicable procedures.

It is recommended that districts use these procedures only for complaints specified in law and this administrative regulation. See BP/AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures for a discussion of the types of complaints subject to the uniform complaint procedures established pursuant to 5 CCR 4600-4670. For procedures related to complaints about employees, see BP/AR 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees. For complaints concerning the district's adoption and selection of specific instructional materials, see BP/AR 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials. For complaints regarding the district's nutrition program, see BP 3555 - Nutrition Program Compliance.

Types of Complaints

The district shall use the procedures described in this administrative regulation only to investigate and resolve the following:

1. Complaints regarding the insufficiency of textbooks and instructional materials, including any complaint alleging that: (Education Code 35186; 5 CCR 4681)
 - a. A student, including an English learner, does not have standards-aligned textbooks or instructional materials or state- or district-adopted textbooks or other required instructional materials to use in class.
 - b. A student does not have access to textbooks or instructional materials to use at home or after school. This does not require two sets of textbooks or instructional materials for each student.
 - c. Textbooks or instructional materials are in poor or unusable condition, have missing pages, or are unreadable due to damage.
 - d. A student was provided photocopied sheets from only a portion of a textbook or instructional materials to address a shortage of textbooks or instructional materials.

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

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

2. Complaints regarding teacher vacancy or misassignment, including any complaint alleging that: (Education Code 35186; 5 CCR 4682)
 - a. A semester begins and a teacher vacancy exists.
 - b. A teacher who lacks credentials or training to teach English learners is assigned to teach a class with more than 20 percent English learners in the class.

(cf. 4112.22 - Staff Teaching English Learners)

- c. A teacher is assigned to teach a class for which the teacher lacks subject matter competency.

Teacher vacancy means a position to which a single designated certificated employee has not been assigned at the beginning of the year for an entire year or, if the position is for a one-semester course, a position to which a single designated certificated employee has not been assigned at the beginning of the semester for an entire semester. (Education Code 35186; 5 CCR 4600)

Beginning of the year or semester means the first day classes necessary to serve all the students enrolled are established with a single designated certificated employee assigned for the duration of the class, but not later than 20 working days after the first day students attend classes for that semester. (5 CCR 4600)

Misassignment means the placement of a certificated employee in a teaching or services position for which the employee does not hold a legally recognized certificate or credential or the placement of a certificated employee in a teaching or services position that the employee is not otherwise authorized by statute to hold. (Education Code 35186; 5 CCR 4600)

(cf. 4112.2 - Certification)

(cf. 4113 - Assignment)

3. Complaints regarding the condition of school facilities, including any complaint alleging that: (Education Code 35186; 5 CCR 4683)
 - a. A condition poses an emergency or urgent threat to the health or safety of students or staff.

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

Emergency or urgent threat means structures or systems that are in a condition that poses a threat to the health and safety of students or staff while at school, including, but not limited to, gas leaks; nonfunctioning heating, ventilation, fire sprinklers, or air-conditioning systems; electrical power failure; major sewer line stoppage; major pest or vermin infestation; broken windows or exterior doors or gates that will not lock and that pose a security risk; abatement of hazardous materials previously undiscovered that pose an immediate threat to students or staff; structural damage creating a hazardous or uninhabitable condition; or any other condition deemed appropriate. (Education Code 17592.72)

- b. A school restroom has not been cleaned, maintained, or kept open in accordance with Education Code 35292.5.

Clean or maintained school restroom means a school restroom has been cleaned or maintained regularly, is fully operational, or has been stocked at all times with toilet paper, soap, or paper towels or functional hand dryers. (Education Code 35292.5)

Open restroom means the school has kept all restrooms open during school hours when students are not in classes and has kept a sufficient number of restrooms open during school hours when students are in classes. This does not apply when the temporary closing of the restroom is necessary for student safety or to make repairs. (Education Code 35292.5)

Note: The following optional paragraph is for use by districts that maintain any of grades 6-12. Education Code 35292.6 requires a school that serves any of grades 6-12 and meets a 40 percent student poverty threshold, as defined in 20 USC 6314, to stock at least 50 percent of the school's restrooms with feminine hygiene products for use in connection with the menstrual cycle, and to not charge students for such products. See AR 3517 - Facilities Inspection. Although Education Code 35292.6 does not require a complaint process, it is recommended that the Williams uniform complaint procedures be used to address any allegation of noncompliance with Education Code 35292.6 in order to ensure consistency in the procedures that districts use to address allegations of noncompliance with all restroom maintenance requirements.

In any district school serving any of grades 6-12 in which 40 percent or more of the students in the school or school attendance area are from low-income families, as defined in 20 USC 6314, a complaint may be filed alleging noncompliance with the requirement of Education Code 35292.6 to stock, at all times, at least half of the restrooms in the school with feminine hygiene products and to not charge students for the use of such products.

(cf. 3514 - Environmental Safety)

(cf. 3517 - Facilities Inspection)

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

Note: Item #4 is for use by districts that operate one or more CSPP programs which are exempt from licensure by Health and Safety Code 1596.792 and are subject to the health and safety requirements of Health and Safety Code 1596.7925, as added by AB 1808. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code 1596.7925, the California Department of Education (CDE) must adopt regulations by July 1, 2019, that contain the program requirements specified below.

4. Complaints regarding the noncompliance of a license-exempt California State Preschool Program (CSPP) with health and safety standards specified in Health and Safety Code 1596.7925 and related state regulations, including any complaint alleging that: (Education Code 8235.5; Health and Safety Code 1596.7925)
 - a. The preschool does not have outdoor shade that is safe and in good repair.
 - b. Drinking water is not accessible and/or readily available throughout the day.
 - c. The preschool does not provide safe and sanitary restroom facilities with one toilet and handwashing fixture for every 15 children.
 - d. Restroom facilities are not available only for preschoolers and kindergartners.
 - e. The preschool program does not provide visual supervision of children at all times.
 - f. Indoor or outdoor space is not properly contained or fenced or does not provide sufficient space for the number of children using the space at any given time.
 - g. Playground equipment is not safe, in good repair, or age appropriate.

Forms and Notices

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure a Williams complaint form is available at each school. However, complainants need not use the district's complaint form in order to file a complaint. (Education Code 35186; 5 CCR 4680)

Note: Education Code 8235.5 and 35186 require that the district's complaint form contain the elements stated in the following paragraph. In addition, Education Code 8235.5 and 35186 require that a notice be posted in each classroom in each school in the district, as specified below. See the accompanying exhibits for sample forms and classroom notices.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's complaint form specifies the location for filing a complaint and contains a space to indicate whether the complainant desires a response to the complaint. A complainant may add as much text to explain the complaint as desired. (Education Code 8235.5, 35186; 5 CCR 4680)

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

Note: The following paragraph may be revised to reflect the grade levels offered by the district.

The Superintendent or designee shall post in each K-12 classroom in each school a notice containing the components specified in Education Code 35186. In each license-exempt CSPP classroom, a notice containing the components specified in Education Code 8235.5 shall be posted. (Education Code 8235.5, 35186)

Filing of Complaint

Note: Education Code 8235.5 and 35186 require that complaints be investigated and resolved within the timelines specified below. During the Federal Program Monitoring (FPM) process, CDE staff will expect to see statements regarding the filing of the complaint, the investigation, timelines, and the complainant's right to appeal to the Governing Board and to appeal facilities complaints to CDE, as detailed in the following section and the section "Investigation and Response" below.
--

A complaint alleging any condition(s) specified in the section "Types of Complaints" above shall be filed with the principal or designee, or the preschool administrator or designee as appropriate, at the school in which the complaint arises. A complaint about problems beyond the authority of the principal or preschool administrator shall be forwarded to the Superintendent or designee in a timely manner, but not to exceed 10 working days. Complaints may be filed anonymously. (Education Code 8235.5, 35186; 5 CCR 4680)

Investigation and Response

The principal/preschool administrator or a designee of the Superintendent shall make all reasonable efforts to investigate any problem within their authority. (Education Code 8235.5, 35186; 5 CCR 4685)

Investigation of a complaint regarding preschool health or safety issues shall begin within 10 calendar days of receipt of the complaint. (Education Code 8235.5)

The principal/preschool administrator or Superintendent's designee shall remedy a valid complaint within a reasonable time period not to exceed 30 working days from the date the complaint was received. (Education Code 8235.5, 35186; 5 CCR 4685)

If the complainant has indicated on the complaint form a desire to receive a response to the complaint, the principal/preschool administrator or Superintendent's designee shall report the resolution of the complaint to the complainant within 45 working days of the initial filing of the complaint. If the principal/preschool administrator makes this report, the information shall be reported at the same time to the Superintendent or designee. (Education Code 8235.5, 35186; 5 CCR 4680, 4685)

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

Note: Education Code 48985 specifies that, when 15 percent or more of the students enrolled in a particular school speak a single primary language other than English, all notices, reports, statements, or records sent to the parents/guardians of such students be written in English and in the primary language. Education Code 8235.5 and 35186 require that, when Education Code 48985 is applicable, any response requested by the complainant must be written in English and in the primary language in which the complaint was filed.

When Education Code 48985 is applicable and the complainant has requested a response, the response shall be written in English and in the primary language in which the complaint was filed. (Education Code 8235.5, 35186)

If a complainant is not satisfied with the resolution of a complaint, the complainant has the right to describe the complaint to the Governing Board at a regularly scheduled meeting. (Education Code 8235.5, 35186; 5 CCR 4686)

For any complaint concerning a facilities condition that poses an emergency or urgent threat to the health or safety of students or staff as described in item #3a or #4 in the section "Types of Complaints" above, a complainant who is not satisfied with the resolution proffered by the principal/preschool administrator or Superintendent or designee may file an appeal to the Superintendent of Public Instruction within 15 days of receiving the district's response. The complainant shall comply with the appeal requirements specified in 5 CCR 4632. (Education Code 8235.5, 35186; 5 CCR 4687)

All complaints and written responses shall be public records. (Education Code 8235.5, 35186; 5 CCR 4686)

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

Reports

Note: During the FPM process, CDE staff will expect to see the following statement.

On a quarterly basis, the Superintendent or designee shall report, to the Board at a regularly scheduled public Board meeting and to the County Superintendent of Schools, summarized data on the nature and resolution of all complaints. The report shall include the number of complaints by general subject area with the number of resolved and unresolved complaints. (Education Code 8235.5, 35186; 5 CCR 4686)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

234.1 Prohibition of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying

1240 County superintendent of schools, duties

8235-8239.1 California State Preschool Programs, especially:

8235.5 California State Preschool Program, complaints regarding health and safety issues

17592.72 Urgent or emergency repairs, School Facility Emergency Repair Account

33126 School accountability report card

35186 Williams uniform complaint procedures

35292.5-35292.6 Restrooms, maintenance and cleanliness

48985 Notice to parents in language other than English

60119 Hearing on sufficiency of instructional materials

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

1596.792 California Child Day Care Act; general provisions and definitions

1596.7925 California Child Day Care Act; health and safety regulations

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4600-4670 Uniform complaint procedures

4680-4687 Williams uniform complaint procedures

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6314 Title I schoolwide program

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

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

California County Superintendents Educational Services Association: <http://www.ccsesa.org>

California Department of Education, Williams case: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/eo/ce/wc>

State Allocation Board, Office of Public School Construction: <http://www.opsc.dgs.ca.gov>

CSBA Sample

Exhibit

Community Relations

E(1) 1312.4(a)

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Note: Education Code 35186 requires that the following notice be posted in each K-12 classroom in each school in the district. During the Federal Program Monitoring process, California Department of Education (CDE) staff will check to ensure that a notice is placed in each classroom in each school and that the notice contains all the information described below.

NOTICE TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS, STUDENTS, AND TEACHERS: K-12 COMPLAINT RIGHTS

Parents/Guardians, Students, and Teachers:

Pursuant to Education Code 35186, you are hereby notified that:

1. There should be sufficient textbooks and instructional materials. That means each student, including an English learner, must have a textbook or instructional materials, or both, to use in class and to take home.
2. School facilities must be clean, safe, and maintained in good repair.
3. There should be no teacher vacancies or misassignments. There should be a teacher assigned to each class and not a series of substitutes or other temporary teachers. The teacher should have the proper credential to teach the class, including the certification required to teach English learners, if present.

Misassignment means the placement of a certificated employee in a teaching or services position for which the employee does not hold a legally recognized certificate or credential or the placement of a certificated employee in a teaching or services position that the employee is not otherwise authorized by statute to hold.

Teacher vacancy means a position to which a single designated certificated employee has not been assigned at the beginning of the year for an entire year or, if the position is for a one-semester course, a position to which a single designated certificated employee has not been assigned at the beginning of a semester for an entire semester.

Note: Education Code 35186 requires that the notice inform parents/guardians of the location to obtain a complaint form and provides that posting a notice downloadable from the CDE's web site will satisfy this requirement. The law does not require that complaint form be placed in any specific location. The following paragraph lists locations where complaint forms may be available and should be modified to reflect district practice, including adding the school and district web site addresses.

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

If you choose to file a complaint alleging that any of the above conditions is not being met, your complaint will be addressed through the district's Williams uniform complaint procedures as required by law. A complaint form may be obtained at the school office or district office, or downloaded from the school or district web site. You may also download a copy of the California Department of Education complaint form from the following web site: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cp/uc>. However, a complaint need not be filed using either the district's complaint form or the complaint form from the California Department of Education.

(11/07 8/14) 3/19

CSBA Sample Exhibit

Community Relations

E(2) 1312.4(a)

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Note: Education Code 35186 creates the Williams uniform complaint procedures for the filing of complaints concerning deficiencies in textbooks or instructional materials, conditions of facilities that are not maintained in a clean or safe manner or in good repair, or teacher vacancy or misassignment. The following form contains elements required by Education Code 35186 and 5 CCR 4681-4683. During the Federal Program Monitoring process, California Department of Education staff will check to ensure that the complaint form includes all of the elements specified below.

K-12 COMPLAINT FORM: WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Education Code 35186 creates a procedure for the filing of complaints concerning deficiencies related to instructional materials, conditions of facilities that are not maintained in a clean or safe manner or in good repair, or teacher vacancy or misassignment. The complaint and response are public documents as provided by law. Complaints may be filed anonymously. However, if you wish to receive a response to your complaint, you must provide the contact information below.

Response requested? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Contact information: (if response is requested)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: Day: _____ Evening: _____

E-mail address, if any: _____

Date problem was observed: _____

Location of the problem that is the subject of this complaint:

School name/address: _____

Course title/grade level and teacher name: _____

Room number/name of room/location of facility: _____

Only the following issues may be the subject of this complaint process. If you wish to complain about an issue not specified below, please contact the school or district for the appropriate district complaint procedure.

Specific issue(s) of the complaint: (Please check all that apply. A complaint may contain more than one allegation.)

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

1. Textbooks and instructional materials: (Education Code 35186; 5 CCR 4681)

- ☐ A student, including an English learner, does not have standards-aligned textbooks or instructional materials or state- or district-adopted textbooks or other required instructional materials to use in class.
- ☐ A student does not have access to textbooks or instructional materials to use at home or after school. This does not require two sets of textbooks or instructional materials for each student.
- ☐ Textbooks or instructional materials are in poor or unusable condition, have missing pages, or are unreadable due to damage.
- ☐ A student was provided photocopied sheets from only a portion of a textbook or instructional materials to address a shortage of textbooks or instructional materials.

2. Teacher vacancy or misassignment: (Education Code 35186; 5 CCR 4682)

- ☐ A semester begins and a teacher vacancy exists. A *teacher vacancy* is a position to which a single designated certificated employee has not been assigned at the beginning of the school year for an entire year or, if the position is for a one-semester course, a position to which a single designated certificated employee has not been assigned at the beginning of a semester for an entire semester.
- ☐ A teacher who lacks credentials or training to teach English learners is assigned to teach a class with more than 20 percent English learners in the class.
- ☐ A teacher is assigned to teach a class for which the teacher lacks subject matter competency.

3. Facilities conditions: (Education Code 17592.72, 35186, 35292.5, 35292.6; 5 CCR 4683)

- ☐ A condition exists that poses an emergency or urgent threat to the health or safety of students or staff including gas leaks; nonfunctioning heating, ventilation, fire sprinklers, or air-conditioning systems; electrical power failure; major sewer line stoppage; major pest or vermin infestation; broken windows or exterior doors or gates that will not lock and that pose a security risk; abatement of hazardous materials previously undiscovered that pose an immediate threat to students or staff; structural damage creating a hazardous or uninhabitable condition; and any other condition deemed appropriate by the district.

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

- ☐ A school restroom has not been cleaned or maintained regularly, is not fully operational, or has not been stocked at all times with toilet paper, soap, or paper towels or functional hand dryers.

Note: The following **optional** item is for districts that choose to use the William uniform complaint procedures to address complaints alleging noncompliance with requirements to stock restrooms at certain schools with feminine hygiene products pursuant to Education Code 35292.6; see the accompanying administrative regulation.

- ☐ For a school that serves students in any of grades 6-12 with 40 percent of more of its students from low-income families, as defined, the school has not stocked at least half of its restrooms with feminine products at all times and made those products available to students at no cost.
- ☐ The school has not kept all restrooms open during school hours when students are not in classes and has not kept a sufficient number of restrooms open during school hours when students are in classes. This does not apply when temporary closing of the restroom is necessary for student safety or to make repairs.

Please describe the issue of your complaint in detail. You may attach additional pages and include as much text as necessary to fully describe the situation. For complaints regarding facilities conditions, please describe the emergency or urgent facilities condition and how that condition poses a threat to the health or safety of students or staff.

Note: Education Code 35186 requires that complaints be filed with the principal or designee and that the complaint form specify the location for filing the complaint. Districts should specify the name and/or location in the spaces below.

Please file this complaint at the following location:

(principal or designee)

(address)

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

Please provide a signature below. If you wish to remain anonymous, a signature is not required. However, all complaints, even anonymous ones, should be dated.

(Signature)

(Date)

(11/10 8/14) 3/19

CSBA Sample

Exhibit

Community Relations

E(3) 1312.4(a)

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Note: Education Code 8235.5, as added by AB 1808 (Ch. 32, Statutes of 2018), requires that the following notice be posted in each classroom with a license-exempt California State Preschool Program (CSPP) (Education Code 8235-8239.1). The notice must include the health and safety requirements that apply to such CSPP programs pursuant to Health and Safety Code 1596.7925, which may be the subject of a complaint under the Williams uniform complaint procedures.

NOTICE TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS, STUDENTS, AND TEACHERS: PRESCHOOL COMPLAINT RIGHTS

Parents/Guardians, Students, and Teachers:

Pursuant to Education Code 8235.5, you are hereby notified that any California State Preschool Program that is exempt from licensure must have:

1. Outdoor shade that is safe and in good repair
2. Drinking water that is accessible and readily available throughout the day
3. Safe and sanitary restroom facilities with one toilet and handwashing fixture for every 15 children
4. Restroom facilities that are available only for preschoolers and kindergartners
5. Visual supervision of children at all times
6. Indoor and outdoor space that is properly contained or fenced and provides sufficient space for the number of children using the space at any given time
7. Playground equipment that is safe, in good repair, and age appropriate

Note: Education Code 8235.5 requires that the notice include the location to obtain a complaint form and provides that posting a notice downloadable from the CDE's web site will satisfy this requirement. The law does not require that complaint forms be placed in any specific location. The following paragraph lists locations where complaint forms may be available and should be modified to reflect district practice, including adding the school and district web site addresses.

If you choose to file a complaint alleging that any of the above conditions is not being met, your complaint will be addressed through the district's Williams uniform complaint procedures as required by law. A complaint form may be obtained at the school office or district office, or downloaded from the school or district web site. You may also download a

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

copy of the California Department of Education complaint form from the following web site: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cp/uc>. However, a complaint need not be filed using either the district's complaint form or the complaint form from the California Department of Education.

CSBA Sample Exhibit

Community Relations

E(4) 1312.4(a)

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 8235.5, as added by AB 1808 (Ch. 32, Statutes of 2018), Williams uniform complaint procedures should be used for complaints alleging that a license-exempt California State Preschool Program (CSPP) does not comply with any of the health and safety requirements specified in Health and Safety Code 1596.7925.

PRESCHOOL COMPLAINT FORM: WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Education Code 8235.5 requires that the complaint procedures in 5 CCR 4680-4687 be used for the filing of complaints concerning noncompliance with health and safety standards for license-exempt California State Preschool Programs. The complaint and response are public documents as provided by law. Complaints may be filed anonymously. However, if you wish to receive a response to your complaint, you must provide the contact information below.

Response requested? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Contact information: (if response is requested)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: Day: _____ Evening: _____

E-mail address, if any: _____

Date problem was observed: _____

Location of the problem that is the subject of this complaint:

School name/address: _____

Room number/name of room/location of facility: _____

Only the following issues may be the subject of this complaint process. If you wish to complain about an issue not specified below, please contact the school or district for the appropriate district complaint procedure.

Specific issue(s) of the complaint: (Please check all that apply. A complaint may contain more than one allegation.)

☐ The preschool does not have outdoor shade that is safe and in good repair.

☐ Drinking water is not accessible and/or readily available throughout the day.

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

- ☐ The preschool does not provide safe and sanitary restroom facilities with one toilet and handwashing fixture for every 15 children.
- ☐ Restroom facilities are not available only for preschoolers and kindergartners.
- ☐ The preschool program does not provide visual supervision of children at all times.
- ☐ Indoor or outdoor space is not properly contained or fenced or does not provide sufficient space for the number of children using the space at any given time.
- ☐ Playground equipment is not safe, in good repair, or age appropriate.

Please describe the issue of your complaint in detail. You may attach additional pages and include as much text as necessary to fully describe the situation.

Note: Education Code 8235.5, as added by AB 1808, requires complaints identified above to be filed with the preschool administrator or designee. Districts should specify the names and/or locations in the spaces below.

Please file this complaint at the following location:

(preschool administrator or designee)

(address)

Please provide a signature below. If you wish to remain anonymous, a signature is not required. However, all complaints, even anonymous ones, should be dated.

(Signature)

(Date)

CSBA Sample

Administrative Regulation

Community Relations

AR 1340(a)

ACCESS TO DISTRICT RECORDS

Note: Article 1, Section 3 of the California Constitution grants any person the right to access information concerning meetings and writings of state and local government bodies, officials, and agencies as long as the constitutional rights of privacy and due process are protected. Courts broadly interpret rules or laws granting access and narrowly interpret those denying access; thus, the burden is on the district to demonstrate the need for restricting access to public records.

The following **optional** administrative regulation lists those records defined as public and, in contrast, those defined as confidential to which there is no public access. It is not intended to provide an all-inclusive list of records that may be defined as either public or confidential.

Definitions

Note: Pursuant to Government Code 6252, a "public record" includes any writing that relates to district business as defined below.

Emails and other electronic communications related in a substantive manner to district business are considered public records. Furthermore, in City of San Jose v. Superior Court, the California Supreme Court held that using a personal account or personal device to send or receive communications regarding public business does not categorically exclude those records from disclosure upon request under the California Public Records Act (CPRA) (Government Code 6250-6270). The court noted that public agencies are required to disclose all applicable records that can be located "with reasonable effort," including those records contained on a public employee's or official's personal device or account. Such searches need not be extraordinary or intrusive. For further information, see CSBA's Legal Alert: Tips for Governing Boards in Response to Public Records Act Ruling on Electronic Communications. Also see the accompanying Board policy, AR 3580 - District Records, and BB 9012 - Board Member Electronic Communications.

Public records include any writing containing information relating to the conduct of the district's business prepared, owned, used, or retained by the district regardless of physical form or characteristics. (Government Code 6252)

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

(cf. 9012 - Board Member Electronic Communications)

Writing means any handwriting, typewriting, printing, photostating, photographing, photocopying, transmitting by electronic mail or facsimile, and every other means of recording upon any tangible thing any form of communication or representation, including letters, words, pictures, sounds, or symbols or combinations thereof, and any record thereby created, regardless of the manner in which the record has been stored. (Government Code 6252)

Member of the public means any person, except a member, agent, officer, or employee of the district or a federal, state, or other local agency acting within the scope of such membership, agency, office, or employment. (Government Code 6252)

ACCESS TO DISTRICT RECORDS (continued)

Public Records

Note: While not specifically enumerated in Government Code 6252, items #1-14 below are items which fall within the definition of "public records."

Public records to which members of the public shall have access include, but are not limited to:

1. Proposed and approved district budgets and annual audits (Education Code 41020, 42103)

(cf. 3100 - Budget)

(cf. 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability)

2. Statistical compilations

3. Reports and memoranda

4. Notices and bulletins

5. Minutes of public meetings (Education Code 35145)

(cf. 9324 - Minutes and Recordings)

6. Meeting agendas (Government Code 54957.5)

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

7. Official communications between the district and other government agencies

Note: District and school plans (e.g., local control and accountability plan, school plan for student achievement, comprehensive safety plan) must generally be accessible to the public. However, pursuant to Education Code 32281, the Governing Board may choose to prohibit disclosure of those portions of the comprehensive safety plan that include tactical responses to criminal incidents. See BP 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan.

8. District and school plans, and the information and data relevant to the development and evaluation of such plans, unless otherwise prohibited by law

(cf. 0400 - Comprehensive Plans)

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

(cf. 0440 - District Technology Plan)

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)

(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)

(cf. 3543 - Transportation Safety and Emergencies)

(cf. 7110 - Facilities Master Plan)

ACCESS TO DISTRICT RECORDS (continued)

9. Initial proposals of exclusive employee representatives and of the district (Government Code 3547)

(cf. 4143.1/4243.1 - Public Notice - Personnel Negotiations)

Note: Although Government Code 6254 exempts from disclosure those records pertaining to pending litigation, the Attorney General opined in 71 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 235 (1988) that records predating the filing of the lawsuit are subject to disclosure. In Fairley v. Superior Court, a California Court of Appeal concurred and held that documents were exempted only if they were prepared for use in litigation. (See item #2 in the section "Confidential Records" below.) The following item reflects the opinion of the court and the Attorney General. The Board should consult legal counsel if it believes that any document related to litigation should not be disclosed.

10. Records pertaining to claims and litigation against the district which have been adjudicated or settled (Government Code 6254, 6254.25)

(cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)

11. Statements of economic interests required by the Conflict of Interest Code (Government Code 81008)

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

Note: Generally, the names and salaries of public employees are subject to disclosure under the CPRA. In Sacramento County Employees Retirement System v. Superior Court, a California Court of Appeal held that the names and corresponding pension benefits of members of a county retirement system are subject to disclosure and are not considered "individual records of members" protected by Government Code 31532. However, in International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers v. The Superior Court of Alameda County, the California Supreme Court recognized that, in some instances, the salaries of certain employees might be exempt from disclosure, depending on the facts and circumstances. The Board should consult legal counsel if it believes that any document related to the names and salaries of public employees should not be disclosed.

12. Documents containing names, salaries, and pension benefits of district employees

13. Employment contracts and settlement agreements (Government Code 53262)

(cf. 2121 - Superintendent's Contract)

(cf. 4117.5/4217.5/4317.5 - Termination Agreements)

(cf. 4141/4241 - Collective Bargaining Agreement)

14. Instructional materials including, but not limited to, textbooks (Education Code 49091.10)

(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)

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

ACCESS TO DISTRICT RECORDS (continued)

Access to public records of the district shall be granted to Governing Board members on the same basis as any other member of the public. When Board members are authorized to access public records in the administration of their duties, the Superintendent or designee shall not discriminate among any of the Board members as to which record, or portion of the record, will be made available, or when it will be made available. (Government Code 6252.5, 6252.7)

Note: Government Code 6254.29 specifies that the CPRA does not require a district to disclose an employee's social security number and states the Legislature's intent that districts redact social security numbers from any records being disclosed to the public. In addition, Government Code 6254.3 prohibits disclosure of an employee's personal cell phone number and birth date.

When disclosing to a member of the public any record that contains personal information, including, but not limited to, an employee's home address, home telephone number, social security number, personal cell phone number, or birth date, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that such personal information is redacted from that record. (Government Code 6254.29, 6254.3)

Confidential Public Records

Note: Pursuant to Government Code 8310.3, districts are prohibited from collecting or disclosing to federal government authorities any personal information regarding an individual's religious beliefs, practices, or affiliation for the purpose of compiling a list, registry, or database of individuals based on religious affiliation, national origin, or ethnicity.

In addition, Education Code 234.7 prohibits the collection of information or documents regarding the citizenship or immigration status of students or their family members. If the district becomes aware of the citizenship or immigration status of any student, it is prohibited from disclosing that information to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), as such disclosure is not among the limited exceptions specified in law for which student records may be released without parental consent or a lawful judicial order. An ICE "administrative warrant" is not a court order that would allow a district to disclose student records without parent/guardian consent. See BP/AR 5125 - Student Records, BP/AR 5145.13 - Response to Immigration Enforcement, and the Office of the Attorney General's publication Promoting a Safe and Secure Learning Environment for All: Guidance and Model Policies to Assist California's K-12 Schools in Responding to Immigration Issues.

Unless otherwise authorized or required by law, information regarding an individual's citizenship or immigration status or religious beliefs, practices, or affiliation shall not be disclosed to federal government authorities. (Education Code 234.7; Government Code 8310.3)

(cf. 5145.13 - Response to Immigration Enforcement)

ACCESS TO DISTRICT RECORDS (continued)

Records to which the members of the public shall not have access include, but are not limited to:

1. Preliminary drafts, notes, and interagency or intradistrict memoranda that are not retained by the district in the ordinary course of business, provided that the public interest in withholding these records clearly outweighs the public interest in disclosure (Government Code 6254)

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)

(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)

2. Records specifically generated in connection with or prepared for use in litigation to which the district is a party or to respond to claims made against the district pursuant to the Tort Claims Act, until the litigation or claim has been finally adjudicated or otherwise settled, or beyond, if the records are protected by some other provision of law (Government Code 6254, 6254.25)
3. Personnel records, medical records, or similar materials, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy (Government Code 6254)

(cf. 4112.5/4212.5/4312.5) - Criminal Record Check)

(cf. 4112.6/4212.6/4312.6 - Personnel Files)

The home addresses, home telephone numbers, personal cell phone numbers, or birth date of employees may only be disclosed as follows: (Government Code 6254.3)

- a. To an agent or a family member of the employee
- b. To an officer or employee of a state agency or another school district or county office of education when necessary for the performance of official duties
- c. To an employee organization pursuant to regulations and decisions of the Public Employment Relations Board, except that the home address and any telephone number for an employee who performs law enforcement-related functions, or the birth date of any employee, shall not be disclosed

Upon written request of any employee, the district shall not disclose the employee's home address, home telephone number, personal cell phone number, or birth date, and the district shall remove this information from any mailing list of the district except a list used exclusively to contact the employee.

(cf. 4140/4240/4340 - Bargaining Units)

ACCESS TO DISTRICT RECORDS (continued)

- d. To an agent or employee of a health benefit plan providing health services or administering claims for health services to district employees and their enrolled dependents, for the purpose of providing the health services or administering claims for employees and their enrolled dependents

(cf. 4154/4254/4354 - Health and Welfare Benefits)

4. Student records, except directory information and other records to the extent permitted under the law, when disclosure is authorized by law

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)

(cf. 5125.3 - Challenging Student Records)

5. Test questions, scoring keys, and other examination data except as provided by law (Government Code 6254)

(cf. 6162.51 - State Academic Achievement Tests)

6. Without affecting the law of eminent domain, the contents of real estate appraisals or engineering or feasibility estimates and evaluations made for or by the district relative to the acquisition of property, or to prospective public supply and construction contracts, until all of the property has been acquired or all of the contract agreement obtained (Government Code 6254)

7. Information required from any taxpayer in connection with the collection of local taxes that is received in confidence and the disclosure of the information to other persons would result in an unfair competitive disadvantage to the person supplying the information (Government Code 6254)

8. Library circulation and patron use records of a borrower or patron including, but not limited to, name, address, telephone number, email address, borrowing information, or use of library information resources, except when disclosure is to persons acting within the scope of their duties in the administration of the library, to persons authorized in writing by the individual to whom the records pertain, or by court order (Government Code 6254, 6267)

(cf. 6163.1 - Library Media Centers)

Note: The following exemption protects attorney-client privileged communications and attorney work product, as well as other work product prepared for use in pending litigation or claims. Pursuant to the Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of California, when an attorney has been hired to represent the district as a whole, this privilege may only be waived by the Board.

In Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors v. Superior Court, the California Supreme Court held that invoices for the services of district counsel, or portions of those invoices, may be privileged and therefore exempt from disclosure. The Board should consult with legal counsel to determine what records to disclose in response to a CPRA request for such invoices.

ACCESS TO DISTRICT RECORDS (continued)

9. Records for which the disclosure is exempted or prohibited pursuant to state or federal law, including, but not limited to, provisions of the Evidence Code relating to privilege (Government Code 6254)

(cf. 9124 - Attorney)

10. Documents prepared by or for the district to assess its vulnerability to terrorist attack or other criminal acts intended to disrupt district operations and that are for distribution or consideration in closed session (Government Code 6254)

11. Recall petitions, petitions for special elections to fill Board vacancies, or petitions for the reorganization of the school district (Government Code 6253.5)

(cf. 9223 - Filling Vacancies)

12. Minutes of Board meetings held in closed session (Government Code 54957.2)

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

13. Computer software developed by the district (Government Code 6254.9)

14. Information security records, the disclosure of which would reveal vulnerabilities to, or otherwise increase potential for an attack on, the district's information technology system (Government Code 6254.19)

15. Records that contain individually identifiable health information, including records that may be exempt pursuant to physician-patient privilege, the Confidentiality of Medical Information Act, and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (Government Code 6254, 6255)

(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)

16. Any other records listed as exempt from public disclosure in the California Public Records Act or other statutes

<p>Note: Item #17 below reflects an exemption often referred to as the "catch-all" or "public interest" exemption pursuant to Government Code 6255. This exemption allows a district to withhold a record based on analysis of the specific facts of the situation and in light of the competing public interests. This exemption also includes the "deliberative process privilege" which is designed to protect a district's decision-making process in order to encourage candid discussions within the district. Legal counsel should be consulted to determine whether a request for a record falls under this exemption.</p>
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ACCESS TO DISTRICT RECORDS (continued)

17. Any other records for which the district can demonstrate that, based on the particular facts of the case, the public interest served by not disclosing the record clearly outweighs the public interest served by disclosure of the record (Government Code 6255)

Inspection of Records and Requests for Copies

Note: Court decisions have held that a public record request may be made orally, by phone, or in writing, including by email, fax, or hand delivery. The district may ask, but not require, that the person put an oral request in writing.

Any person may request a copy or inspection of any district record that is open to the public and not exempt from disclosure. (Government Code 6253)

Within 10 days of receiving any request to inspect or copy a district record, the Superintendent or designee shall determine whether the request seeks release of a disclosable public record in the district's possession. The Superintendent or designee shall promptly inform the person making the request of the determination and the reasons for the decision. (Government Code 6253)

In unusual circumstances, the Superintendent or designee may extend the 10-day limit for up to 14 days by providing written notice to the requester and setting forth the reasons for the extension and the date on which a determination is expected to be made. Unusual circumstances include the following, but only to the extent reasonably necessary to properly process the request: (Government Code 6253)

1. The need to search for and collect the requested records from field facilities or other establishments that are separate from the office processing the request
2. The need to search for, collect, and appropriately examine a voluminous amount of separate and distinct records which are demanded in a single request
3. The need for consultation, which shall be conducted with all practicable speed, with another agency (e.g., a state agency or city) having a substantial interest in the determination of the request or among two or more components of the district (e.g., two different school sites) with substantial interest in the request
4. In the case of electronic records, the need to compile data, write programming language or a computer program, or construct a computer report to extract data

If the Superintendent or designee determines that the request seeks disclosable public records, the determination shall state the estimated date and time when the records will be made available. (Government Code 6253)

ACCESS TO DISTRICT RECORDS (continued)

Public records shall be open to inspection at all times during district office hours. Any reasonably segregable portion of a record shall be made available for inspection by any person requesting the record after deletion of the portions that are exempted by law. (Government Code 6253)

Note: Government Code 6253 states that copies of records must be provided "promptly." The term "promptly" is not defined in law, but Government Code 6253 also states that a district may not delay or obstruct the copying of records. Thus, if the records are held in a manner that allows for prompt disclosure, the records generally should not be withheld because of the 10-day response period or the 14-day extension detailed above.

Upon request for a copy that reasonably describes an identifiable record, an exact copy shall be promptly provided unless it is impracticable to do so. (Government Code 6253)

Note: The following **optional** paragraph is for use by districts that charge for copies. See the accompanying Board policy.

The Superintendent or designee shall charge an amount for copies that reflects the direct costs of duplication. Written requests to waive the fee shall be submitted to the Superintendent or designee.

In addition to maintaining public records for public inspection during district office hours, the district may comply with public records requests by posting any public record on the district's web site and, in response to a public records request, directing the member of the public to the location on the web site where the record can be found. However, if the member of the public is unable to access or reproduce the record from the web site, the district shall promptly provide an exact copy of the public record upon payment of duplication fees, if applicable, unless it is impracticable to provide an exact copy. (Government Code 6253)

If any person requests that a public record be provided in an electronic format, the district shall make that record available in any electronic format in which it holds the information. The district shall provide a copy of the electronic record in the format requested as long as the requested format is one that has been used by the district to create copies for its own use or for use by other agencies. (Government Code 6253.9)

The cost of duplicating an electronic record shall be limited to the direct cost of producing a copy of the record in electronic format. However, the requester shall bear the cost of producing the copy of the electronic record, including the cost to construct the record and the cost of programming and computer services necessary to produce the copy, under the following circumstances: (Government Code 6253.9)

1. The electronic record is one that is produced only at otherwise regularly scheduled intervals.

ACCESS TO DISTRICT RECORDS (continued)

2. The request would require data compilation, extraction, or programming to produce the record.

Assistance in Identifying Requested Records

Note: Government Code 6253.1 requires the district to assist a person requesting to inspect or obtain a copy of a public record as specified below. This assistance is not required if the district grants the request and the records are made available or if the request is denied on the grounds that the records are confidential.

If the Superintendent or designee denies a request for disclosable records, the requester shall be assisted in making a focused and effective request that reasonably describes an identifiable record. To the extent reasonable under the circumstances, the Superintendent or designee shall do all of the following: (Government Code 6253.1)

1. Assist in identifying records and information responsive to the request or the purpose of the request, if specified

If, after making a reasonable effort to elicit additional clarifying information from the requester to help identify the record, the Superintendent or designee is still unable to identify the information, this requirement shall be deemed satisfied.

2. Describe the information technology and physical location in which the records exist
3. Provide suggestions for overcoming any practical basis for denying access to the records or information sought

Provisions of the Public Records Act shall not be construed so as to delay or obstruct the inspection or copying of public records. Any notification denying a request for public records shall state the name and title of each person responsible for the denial. (Government Code 6253)

(11/11 12/16) 3/19

CSBA Sample

Board Policy

Business and Noninstructional Operations

BP 3100(a)

BUDGET

The Governing Board recognizes its critical responsibility for adopting a sound budget each fiscal year which is aligned with and reflects the district's vision, goals, priorities, local control and accountability plan (LCAP), and other comprehensive plans. The district budget shall guide decisions and actions throughout the year and shall serve as a tool for monitoring the fiscal health of the district.

(cf. 0000 - Vision)

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)

(cf. 0400 - Comprehensive Plans)

(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)

(cf. 3300 - Expenditures and Purchases)

(cf. 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability)

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

The district budget shall show a complete plan and itemized statement of all proposed expenditures and all estimated revenues for the following fiscal year, together with a comparison of revenues and expenditures for the current fiscal year. The budget shall also include the appropriations limit and the total annual appropriations subject to limitation as determined pursuant to Government Code 7900-7914. (Education Code 42122)

Budget Development and Adoption Process

In order to provide guidance in the development of the budget, the Board shall annually establish budget priorities based on identified district needs and goals and on realistic projections of available funds.

The Superintendent or designee shall oversee the preparation of a proposed district budget for approval by the Board and shall involve appropriate staff in the development of budget projections.

Note: Education Code 42103 and 42127 require the district to hold a public hearing prior to adoption of the budget. A public hearing on the district's local control and accountability plan (LCAP) must occur at the same meeting as the public hearing on the proposed budget. See the accompanying administrative regulation and BP 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan for requirements pertaining to the public hearing.

Pursuant to Education Code 52064.1, as added by AB 1808 (Ch. 32, Statutes of 2018), districts are required, by July 1, 2019, to develop a local control funding formula (LCFF) budget overview for parents/guardians with specified information, based on a template created by the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI). The budget overview must be developed in conjunction with, and attached as a cover to, the LCAP and annual update to the LCAP. The adoption, review, approval, and posting of the budget overview are subject to the same requirements as for the LCAP, including the requirement for a public hearing.

BUDGET (continued)

The Board shall hold a public hearing on the proposed budget in accordance with Education Code 42103 and 42127. The hearing shall occur at the same meeting as the public hearing on the district's LCAP and the local control funding formula (LCFF) budget overview for parents/guardians. (Education Code 42103, 42127, 52062, 52064.1)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

The Board shall adopt the district budget at a public meeting held after the date of the public hearing but on or before July 1 of each year. The Board shall adopt the budget following its adoption of the LCAP, or annual update to the LCAP, and the LCFF budget overview for parents/guardians. The budget shall include the expenditures necessary to implement the LCAP or the annual update to the LCAP. (Education Code 42127, 52062)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 42126, the district budget must be in a format prescribed by the SPI. The SPI has established a requirement that districts use the Standardized Account Code Structure (SACS). SACS ensures that districts meet state and federal reporting guidelines and comply with generally accepted accounting principles prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). The California Department of Education's (CDE) California School Accounting Manual provides guidance regarding coding of revenues and expenditures.

The budget that is presented at the public hearing as well as the budget formally adopted by the Board shall adhere to the state's Standardized Account Code Structure as prescribed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI). (Education Code 42126, 42127)

The Superintendent or designee may supplement this format with additional information as necessary to effectively communicate the budget to the Board, staff, and public.

Note: Education Code 42127 requires the district to file the adopted budget with the County Superintendent of Schools as described below. If the district fails to submit a budget by July 1, the County Superintendent will, at district expense, develop a budget by September 15 and transmit that budget to the Board.

No later than five days after the Board adopts the district budget or by July 1, whichever occurs first, the Board shall file the adopted district budget with the County Superintendent of Schools. The budget and supporting data shall be maintained and made available for public review. (Education Code 42127)

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 42127, on or before September 15, the County Superintendent must approve, conditionally approve, or disapprove the district's adopted budget. Education Code 42127 requires that this determination be based on a consideration of whether the district's adopted budget complies with state standards and criteria, will allow the district to meet its current and multiyear financial obligations, includes the expenditures necessary to implement the LCAP or annual update to the LCAP, satisfies all

BUDGET (continued)

conditions established by the County Superintendent in the case of a conditionally approved budget, and complies with the requirements pertaining to ending fund balances that exceed the state minimum recommended reserve.

Education Code 42127 also requires the County Superintendent to consider other studies, reports, evaluations, or audits that may indicate that the district is in fiscal distress; see the Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team's Fiscal Oversight Guide and BP 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability.

If the County Superintendent disapproves or conditionally approves the district's budget, the Board shall review and respond to the County Superintendent's recommendations at a regular public meeting on or before October 8. The response shall include any revisions to the adopted budget and any other proposed actions to be taken as a result of those recommendations. (Education Code 42127)

Budget Advisory Committee

Note: The following **optional** section is for use by districts that choose to establish a budget advisory committee to provide input during the budget development process. The committee may be appointed by the Superintendent or designee (Option 1), by the Board (Option 2), or may be a Board subcommittee composed exclusively of Board members (Option 3). Committees established by Board action are subject to the Brown Act; see BP/AR 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees. Districts should delete or modify the following options as appropriate. See the accompanying administrative regulation for optional language regarding the committee's composition and duties.

This committee is different from the budget review committee that is required pursuant to Education Code 42127 and 42127.1 if the County Superintendent disapproves the district's budget; see the accompanying administrative regulation.

OPTION 1: The Superintendent or designee may appoint a budget advisory committee composed of staff, Board representatives, and/or members of the community.

OPTION 2: The Board may appoint a budget advisory committee composed of staff, Board representatives, and/or members of the community.

OPTION 3: The Board may establish a budget subcommittee composed exclusively of Board members.

Note: The following paragraph is for use by districts that selected either Option 1, 2, or 3 above.

The committee shall submit recommendations during the budget development process and its duties shall be assigned each year based on district needs. All recommendations of the committee shall be advisory only and shall not be binding on the Board.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

(cf. 2230 - Representative and Deliberative Groups)

BUDGET (continued)

(cf. 3350 - Travel Expenses)

(cf. 9130 - Board Committees)

(cf. 9140 - Board Representatives)

Budget Criteria and Standards

The district budget shall be developed in accordance with state criteria and standards specified in 5 CCR 15440-15450 as they relate to projections of average daily attendance (ADA), enrollment, ratio of ADA to enrollment, LCFF revenue, salaries and benefits, other revenues and expenditures, facilities maintenance, deficit spending, fund balance, and reserves. In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall provide the supplemental information specified in 5 CCR 15451 which addresses the methodology and budget assumptions used, contingent liabilities, use of one-time revenues for ongoing expenditures, use of ongoing revenues for one-time expenditures, contingent revenues, contributions, long-term commitments, unfunded liabilities, status of collective bargaining agreements, the LCAP, and LCAP expenditures. (Education Code 33128, 33129, 42127.01; 5 CCR 15440-15451)

Note: The following paragraph is for use by districts that receive supplemental and concentration funding within the LCFF based on the number and concentration of "unduplicated students" (i.e., students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, English learners, and foster youth) pursuant to Education Code 42238.02 and 42238.03. 5 CCR 15496 addresses the method of determining the percentage by which services for unduplicated students must be increased or improved above services provided to all students in the fiscal year. Pursuant to 5 CCR 15496, the district's LCAP must include evidence demonstrating how LCFF funding apportioned on the basis of unduplicated students is used to support such students; see AR 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan.

The district budget shall provide for increased or improved services for unduplicated students at least in proportion to the increase in funds apportioned on the basis of the number and concentration of unduplicated students in accordance with 5 CCR 15496. *Unduplicated students* are students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, English learners, and/or foster youth. (Education Code 42238.07; 5 CCR 15496)

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

(cf. 6174 - Education for English Learners)

The Board may establish other budget assumptions or parameters which may take into consideration the stability of funding sources, legal requirements and constraints on the use of funds, anticipated increases and/or decreases in the cost of services and supplies, program requirements, and any other factors necessary to ensure that the budget is a realistic plan for district revenues and expenditures.

(cf. 2210 - Administrative Discretion Regarding Board Policy)

(cf. 3110 - Transfer of Funds)

BUDGET (continued)**Fund Balance**

Note: The following section should be revised to reflect district practice. GASB Statement 54 addresses the way fund balances (i.e., the gross differences between assets and liabilities reflected on the balance sheet) in governmental funds are reported in external financial reports. Fund balances must be classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned in accordance with GASB 54 definitions; also see AR 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability. Pursuant to GASB 54, the Board has sole authority to specify purposes of funds classified as "committed" and also must express, or delegate the authority to express, intended purposes of resources that result in the "assigned" fund balance. The Board may modify the following section to reflect its fund balance policy or may adopt a formal resolution containing the required components.

The district shall classify fund balances in compliance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 54, as follows:

1. *Nonspendable fund balance* includes amounts that are not expected to be converted to cash, such as resources that are not in a spendable form (e.g., inventories and prepaids) or that are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.
2. *Restricted fund balance* includes amounts constrained to specific purposes by their providers or by law.

Note: For purposes of the committed fund balance, GASB 54 requires that the Board commit funds no later than the end of the reporting period. In New Requirements for Reporting Fund Balance in Governmental Funds, the CDE clarifies that for districts the end of the reporting period is June 30.

3. *Committed fund balance* includes amounts constrained to specific purposes by the Board.

For this purpose, all commitments of funds shall be approved by a majority vote of the Board. The constraints shall be imposed no later than the end of the reporting period (June 30), although the actual amounts may be determined subsequent to that date but prior to the issuance of the financial statements.

4. *Assigned fund balance* includes amounts which are intended for a specific purpose but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed.

The Board delegates authority to assign funds to the assigned fund balance to the Superintendent and authorizes the assignment of such funds to be made any time prior to the issuance of the financial statements. The Superintendent shall have discretion to further delegate the authority to assign funds.

5. *Unassigned fund balance* includes amounts that are available for any purpose.

BUDGET (continued)

When multiple types of funds are available for an expenditure, the district shall first utilize funds from the restricted fund balance as appropriate, then from the committed fund balance, then from the assigned fund balance, and lastly from the unassigned fund balance.

Note: Although not required by GASB 54, the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) recommends that public agencies adopt a minimum fund balance policy that establishes an appropriate level of unrestricted fund balance that will be maintained in the general fund. The GFOA's Best Practice: Fund Balance Guidelines for the General Fund describes a variety of factors that should be considered when developing a minimum fund balance policy, such as the predictability of its revenue and volatility of its expenditures, perceived exposure to significant one-time outlays, potential drain upon the general fund from other funds as well as the availability of resources in other funds, potential impact on bond ratings and the corresponding increased cost of borrowed funds, and portion of unrestricted fund balance already committed or assigned for a specific purpose.

The Board intends to maintain a minimum assigned and unassigned fund balance in an amount the Board deems sufficient to maintain fiscal solvency and stability and to protect the district against unforeseen circumstances.

Note: The GFOA recommends that the minimum fund policy address both the circumstances under which the unrestricted fund balance can be spent down and the procedure for replenishing deficiencies. The district may revise the following **optional** paragraph to specify the rate at which the district will attempt to recover the fund balance (e.g., the Board shall develop a plan to recover the fund balance at a rate of at least one percent each year).

If the assigned and unassigned fund balance falls below the level set by the Board due to an emergency situation, unexpected expenditures, or revenue shortfalls, the Board shall develop a plan to recover the fund balance which may include dedicating new unrestricted revenues, reducing expenditures, and/or increasing revenues or pursuing other funding sources.

Reserve Balance

Note: 5 CCR 15450 establishes a minimum local reserve balance for economic uncertainties based on the district's average daily attendance (ADA). The minimum reserve balance is the greater of five percent or \$55,000 for districts with 0-300 ADA; the greater of four percent or \$55,000 for districts with 301-1,000 ADA; three percent for districts with 1,001-30,000 ADA; two percent for districts with 30,001-400,000 ADA; and one percent for districts with over 400,000 ADA. The following paragraph may be revised to reflect the minimum reserve applicable to the district's ADA.

The district budget shall include a minimum reserve balance for economic uncertainties that is consistent with the percentage or amount specified in 5 CCR 15450.

Note: Education Code 42127.01 establishes, under certain conditions, a maximum amount of local reserve balance for economic uncertainties. Pursuant to Education Code 42127.01, if the amount of monies in the state Public School System Stabilization Account is three percent or more of the combined total of general fund revenues appropriated for school districts and allocated local proceeds of taxes, the district's combined assigned or unassigned ending general fund balance must not exceed 10 percent of those funds in the immediately following fiscal year.

BUDGET (continued)

Basic aid districts, as described in Education Code 42238.02, and districts with 2,500 or less ADA are exempted from this requirement and may delete the following paragraph. Other districts may also be exempted from this requirement by the County Superintendent for up to two consecutive fiscal years within a three-year period upon providing documentation of extraordinary fiscal circumstances (e.g., multiyear infrastructure or technology projects) that substantiate the need for a reserve in excess of the limit specified in Education Code 42127.01.

In any year following the fiscal year in which the district is notified by the SPI that the amount of monies in the state Public School System Stabilization Account equals or exceeds three percent of the combined total of general fund revenues appropriated for school districts and allocated local proceeds of taxes, the district budget shall not contain a combined assigned or unassigned ending general fund balance that is in excess of 10 percent of these funds, unless the requirement is waived in accordance with Education Code 42127.01. (Education Code 42127.01)

Long-Term Financial Obligations

The district's current-year budget and multiyear projections shall include adequate provisions for addressing the district's long-term financial obligations, including, but not limited to, long-term obligations resulting from collective bargaining agreements, financing of facilities projects, unfunded or future liability for retiree benefits, and accrued workers' compensation claims.

(cf. 4141/4241 - Collective Bargaining Agreement)

(cf. 4154/4254/4354 - Health and Welfare Benefits)

(cf. 7210 - Facilities Financing)

(cf. 9250 - Remuneration, Reimbursement and Other Benefits)

Note: The following paragraph is **optional**. Government Code 21710-21716, as added by SB 1413 (Ch. 665, Statutes of 2018), establish the California Employers' Pension Prefunding Trust Program and related Trust Fund, allowing districts that provide a defined benefit pension plan to their employees to prefund required pension contributions to the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS). Districts may elect to participate in the Prefunding Trust Program for the purpose of investing payments toward their required CalPERS pension contributions.

The Board may approve a plan for meeting the district's long-term obligations to fund contributions to the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) which, to the extent possible, minimizes significant increases in annual general fund expenditures towards pension obligations. The plan may include prefunding required pension contributions through the California Employers' Pension Prefunding Trust Program pursuant to Government Code 21710-21716.

Note: The following two **optional** paragraphs are for use by districts that provide "other postemployment benefits" (OPEBs) (i.e., medical, dental, vision, hearing, life insurance, long-term care, long-term disability, and other nonpension benefits to retired employees or Board members) and should be revised to reflect

BUDGET (continued)

district practice; see BP/AR 4154/4254/4354 - Health and Welfare Benefits and BB 9250 - Remuneration, Reimbursement and Other Benefits. CSBA recommends that districts adopt a specific funding strategy for addressing their OPEB obligations. The district may pay the premiums as they fall due ("pay-as-you-go"), but in such a case the district would then accrue a deficit with respect to future retirees which can be expected to grow as a result of an increasing retiree population and increases in benefit costs. Therefore, it is recommended that the district prefund the debt to the extent possible using a method and level to be determined by the Board. For example, the district may contribute a set amount or percentage of the actuarially determined "annual required contributions" to an irrevocable trust or designated fund each year.

GASB Statement 75 requires districts that do not provide OPEB through a trust to report the total unfunded liability (i.e., OPEBs that are not prefunded) in the district's financial statements; see AR 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability.

CSBA's OPEB Solutions Program provides access to a trusted source of analysis and a GASB 75-compliant trust to prefund future obligations. See CSBA's web site for further information.

The Board shall approve a plan for meeting the district's long-term obligations to fund nonpension, other postemployment benefits (OPEBs). This plan shall include a specific funding strategy and the method that will be used to finance the district's annual fiscal obligations for such benefits in a manner that continually reduces the deficit to the district to the extent possible. The Board reserves the authority to review and amend the funding strategy as necessary to ensure that it continues to serve the best interests of the district and maintains flexibility to adjust for changing budgetary considerations.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually present a report to the Board on the estimated accrued but unfunded cost of OPEBs. As a separate agenda item at the same meeting, the Board shall disclose whether or not it will reserve a sufficient amount of money in its budget to fund the present value of the benefits of existing retirees and/or the future cost of employees who are eligible for benefits in the current fiscal year. (Education Code 42140)

Note: The following **optional** paragraph is for use by districts that are self-insured for workers' compensation claims, either individually or as part of a joint powers agency. See AR 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability for provisions related to reporting the estimated accrued but unfunded cost of workers' compensation claims based on an actuarial report.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually present a report to the Board on the estimated accrued but unfunded cost of workers' compensation claims and the actuarial reports upon which the estimated costs are based. As a separate agenda item at the same meeting, the Board shall disclose whether it will reserve in the budget sufficient amounts to fund the present value of accrued but unfunded workers' compensation claims or if it is otherwise decreasing the amount in its workers' compensation reserve fund. The Board shall annually certify to the County Superintendent the amount, if any, that it has decided to reserve in the budget for these costs. The Board shall submit to the County Superintendent any budget revisions that may be necessary to account for this budget reserve. (Education Code 42141)

BUDGET (continued)**Budget Amendments**

Note: The following section is **optional** and should be revised to reflect district practice.

No later than 45 days after the Governor signs the annual Budget Act, the Superintendent or designee shall make available for public review any revisions in budgeted revenues and expenditures which occur as a result of the funding made available by that Budget Act. (Education Code 42127)

Whenever revenues and expenditures change significantly throughout the year, the Superintendent or designee shall recommend budget amendments to ensure accurate projections of the district's net ending balance. When final figures for the prior-year budget are available, this information shall be used as soon as possible to update the current-year budget's beginning balance and projected revenues and expenditures.

In addition, budget amendments shall be submitted for Board approval as necessary when collective bargaining agreements are accepted, district income declines, increased revenues or unanticipated savings are made available to the district, program proposals are significantly different from those approved during budget adoption, interfund transfers are needed to meet actual program expenditures, and/or other significant changes occur that impact budget projections.

*Legal Reference:***EDUCATION CODE**

1240 Duties of county superintendent of schools

33127-33131 Standards and criteria for local budgets and expenditures

41202 Determination of minimum level of education funding

42103 Public hearing on proposed budget; requirements for content of proposed budget

42122-42129 Budget requirements

42130-42134 Financial certifications

42140-42142 Disclosure of fiscal obligations

42238-42251 Apportionments to districts, especially:

42238.01-42238.07 Local control funding formula

42602 Use of unbudgeted funds

42610 Appropriation of excess funds and limitation thereon

45253 Annual budget of personnel commission

45254 First year budget of personnel commission

52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan

GOVERNMENT CODE

7900-7914 Appropriations limit

21710-21716 California Employer's Pension Prefunding Trust Program

Legal Reference continued: (see next page)

BUDGET (continued)

Legal Reference: (continued)

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

15060 Standardized account code structure

15440-15451 Criteria and standards for school district budgets

15494-15497 Local control funding formula, supplemental and concentration grant expenditures

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

California School Accounting Manual

New Requirements for Reporting Fund Balance in Governmental Funds, January 7, 2011

FISCAL CRISIS AND MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE TEAM PUBLICATIONS

Fiscal Oversight Guide for AB 1200, AB 2756 and Subsequent Related Legislation, December 2015

GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

Best Practice: Fund Balance Guidelines for the General Fund, September 2015

GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD STATEMENTS

Statement 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Post-employment Benefits Other Than Pensions, June 2015

Statement 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions, February 2009

WEB SITES

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

Association of California School Administrators: <http://www.acsa.org>

California Department of Education, Finance and Grants: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg>

California Department of Finance: <http://www.dof.ca.gov>

Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team: <http://www.fcmat.org>

Government Finance Officers Association: <http://www.gfoa.org>

Governmental Accounting Standards Board: <http://www.gasb.org>

School Services of California, Inc.: <http://www.sscal.com>

CSBA Sample

Administrative Regulation

Business and Noninstructional Operations

AR 3100(a)

BUDGET

Budget Advisory Committee

Note: The following **optional** section is for use by districts that have established a budget advisory committee and have selected either Option 1 or 2 in the "Budget Advisory Committee" section of the accompanying Board policy.

Membership of the district's budget advisory committee may include representatives of each of the following groups:

1. Governing Board members, provided that less than a majority of the Board serves on the committee

(cf. 9140 - Board Representatives)

2. District and school site administrators
3. Representatives of bargaining units
4. Certificated and/or classified staff
5. Parents/guardians
6. Representatives of the business community and/or other community members
7. Students

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

(cf. 2230 - Representative and Deliberative Groups)

(cf. 9130 - Board Committees)

Note: The remainder of this section details the duties of the budget advisory committee and is for use by districts that selected either Option 1, 2, or 3 in the "Budget Advisory Committee" section of the accompanying Board policy.

The committee's duties may include, but are not necessarily limited to:

1. Making recommendations regarding budget priorities which align with the district's vision, goals, priorities, local control and accountability plan (LCAP), and other comprehensive plans

BUDGET (continued)

2. Recommending cost reduction strategies, such as identifying services that may be reduced, made more efficient, or discontinued
3. Reviewing the clarity and effectiveness of budget documents and communications
4. Presenting progress reports on the committee's work and a final report of recommendations to the Superintendent or designee and to the Board

The specific duties of the committee shall be clearly defined and presented to each member in writing, along with any background information necessary for the successful completion of the committee's charges, the timelines for reporting the committee's progress, and timelines for completion of each task.

(cf. 3350 - Travel Expenses)

Public Hearing

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 52062, the public hearing on the budget must be at the same meeting as the public hearing on the local control and accountability plan (LCAP). In addition, pursuant to Education Code 52064.1, as added by AB 1808 (Ch. 32, Statutes of 2018), districts are required to develop a local control funding formula budget overview for parents/guardians through a process that meets the requirements of Education Code 52062, including the requirement for a public hearing. See the accompanying Board policy and BP 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan.

The agenda for the public hearing on the district budget shall be posted at least 72 hours before the hearing and shall indicate the location where the budget may be inspected. The proposed budget shall be available for public inspection at least three working days before this hearing. (Education Code 42103, 42127, 52062)

(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

The Superintendent or designee shall notify the County Superintendent of Schools of the location and dates at which the proposed budget may be inspected, as well as the location, date, and time of the public hearing, in sufficient time for the County Superintendent to publish such information in a newspaper of general circulation at least 10 days but not more than 45 days before the hearing, as required by Education Code 42103.

Whenever the proposed district budget includes a combined assigned and unassigned ending fund balance that exceeds the minimum recommended reserve for economic uncertainties adopted by the State Board of Education, the district shall provide, for each fiscal year included in the budget, the following information for public review and discussion at the public hearing: (Education Code 42127; 5 CCR 15450)

BUDGET (continued)

1. The minimum recommended reserve for economic uncertainties
2. The combined assigned and unassigned ending fund balances that are in excess of the minimum recommended reserve
3. A statement of reasons substantiating the need for the combined assigned and unassigned ending balances that are in excess of the minimum recommended reserve

During the hearing, any district resident may appear and object to the proposed budget or to any item in the budget. The hearing may conclude when all residents who have requested to be heard have had the opportunity to speak. (Education Code 42103)

(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

Budget Review Committee for Disapproved Budgets

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 42127, if the County Superintendent conditionally approves or disapproves the district's initial budget, the district must respond to the County Superintendent's recommendations by October 8; see the accompanying Board policy. If the County Superintendent then disapproves that revised budget, Education Code 42127 and 42127.1 require the County Superintendent to call for the formation of a budget review committee unless the Governing Board and the County Superintendent agree to waive the committee requirement and the California Department of Education agrees to the waiver. See BP 1431 - Waivers. The formation, convening procedures, and timelines of the budget review committee are set forth in Education Code 42127.1-42127.3.

Education Code 42127 provides that the County Superintendent cannot call for the formation of a budget review committee if the sole reason for disapproving the district's budget is disapproval of the district's LCAP or the annual update to the LCAP.

If the district's budget is disapproved by the County Superintendent for any reason other than disapproval of the district's LCAP or annual update to the LCAP, the budget shall be reviewed by a budget review committee, unless the Board and County Superintendent agree to waive the requirement and the California Department of Education accepts the waiver. (Education Code 42127)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 42127.2, if the Board fails to select the budget review committee from a list of candidates provided by the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) within five working days of receiving the list, as provided in item #1 below, the SPI will select and convene the committee no later than 10 working days after the district's receipt of the candidate list.

This committee shall consist of either: (Education Code 42127.1, 42127.2)

1. Three persons selected by the Board from a list of candidates provided by the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI), who shall be selected within five working days after receiving the list of candidates

BUDGET (continued)

2. A regional review committee selected and convened by the County Superintendent with the approval of the Board and SPI

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 42127.2, the budget review committee is required to submit, by November 30, its recommendation as to whether the district's budget should be approved or disapproved and, if the recommendation is for disapproval, its recommended revisions to the budget. The SPI may extend this deadline for up to 15 working days.

If the budget review committee recommends disapproval of the district budget, the Board may submit a response to the SPI no later than five working days after receipt of the committee's report. The response may include any revisions to the adopted final budget and any other proposed actions to be taken as a result of the committee's recommendations. (Education Code 42127.3)

If the SPI disapproves the district budget after reviewing the committee's report and the district's response, the Board shall consult with the County Superintendent to develop and adopt, by December 31, a fiscal plan and budget that will allow the district to meet its current fiscal year and multiyear financial obligations. For the current fiscal year, the district shall operate in accordance with the budget adopted by the County Superintendent. (Education Code 42127.3)

Until the district receives approval of its budget, it shall continue to operate either on the basis of the prior year's budget or on the basis of the current year's unapproved budget as adopted and revised by the Board, whichever budget contains a lower total spending authority. (Education Code 42127.4)

(12/14 10/15) 3/19

CSBA Sample

Board Policy

Business and Noninstructional Operations

BP 3260(a)

FEES AND CHARGES

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 49011, a district is prohibited from requiring students to pay a fee, deposit, or other charge in order to participate in an educational activity as defined in Education Code 49010. A district is also required to provide the supplies, materials, and equipment needed by students to participate in educational activities. Education Code 49011 clarifies that an otherwise impermissible fee would not be made permissible by the provision of a waiver for some students. However, pursuant to 5 CCR 350, a district is permitted, in certain circumstances, to impose fees that are specifically authorized by law. See the accompanying administrative regulation for a list of permissible fees.

The Governing Board recognizes its responsibility to ensure that books, materials, equipment, supplies, and other resources necessary for student participation in the district's educational program are made available to students at no cost.

No student shall be required to pay a fee, deposit, or other charge for participation in an educational activity which constitutes an integral fundamental part of the district's educational program, including curricular and extracurricular activities. (Education Code 49010, 49011; 5 CCR 350)

(cf. 3100 - Budget)

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

As necessary, the Board may approve fees, deposits, and other charges which are specifically authorized by law. When approving such fees, deposits, or charges, establishing fee schedules, or determining whether waivers or exceptions should be granted, the Board shall consider relevant data, including the socioeconomic conditions of students' families and their ability to pay.

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

(cf. 0415 - Equity)

(cf. 3250 - Transportation Fees)

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

(cf. 5143 - Insurance)

(cf. 9323.2 - Actions by the Board)

Note: The following **optional** paragraph may be revised to reflect district practice. The prohibition against student fees pursuant to Education Code 49011 does not restrict districts from soliciting for voluntary donations, participating in fundraising activities, or providing prizes or other recognition for participants in such fundraising activities. However, according to the California Department of Education's (CDE) Fiscal Management Advisory 17-01, Pupil Fees, Deposits, and Other Charges, the prohibition against student fees does bar a district from requiring volunteer hours as a condition of admission, enrollment, continued enrollment, sibling preference, attendance, participation in educational activities, or receipt of credit or privileges related to educational activities.

FEES AND CHARGES (continued)

The prohibition against student fees shall not prevent the district from soliciting for donations, conducting fundraising activities, or providing prizes or other recognition for participants in such activities and events. The Superintendent or designee shall emphasize that participation of students, parents/guardians, district employees, volunteers, or educational or civic organizations in such activities and events is voluntary. The district shall not offer or award to a student any course credit or privileges related to educational activities in exchange for voluntary donations or participation in fundraising activities by or on behalf of the student. The district also shall not remove or threaten to remove from a student any course credit or privileges related to educational activities, or otherwise discriminate against the student, due to a lack of voluntary donations or participation in fundraising activities by or on behalf of the student.

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

(cf. 3290 - Gifts, Grants and Bequests)

Note: The following paragraph is optional and may be revised to reflect district practice.

The Superintendent or designee may provide information or professional development opportunities to administrators, teachers, and other personnel regarding permissible fees.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

Complaints

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 49013, a district is mandated to adopt policy and procedures which allow complaints to be filed using the uniform complaint procedures when the district is alleged to have violated the prohibition against requiring unauthorized student fees. See BP/AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures for language implementing this mandate.
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A complaint alleging district noncompliance with the prohibition against requiring student fees, deposits, or other charges shall be filed in accordance with the district's procedures in BP/AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures. (Education Code 49013)

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

Note: Education Code 49013 requires districts found in violation of the prohibition against student fees to design a remedy which may include reasonable efforts to identify and fully reimburse all affected individuals as specified in 5 CCR 4600. See AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures for additional language reflecting these requirements.

If, upon investigation, the district finds merit in the complaint, the Superintendent or designee shall recommend and the Board shall adopt an appropriate remedy to be provided to all affected students and parents/guardians in accordance with 5 CCR 4600.

FEES AND CHARGES (continued)

Information related to the prohibition against requiring students to pay fees for participation in an educational activity shall be included in the district's annual notification of uniform complaint procedures to be provided to all students, parents/guardians, employees, and other interested parties pursuant to 5 CCR 4622. (Education Code 49013)

(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

Collection of Debt

Note: Education Code 49014 (the Public School Fair Debt Collection Act), as added by AB 1974 (Ch. 577, Statutes of 2018), establishes requirements for districts to follow when seeking to recover a debt owed by students and/or parents/guardians, including debts resulting from unpaid fees lawfully imposed by a district. See the accompanying administrative regulation for additional language reflecting these requirements.

The debt collection requirements of this Act do not apply to debt owed as a result of vandalism or loss of district property loaned to the student. For further information in regard to such debt, see AR 3515.4 - Recovery for Property Loss or Damage.

For information regarding meal payments, including the collection of delinquent meal charges, see BP/AR 3551 - Food Service Operations/Cafeteria Fund.

The Superintendent or designee shall, in accordance with law, recover any debt owed to the district as a result of unpaid permissible student fees approved by the Board. However, the district shall not bill a current or former student for accumulated debt, nor take negative action against a student or former student because of such debt, including, but not limited to, any of the following: (Education Code 49014)

1. Denying full credit for any class assignment
2. Denying full and equal participation in any classroom activity
3. Denying access to the library or other on-campus educational facilities
4. Denying or withholding grades or transcripts
5. Denying or withholding a diploma
6. Limiting or barring participation in an extracurricular activity, club, or sport
7. Limiting or excluding the student from participation in an educational activity, field trip, or school ceremony

Legal Reference: (see next page)

FEES AND CHARGES (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

8239 *Preschool and wraparound child care services*
8250 *Child care and development services for children with disabilities*
8263 *Child care eligibility*
8422 *21st Century High School After School Safety and Enrichment for Teens programs*
8482.6 *After School Education and Safety programs*
8760-8774 *Outdoor science, conservation, and forestry programs*
17453.1 *District sale or lease of Internet appliances or personal computers to parents of students*
17551 *Property fabricated by students*
19910-19911 *Offenses against libraries*
32033 *Eye protective devices*
32221 *Insurance for athletic team member*
32390 *Fingerprinting program*
35330-35332 *Excursions and field trips*
35335 *School camp programs*
38080-38086.1 *Cafeteria establishment and use*
38120 *Use of school band equipment on excursions to foreign countries*
39801.5 *Transportation for adults*
39807.5 *Payment of transportation costs*
39837 *Transportation of students to places of summer employment*
48050 *Residents of adjoining states*
48052 *Tuition for foreign residents*
48904 *Liability of parent or guardian*
49010-49013 *Student fees*
49014 *Public School Fair Debt Collection Act*
49065 *Charge for copies*
49066 *Grades, effect of physical education class apparel*
49091.14 *Prospectus of school curriculum*
49557.5 *Unpaid school meal fees*
51810-51815 *Community service classes*
52612 *Tuition for adult classes*
52613 *Nonimmigrant foreign nationals*
56504 *School records; students with disabilities*
60410 *Students in classes for adults*

GOVERNMENT CODE

6253 *Request for copy; fee*

CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

Article 9, Section 5 *Common school system*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

350 *Fees not permitted*

4600-4687 *Uniform complaint procedures*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 8

1184 *Nonimmigrant students*

Legal Reference continued: (see next page)

FEES AND CHARGES (continued)

Legal Reference: (continued)

COURT DECISIONS

Arcadia Unified School District v. State Department of Education (1992) 2 Cal 4th 251

Driving School Assn of CA v. San Mateo Union HSD (1992) 11 Cal. App. 4th 1513

Steffes v. California Interscholastic Federation (1986) 176 Cal. App. 3d 739

Hartzell v. Connell (1984) 35 Cal. 3d 899

CTA v. Glendale School District Board of Education (1980) 109 Cal. App. 3d 738

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Pupil Fees, Deposits and Other Charges, Fiscal Management Advisory 17-01, July 28, 2017

WEB SITES

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

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

CSBA Sample

Administrative Regulation

Business and Noninstructional Operations

AR 3260(a)

FEES AND CHARGES

Note: Pursuant to 5 CCR 350, districts may charge fees only when specifically authorized by law. The following list specifies fees currently authorized by law and should be revised to reflect the types of fees that have been approved by the Governing Board; see the accompanying Board policy. Other permissible fees may exist and be identified in the future. For further information about fees and charges, see the California Department of Education's (CDE) Fiscal Management Advisory 17-01, Pupil Fees, Deposits and Other Charges.

Pursuant to Education Code 49011, a district is prohibited from requiring a student to pay fees or charges in order to participate in an educational activity. A complaint alleging the unauthorized charging of student fees should be filed in accordance with the uniform complaint procedures; see the accompanying Board policy and BP/AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures. Districts with questions as to whether a particular fee may be charged should consult with legal counsel.

When approved by the Governing Board, the Superintendent or designee may impose a fee for the following: (5 CCR 350)

1. Insurance for athletic team members, with an exemption providing for the district to pay the cost of the insurance for any team member who is financially unable to pay (Education Code 32221)

(cf. 5143 - Insurance)

2. Insurance for medical or hospital service for students participating in field trips and excursions (Education Code 35331)

Note: In its Fiscal Management Advisory 17-01, CDE interprets Education Code 35330 as permitting the district, at its discretion, to charge fees for any field trip, provided that no student is prevented from participating in a field trip due to a lack of funds.

3. Expenses of students' participation in a field trip or excursion within the state or to another state, the District of Columbia, or a foreign country, as long as no student is prohibited from making the field trip due to lack of funds (Education Code 35330)

(cf. 6153 - School-Sponsored Trips)

4. Student fingerprinting program, as long as the fee does not exceed the actual costs associated with the program (Education Code 32390)

(cf. 5142.1 - Identification and Reporting of Missing Children)

FEES AND CHARGES (continued)

5. School camp programs in outdoor science education, conservation education, or forestry operated pursuant to Education Code 8760-8774, provided that the fee is not mandatory and no student is denied the opportunity to participate for nonpayment of the fee (Education Code 35335)

(cf. 6142.5 - Environmental Education)

Note: Education Code 17551 permits the district to sell to a student any property of the district which has been fabricated by the student, as provided in item #6 below. CDE Fiscal Management Advisory 17-01 clarifies that this cost applies to materials students will take home for their own possession and use, such as wood shop, art, or sewing projects.

6. Reimbursement to the district for the direct cost of materials used by students to fabricate property they will take home for their own possession and use, such as wood shop, art, or sewing projects kept by students (Education Code 17551)
7. Home-to-school transportation and transportation between regular, full-time day schools and regional occupational centers, programs, or classes, as long as the fee does not exceed the statewide average nonsubsidized cost per student, the district provides a waiver based on financial need, and an exemption is made for any student with a disability whose individualized education program includes transportation as a related service necessary to receive a free appropriate public education (Education Code 39807.5)

(cf. 3250 - Transportation Fees)

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)

8. Transportation for students to and from their places of employment in connection with any summer employment program for youth (Education Code 39837)
9. Deposit for school band instruments, music, uniforms, and other regalia which school band members take on excursions to foreign countries (Education Code 38120)
10. Sale or lease of personal computers or of Internet appliances that allow a person to connect to or access the district's educational network, provided that the items are sold or leased to parents/guardians at no more than cost and the district provides network access for families who cannot afford it (Education Code 17453.1)

(cf. 0440 - District Technology Plan)

(cf. 6163.4 - Student Use of Technology)

11. An adult education or secondary school community service class in civic, vocational, literacy, health, homemaking, and technical and general education, not to exceed the cost of maintaining the class (Education Code 51810-51815)

FEES AND CHARGES (continued)

(cf. 6142.4 - Service Learning/Community Service Classes)

12. Eye safety devices worn in courses or activities involving the use of hazardous substances likely to cause injury to the eyes, when being sold to students and/or teachers or instructors to keep and at a price not to exceed the district's actual costs (Education Code 32033)

(cf. 3514.1 - Hazardous Substances)

(cf. 5142 - Safety)

13. Actual cost of furnishing copies of any student's records, except that no charge shall be made for furnishing up to two transcripts or two verifications of a former student's records or for reproducing records of a student with a disability when the cost would effectively prevent the parent/guardian from exercising the right to receive the copies (Education Code 49065, 56504)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

14. Actual cost of duplication for reproduction of the prospectus of school curriculum or for copies of public records (Education Code 49091.14; Government Code 6253)

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)

15. Food sold at school, subject to free and reduced-price meal program eligibility and other restrictions specified in law (Education Code 38084)

(cf. 3550 - Food Service/Child Nutrition Program)

(cf. 3551 - Food Service Operations/Cafeteria Funds)

(cf. 3552 - Summer Meal Program)

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

(cf. 3554 - Other Food Sales)

16. In accordance with law, replacement cost or reimbursement for lost or willfully damaged district books, supplies, or property, or for district property loaned to a student that the student fails to return (Education Code 19910-19911, 48904)

(cf. 3515.4 - Recovery for Property Loss or Damage)

17. Tuition for district school attendance by an out-of-state or out-of-country resident (Education Code 48050, 48052, 52613; 8 USC 1184)

(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)

(cf. 5111.2 - Nonresident Foreign Students)

FEES AND CHARGES (continued)

18. Adult education books, materials, transportation, and classes, except that no fee may be charged for classes in elementary subjects, classes for which high school credit is granted when taken by a person who does not hold a high school diploma, or classes in English and citizenship (Education Code 39801.5, 52612, 60410)

(cf. 6200 - Adult Education)

19. Preschool and child care and development services, in accordance with the fee schedule established by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, unless the family qualifies for subsidized services or the program is exempted from fees by law (Education Code 8239, 8250, 8263)

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)

(cf. 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education)

20. Participation in a before-school or after-school program that is funded as an After School Education and Safety (ASES) program, 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC), or 21st Century High School After School Safety and Enrichment for Teens program, provided that fees are waived or reduced for families with students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals and, in regard to ASES and 21st CCLC programs, fees are not charged if the district knows the student is a homeless or foster youth (Education Code 8422, 8482.6)

(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

<p>Note: In Fiscal Management Advisory 17-01, CDE lists Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate examination fees as permissible. Some districts choose to reduce the cost of the fees for low-income students through the use of district funds or other funding sources; see BP 6141.4 - International Baccalaureate Program and BP 6141.5 - Advanced Placement.</p>
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21. Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Diploma examinations for college credits, as long as the examination is not a course requirement and the results have no impact on student grades or credits in the course

(cf. 6141.4 - International Baccalaureate Program)

(cf. 6141.5 - Advanced Placement)

<p>Note: In its Fiscal Management Advisory 17-01, CDE advises that a district that requires its students to wear a cap and gown as a condition for their participation in the high school graduation ceremony may not require such students to purchase the cap and gown. CDE recommends that such districts provide the graduates with a cap and gown for their use at the graduation ceremony and inform them that those interested may purchase a cap and gown from a vendor.</p>
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FEES AND CHARGES (continued)**Collection of Debt**

Note: Education Code 49014 (the Public School Fair Debt Collection Act), as added by AB 1974 (Ch. 577, Statutes of 2018), establishes requirements for districts to follow when seeking to recover a debt owed by students and/or parents/guardians, including a requirement to provide the parent/guardian with an itemized invoice that references the district's policies relating to debt collection and the rights established pursuant to Education Code 49014 and 49557.5 (unpaid meal fees). It is recommended that districts include references to this administrative regulation and the accompanying Board policy, as well as BP/AR 3551 - Food Service Operations/Cafeteria Fund. For additional rights established by Education Code 49014, including prohibitions against directly billing a student or former student or imposing any negative action on a student, see the accompanying Board policy.

Before pursuing payment of any debt that has accumulated from unpaid permissible fees, the Superintendent or designee shall provide an itemized invoice for any amount owed by the parent/guardian on behalf of a student or former student. The invoice shall reference district policies related to debt collection and the rights established pursuant to Education Code 49014 and 49557.5. For each payment received, the district shall provide a receipt to the parent/guardian. (Education Code 49014)

The Superintendent or designee shall not sell debt owed by a parent/guardian of a student or former student. (Education Code 49014)

CSBA Sample

Board Policy

Business and Noninstructional Operations

BP 3515.4(a)

RECOVERY FOR PROPERTY LOSS OR DAMAGE

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

Pursuant to Education Code 48904, parents/guardians are liable to the district for the costs of damages caused by the willful misconduct of their minor children (1) that results in damage to school property, an employee's personal property, or injury or death of a district student, employee, or volunteer, and (2) for any reward paid by the district for information leading to the identification and apprehension of persons who willfully damage or destroy property. These amounts are adjusted annually for inflation by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. For 2019, the liability of a parent/guardian must not exceed \$20,300 for damages and \$20,300 for the reward. For situations not addressed by the Education Code, Civil Code 1714.1 provides for parent/guardian liability for the willful misconduct of their minor child which results in injury, death, or property damage. The limit under this statute is adjusted every two years for cost-of-living by the Judicial Council of California and, effective July 1, 2017, parent/guardian liability must not exceed \$42,100.

Pursuant to Penal Code 640.5 and 640.6, an individual who has been found to have defaced district property with graffiti may be fined or ordered by a court to perform community service. Depending on the amount of damage, Penal Code 594 also specifies that an individual, or the parent/guardian of a minor, who has been convicted of vandalism may be ordered to clean up and repair the property and to keep the property free from graffiti for one year.

The Governing Board desires to create a safe and secure learning environment and to minimize acts of vandalism and damage to school property. When district property is damaged due to the willful misconduct of a student or other person, the district shall seek reimbursement of damages, within the limitations specified in law, from the parent/guardian of a minor child or from any other responsible individual.

(cf. 0450 - *Comprehensive Safety Plan*)
(cf. 3515 - *Campus Security*)
(cf. 4156.3/4256.3/4356.3 - *Employee Property Reimbursement*)
(cf. 4158/4258/4358 - *Employee Security*)
(cf. 5131 - *Conduct*)
(cf. 5131.5 - *Vandalism and Graffiti*)
(cf. 5136 - *Gangs*)
(cf. 5144.1 - *Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process*)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 49014, as added by AB 1974 (Ch. 577, Statutes of 2018), the district may collect debt owed to the school by a student who willfully cuts, defaces, or otherwise injures district property or fails to return property that was loaned by the district, unless the student is a current or former homeless student or foster youth.

The district may collect debt owed by a student or former student as a result of vandalism or to cover the replacement cost of district books, supplies, or property loaned to a student that the student willfully fails to return or that is willfully cut, defaced, or otherwise injured. However, this policy shall not apply to a student who is a current or former homeless or foster child or youth. (Education Code 48904, 49014)

RECOVERY FOR PROPERTY LOSS OR DAMAGE (continued)

(cf. 5125.2 - Withholding Grades, Diploma or Transcripts)

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

Rewards

Note: The following section is optional.

The Board may offer and pay a reward for information leading to the determination of the identity of, and the apprehension of, any person who willfully damages or destroys any district property. (Government Code 53069.5)

Note: The Governing Board may set any amount for the reward it deems to be appropriate. However, as detailed above, Education Code 48904 specifies a limit on the amount of parent/guardian liability for repayment of the reward.

Option 1 below allows the Superintendent or designee to offer a reward up to \$2,500 without Board approval. Option 2 provides that the Board will determine the amount of any reward offered. Both options may be revised, including the specified reward amount, to reflect district practice.

OPTION 1: The Board authorizes the Superintendent or designee to offer a reward in any amount deemed appropriate, not exceeding \$2,500. A reward in excess of \$2,500 shall be authorized in advance by the Board.

OPTION 2: The Board shall determine the appropriate amount for the reward.

Note: The following paragraph applies to all districts.

The Superintendent or designee shall disburse the reward when the guilt of the person responsible for the act has been established by a criminal conviction or other appropriate judicial procedure. If more than one person provides information, the reward shall be divided among them as appropriate.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

RECOVERY FOR PROPERTY LOSS OR DAMAGE (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

19910 Libraries, malicious cutting, tearing, defacing, breaking or injuring

19911 Libraries, willful detention of property

44810 Willful interference with classroom conduct

48904 Liability of parent/guardian for willful misconduct

49014 Public School Fair Debt Collection Act

CIVIL CODE

1714.1 Liability of parent or guardian for act of willful misconduct by a minor

GOVERNMENT CODE

53069.5 Reward for information concerning person causing death, injury, or property damage

53069.6 Actions to recover damages

54951 Local agency, definition

PENAL CODE

484 Theft defined

594 Vandalism

594.1 Aerosol paint and etching cream

640.5 Graffiti; facilities or vehicles of governmental entity

640.6 Graffiti

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

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

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

Judicial Council of California: <http://www.courts.ca.gov>

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CSBA Sample

Administrative Regulation

Business and Noninstructional Operations

AR 3515.4(a)

RECOVERY FOR PROPERTY LOSS OR DAMAGE

Note: The following administrative regulation is **optional** and should be modified to reflect district practice.

District employees shall report any damage to or loss of school property to the Superintendent or designee immediately after such damage or loss is discovered.

(cf. 3530 - Risk Management/Insurance)

(cf. 5131.5 - Vandalism and Graffiti)

Note: Certain acts of graffiti or vandalism may trigger the need for an investigation pursuant to the district's sexual harassment or nondiscrimination grievance procedures (e.g., graffiti that is sexual in nature or disparaging to a class of individuals protected by the district's nondiscrimination policies). See BP 5131.5 - Vandalism and Graffiti.

The Superintendent or designee shall conduct a complete investigation of any instance of damage to or loss of school property and shall consult law enforcement officials when appropriate.

(cf. 3515.3 - District Police/Security Department)

When the individual causing the damage or loss has been identified and the costs of repair, replacement, or cleanup determined, the Superintendent or designee shall take all practical and reasonable steps to recover the district's costs and shall consult with the district's legal counsel and/or insurance carrier, as appropriate.

Such steps may include the filing of a civil complaint in a court of competent jurisdiction to recover damages from the responsible person and, if the responsible person is a minor, from the parent/guardian in accordance with law. Damages may include the cost of repair or replacement of the property, the payment of any reward, interest, court costs, and all other damages as provided by law.

Note: If a student's parents/guardians are unable to pay the damages, Education Code 48904 requires the district to offer an option for the student to provide work in lieu of payment. Pursuant to Education Code 49014, as added by AB 1974 (Ch. 577, Statutes of 2018), a district may offer any student or former student alternative, nonmonetary means to settle debt owed as a result of damage or loss of district property, regardless of the parents/guardians' ability to pay. However, the district is prohibited from collecting debt from a current or former homeless student or foster youth, and therefore cannot offer or require such a student to work or provide an alternative form of compensation.

If the responsible person is a minor student of the district and the student's parents/guardians are unable to pay for the damages or to return the property, the district shall offer a program

RECOVERY FOR PROPERTY LOSS OR DAMAGE (continued)

of voluntary work for the student in lieu of the payment of monetary damages. The district may offer any other student or former student, with parent/guardian permission, the option to provide service, work, or other alternative, nonmonetary forms of compensation to settle the debt owed as a result of property loss or damage. Service or work exchanged for repayment of a debt shall comply with all provisions of the Labor Code related to youth employment. (Education Code 48904, 49014)

The Superintendent or designee may withhold the student's grades, diploma, and/or transcripts until the student's parents/guardians have paid for the damages or the voluntary work has been completed. Prior to withholding a student's grades, diploma, or transcripts, due process shall be afforded the student in accordance with law. (Education Code 48904)

(cf. 5125.2 - Withholding Grades, Diploma or Transcripts)

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall initiate appropriate disciplinary procedures against the student.

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

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

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)

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CSBA Sample

Board Policy

All Personnel

BP 4030(a)

NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT

Note: The following Board policy and accompanying administrative regulation are **mandated** pursuant to Government Code 11138 and 2 CCR 11023. The California Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) (Government Code 12900-12996) prohibits districts and district employees from harassing or discriminating against employees and job applicants on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, national origin, age, religious creed, marital status, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, military and veteran status, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or gender expression. Pursuant to Government Code 12940, these protections apply to employees, job applicants, persons who serve in an unpaid internship or other limited-duration program to gain unpaid work experience, volunteers, and independent contractors.

The same or similar protections are available to employees and job applicants under various provisions of federal law, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC 2000d-2000d-7), Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC 2000e-2000e-17), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 USC 1681-1688), the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 USC 12101-12213), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC 794), and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (42 USC 2000ff-2000ff-11).

For policy addressing sexual harassment of and by employees, see BP/AR 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11 - Sexual Harassment.

The Governing Board is determined to provide a safe, positive environment where all district employees are assured of full and equal employment access and opportunities, protection from harassment and intimidation, and freedom from any fear of reprisal or retribution for asserting their employment rights in accordance with law. For purposes of this policy, *employees* include job applicants, interns, volunteers, and persons who contracted with the district to provide services, as applicable.

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)

(cf. 3312 - Contracts)

(cf. 3600 - Consultants)

(cf. 4111/4211/4311 - Recruitment and Selection)

Note: 2 CCR 11027.1, as added by Register 2018, No. 20, provides a definition of "national origin" for the purpose of implementing state nondiscrimination laws.

No district employee shall be discriminated against or harassed by any coworker, supervisor, manager, or other person with whom the employee comes in contact in the course of employment, on the basis of the employee's actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, national origin, age, religious creed, marital status, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, military and veteran status, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

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

NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT (continued)

Note: 2 CCR 11028, as amended by Register 2018, No. 20, prohibits inquiry into an employee's immigration status or discrimination on the basis of such status, unless the district provides clear and convincing evidence that it is required to do so in order to comply with federal immigration law. Districts should consult legal counsel as necessary.

The district shall not inquire into any employee's immigration status nor discriminate against an employee on the basis of immigration status, unless there is clear and convincing evidence that it is necessary to comply with federal immigration law. (2 CCR 11028)

Note: The following items illustrate unlawful discriminatory practices as specified in Government Code 12940. Labor Code 1197.5 prohibits the payment of different wage rates to employees for similar work based on sex, race, or ethnicity and prohibits the use of prior salary history by itself to justify any disparity in compensation under the bona fide factor exception.

Discrimination in employment based on the characteristics listed above is prohibited in all areas of employment and in all employment-related practices, including the following:

1. Discrimination in hiring, compensation, terms, conditions, and other privileges of employment

(cf. 4151/4251/4351 - Employee Compensation)

(cf. 4154/4254/4354 - Health and Welfare Benefits)

2. Taking of an adverse employment action, such as termination or the denial of employment, promotion, job assignment, or training
3. Unwelcome conduct, whether verbal, physical, or visual, that is so severe or pervasive as to adversely affect an employee's employment opportunities, or that has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with the individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment

Note: Item #4 below addresses the specific practices prohibited under Government Code 12940 or 2 CCR 11006-11086 in relation to certain protected categories. For example, because "sex" as defined in Government Code 12926 includes pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, or related medical conditions, any of these conditions may be the basis for an employee's sex discrimination claim. As the specific prohibitions are too numerous to list in policy, it is recommended that district legal counsel be consulted when questions arise as to any specific claim.

4. Actions and practices identified as unlawful or discriminatory pursuant to Government Code 12940 or 2 CCR 11006-11086, such as:
 - a. Sex discrimination based on an employee's pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, or any related medical condition or on an employee's gender, gender expression, or gender identity, including transgender status

NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT (continued)

(cf. 4033 - Lactation Accommodation)

(cf. 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11 - Sexual Harassment)

- b. Religious creed discrimination based on an employee's religious belief or observance, including religious dress or grooming practices, or based on the district's failure or refusal to use reasonable means to accommodate an employee's religious belief, observance, or practice which conflicts with an employment requirement

(cf. 4119.22/4219.22/4319.22 - Dress and Grooming)

- c. Requirement for a medical or psychological examination of a job applicant, or an inquiry into whether a job applicant has a mental or physical disability or a medical condition or as to the severity of any such disability or condition, without the showing of a job-related need or business necessity

(cf. 4119.41/4219.41/4319.41 - Employees with Infectious Disease)

- d. Failure to make reasonable accommodation for the known physical or mental disability of an employee, or to engage in a timely, good faith, interactive process with an employee who has requested such accommodations in order to determine the effective reasonable accommodations, if any, to be provided to the employee

(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)

<p>Note: Retaliation against complainants or other participants in the grievance procedures is prohibited by Government Code 12940 and 34 CFR 110.34. In addition to the general prohibition against retaliation, Government Code 12940 provides that an employee who requests accommodation for a physical or mental disability or religious belief is protected from retaliation as specified below. CSBA recommends that this protection be extended to all protected characteristics, as provided below.</p>
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The Board also prohibits retaliation against any district employee who opposes any discriminatory employment practice by the district or its employees, agents, or representatives or who complains, testifies, assists, or in any way participates in the district's complaint process pursuant to this policy. No employee who requests an accommodation for any protected characteristic listed in this policy shall be subjected to any punishment or sanction, regardless of whether the request was granted. (Government Code 12940; 2 CCR 11028)

<p>Note: Pursuant to Government Code 12964.5, as added by SB 1300 (Ch. 955, Statutes of 2018), the district is prohibited from requiring an employee, in exchange for a raise or bonus or as a condition of employment or continued employment, to sign a nondisparagement agreement or similar document that would deny the employee the right to disclose information about unlawful acts in the workplace or requiring an employee to release the right to file a claim or civil action against the district.</p>
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NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT (continued)

No employee shall, in exchange for a raise or bonus or as a condition of employment or continued employment, be required to sign any document that releases the employee's right to file a claim against the district or to disclose information about harassment or other unlawful employment practices. (Government Code 12964.5)

Complaints concerning employment discrimination, harassment, or retaliation shall immediately be investigated in accordance with procedures specified in the accompanying administrative regulation.

Note: Pursuant to 2 CCR 11019, in certain instances, an employee's (especially a supervisor's) knowledge or notice of prohibited conduct of another employee or individual may subject the district to liability. Therefore, it is recommended that the district require its employees with knowledge of harassment or discrimination to report the incident to the appropriate district authorities. In addition, Government Code 12940, as amended by SB 1300, provides that a district may be responsible for harassment of employees by nonemployees where the district knows or should have known of the conduct and failed to take immediate and corrective action, taking into consideration the extent of the district's control and other legal responsibility that the district may have with respect to the conduct of those nonemployees. Also see BP/AR 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11 - Sexual Harassment.

See the accompanying administrative regulation for requirements related to the identification of the employee who will be responsible for compliance with the nondiscrimination laws.

Any supervisory or management employee who observes or has knowledge of an incident of prohibited discrimination or harassment, including harassment of an employee by a nonemployee, shall report the incident to the Superintendent or designated district coordinator as soon as practical after the incident. All other employees are encouraged to report such incidents to their supervisor immediately. The district shall protect any employee who reports such incidents from retaliation.

Note: Government Code 12940 and 2 CCR 11023 require districts to take all reasonable steps to prevent prohibited discrimination and harassment, including, but not limited to, dissemination of the district's policy on the prevention of harassment, discrimination, and retaliation. In addition, Government Code 12950 requires districts to post, in prominent and accessible locations on district premises, posters developed by the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH), which are available on DFEH's web site. For further information on prevention strategies, see the accompanying administrative regulation.

The Superintendent or designee shall use all appropriate means to reinforce the district's nondiscrimination policy, including providing training and information to employees about how to recognize harassment, discrimination, or other related conduct, how to respond appropriately, and components of the district's policies and regulations regarding discrimination. The Superintendent or designee shall regularly review the district's employment practices and, as necessary, shall take action to ensure district compliance with the nondiscrimination laws.

NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT (continued)

Any district employee who engages in prohibited discrimination, harassment, or retaliation or who aids, abets, incites, compels, or coerces another to engage or attempt to engage in such behavior in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

(cf. 4118 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination

CIVIL CODE

51.7 Freedom from violence or intimidation

GOVERNMENT CODE

11135 Unlawful discrimination

11138 Rules and regulations

12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act, especially:

12940-12952 Unlawful employment practices

12960-12976 Unlawful employment practices; complaints

PENAL CODE

422.56 Definitions, hate crimes

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2

11006-11086 Discrimination in employment, especially:

11013 Recordkeeping

11019 Terms, conditions and privileges of employment

11023 Harassment and discrimination prevention and correction

11024 Sexual harassment training and education

11027-11028 National origin and ancestry discrimination

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1681-1688 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

621-634 Age Discrimination in Employment Act

794 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

2000d-2000d-7 Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended

2000e-2000e-17 Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended

2000ff-2000ff-11 Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008

2000h-2-2000h-6 Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

6101-6107 Age discrimination in federally assisted programs

12101-12213 Americans with Disabilities Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28

35.101-35.190 Americans with Disabilities Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

100.6 Compliance information

104.7 Designation of responsible employee for Section 504

Legal Reference continued: (see next page)

NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT (continued)

Legal Reference: (continued)

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34 (continued)

104.8 Notice

106.8 Designation of responsible employee and adoption of grievance procedures

106.9 Dissemination of policy

110.1-110.39 Nondiscrimination on the basis of age

COURT DECISIONS

Thompson v. North American Stainless LP, (2011) 131 S.Ct. 863

Shephard v. Loyola Marymount, (2002) 102 Cal.App.4th 837

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING PUBLICATIONS

California Law Prohibits Workplace Discrimination and Harassment

Transgender Rights in the Workplace

Workplace Harassment Guide for California Employers

Your Rights and Obligations as a Pregnant Employee

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

Notice of Non-Discrimination, August 2010

U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS

EEOC Compliance Manual

Enforcement Guidance: Vicarious Employer Liability for Unlawful Harassment by Supervisors, June 1999

WEB SITES

California Department of Fair Employment and Housing: <http://www.dfeh.ca.gov>

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

U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission: <http://www.eeoc.gov>

CSBA Sample

Administrative Regulation

All Personnel

AR 4030(a)

NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT

Note: Pursuant to Government Code 11138 and 2 CCR 11023, districts are **mandated** to adopt rules and regulations to ensure that district programs and activities are free from unlawful discriminatory practices. Pursuant to Government Code 12940, protections against discrimination apply to employees, job applicants, persons who serve in an unpaid internship or other limited-duration program to gain unpaid work experience, volunteers, and independent contractors.

All allegations of discrimination in employment, including those involving an employee, job applicant, intern, volunteer, or person contracted to provide services to the district shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with procedures specified in this administrative regulation.

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

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)

(cf. 3312 - Contracts)

(cf. 3600 - Consultants)

(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)

Note: Many nondiscrimination laws and regulations require identification of an employee who will be responsible for compliance with the nondiscrimination laws. For example, pursuant to 34 CFR 104.7, 106.8, and 110.25, the district is required to designate the person(s) responsible for the overall implementation of the requirements of federal laws which prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability, sex, and age, i.e., Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC 794), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 USC 1681-1688), and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (29 USC 621-634). The district should fill in the blanks below to designate the responsible employee and contact information.

The district designates the position identified below as its coordinator for nondiscrimination in employment (coordinator) to coordinate the district's efforts to comply with state and federal nondiscrimination laws and to answer inquiries regarding the district's nondiscrimination policies. The coordinator may be contacted at:

(position title)

(address)

(telephone number)

(email)

NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT (continued)

Measures to Prevent Discrimination

Note: Pursuant to Government Code 12940 and 2 CCR 11023, the district is required to take all reasonable steps to prevent unlawful discrimination and harassment. 2 CCR 11023 specifies certain requirements to be included in the district's policy. The following section reflects the requirements of 2 CCR 11023 and other applicable laws or regulations, as indicated.

To prevent unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation in district employment, the Superintendent or designee shall implement the following measures:

Note: Pursuant to Government Code 12950, districts are required to post the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing's (DFEH) posters entitled California Law Prohibits Workplace Discrimination and Harassment and Transgender Rights in the Workplace, as provided in item #1. DFEH rules require that these materials be posted electronically and in every location where the district has employees (e.g., district office, hiring office, each school site). These posters and the rules for posting are available on the DFEH web site.

In addition, 2 CCR 11049 requires posting a notice of the rights and obligations of employees who are pregnant, have a related medical condition, or are recovering from childbirth. See AR 4161.8/4261.8/4361.8 - Family Care and Medical Leave.

1. Display in a prominent and accessible location at every work site where the district has employees and post electronically on computers in a conspicuous location, the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) posters in regard to workplace discrimination and harassment and the rights of transgender employees (Government Code 12950)

(cf. 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11 - Sexual Harassment)

2. Publicize the district's nondiscrimination policy and regulation, including the complaint procedures and the coordinator's contact information, by: (5 CCR 4960; 34 CFR 100.6, 106.9)
 - a. Including them in each announcement, bulletin, or application form that is used in employee recruitment
 - b. Posting them in all district schools and offices, including staff lounges and other prominent locations
 - c. Posting them on the district's web site and providing easy access to them through district-supported social media, when available

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

(cf. 1114 - District-Sponsored Social Media)

(cf. 4111/4211/4311 - Recruitment and Selection)

NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT (continued)

3. Disseminate the district's nondiscrimination policy to all employees by one or more of the following methods: (2 CCR 11023)
 - a. Printing and providing a copy of the policy to all employees, with an acknowledgment form for each employee to sign and return
 - b. Sending the policy via email with an acknowledgment return form
 - c. Posting the policy on the district intranet with a tracking system ensuring all employees have read and acknowledged receipt of the policies
 - d. Discussing the policy with employees upon hire and/or during a new hire orientation session
 - e. Any other way that ensures employees receive and understand the policy

(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)

4. Provide to employees a handbook which contains information that clearly describes the district's nondiscrimination policy, procedures for filing a complaint, and resources available to employees who believe they have been the victim of any discriminatory or harassing behavior

Note: Item #5 below provides for training regarding the district's discrimination policy and reporting procedures. For requirements specifically pertaining to sexual harassment training, see AR 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11 - Sexual Harassment. Pursuant to Government Code 12950.1, if the district has 50 or more employees, it must provide at least two hours of staff development regarding sexual harassment to all supervisory employees within six months of their assumption of a supervisory position and once every two years thereafter. As amended by SB 1343 (Ch. 956, Statutes of 2018), Government Code 12950.1 requires any district that has five or more employees to provide at least two hours of sexual harassment training to supervisory employees and at least one hour of sexual harassment training to all nonsupervisory employees by January 1, 2020 and once every two years thereafter.

5. Provide training to employees, volunteers, and interns regarding the district's nondiscrimination policy, including what constitutes unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation and how and to whom a report of an incident should be made

Note: Pursuant to Government Code 12950.2, as added by SB 1300 (Ch. 955, Statutes of 2018), districts are authorized, but not required, to provide bystander intervention training as provided below.

The district may also provide bystander intervention training to employees that includes information and practical guidance on how to recognize potentially problematic behaviors and motivates them to take action when they observe such

NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT (continued)

behaviors. The training and education may include exercises to provide employees with the skills and confidence to intervene as appropriate and to provide them with resources they can call upon that support their intervention. (Government Code 12950.2)

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

6. Periodically review the district's recruitment, hiring, and promotion processes and regularly monitor the terms, conditions, and privileges of employment to ensure district compliance with law
7. For any district facility where 10 percent of employees have a language other than English as their spoken language, translate the policy into every language spoken by at least 10 percent of the workforce

Complaint Procedure

Note: 2 CCR 11023 **mandates** that a district's policy include a complaint process with specified requirements. Some of the requirements of 2 CCR 11023 are similar to those required under existing case law.

Courts have held that an employer may mitigate liability for hostile environment employment discrimination when (1) the employer took reasonable care to prevent and promptly correct the discriminatory or harassing conduct (i.e., provided a complaint procedure) and (2) the aggrieved employee unreasonably failed to take advantage of corrective opportunities offered by the employer (i.e., failure to file a complaint). In its June 1999 Enforcement Guidance: Vicarious Employer Liability for Unlawful Harassment by Supervisors, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) outlines the elements of an effective complaint procedure to include (1) a clear explanation of the process; (2) protection against retaliation; (3) designation of multiple individuals authorized to receive complaints; (4) a mechanism for prompt, thorough, and impartial investigation; (5) assurance of immediate and appropriate corrective action; and (6) information about time frames for filing charges with EEOC or DFEH.

While EEOC's guidance recommends a "prompt" investigation, neither the law nor EEOC delineates a specific time frame for resolution. EEOC's guidance acknowledges that whether an investigation is considered "prompt" may vary depending on the seriousness and complexity of the circumstances and that intermediate measures may be necessary to prevent further harassment during the investigation.

The following section, including the listed timelines, is consistent with EEOC's guidance and should be modified to reflect district practice.

Any complaint alleging unlawful discrimination or harassment shall be addressed in accordance with the following procedures:

NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT (continued)

1. **Notice and Receipt of Complaint:** A complainant may inform a direct supervisor, another supervisor, the coordinator, the Superintendent or, if available, a complaint hotline or an ombudsman. The employee's direct supervisor may be bypassed in filing a complaint where the supervisor is the subject of the complaint.

The complainant may file a written complaint in accordance with this procedure or may first attempt to resolve the situation informally with the employee's supervisor.

A supervisor or manager who has received information about an incident of discrimination or harassment, or has observed such an incident, shall report it to the coordinator, whether or not the complainant files a written complaint.

The written complaint should contain the complainant's name, the name of the individual who allegedly committed the act, a description of the incident, the date and location where the incident occurred, any witnesses who may have relevant information, other evidence of the discrimination or harassment, and any other pertinent information which may assist in investigating and resolving the complaint.

2. **Investigation Process:** The coordinator shall initiate an impartial investigation of an allegation of discrimination or harassment within five business days of receiving notice of the alleged discriminatory or harassing behavior, regardless of whether a written complaint has been filed or whether the written complaint is complete.

The coordinator shall meet with the complainant to describe the district's complaint procedure and discuss the actions being sought by the complainant in response to the allegation. The coordinator shall inform the complainant that the investigation of the allegations will be fair, timely, and thorough and will be conducted in a manner that provides all parties due process and reaches reasonable conclusions based on the evidence collected. The coordinator shall also inform the parties that the investigation will be kept confidential to the extent possible, but that some information may be revealed as necessary to conduct an effective investigation.

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

(cf. 4112.6/4212.6/4312.6 - Personnel Files)

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)

If the coordinator determines that a detailed fact-finding investigation is necessary, the investigation shall begin immediately. As part of this investigation, the coordinator should interview the complainant, the person accused, and other persons who could be expected to have relevant information.

The coordinator shall track and document the progress of the investigation to ensure reasonable progress and shall inform the parties as necessary.

NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT (continued)

When necessary to carry out the investigation or to protect employee safety, the coordinator may discuss the complaint with the Superintendent or designee, district legal counsel, or the district's risk manager.

The coordinator shall also determine whether interim measures, such as scheduling changes, transfers, or leaves, need to be taken before the investigation is completed to ensure that further incidents are prevented. The coordinator shall ensure that such interim measures do not constitute retaliation.

3. **Written Report on Findings and Remedial/Corrective Action:** No more than 20 business days after receiving the complaint, the coordinator shall conclude the investigation and prepare a written report of the findings. This timeline may be extended for good cause. If an extension is needed, the coordinator shall notify the parties and explain the reasons for the extension.

The report shall include the decision and the reasons for the decision and shall summarize the steps taken during the investigation. If a determination has been made that discrimination or harassment occurred, the report shall also include any corrective action(s) that have been or will be taken to address the behavior, provide appropriate options for remedial actions and resolutions for the complainant, and ensure that retaliation or further discrimination or harassment is prevented. The report shall be presented to the Superintendent or designee.

A summary of the findings shall be presented to the complainant and the person accused.

4. **Appeal to the Governing Board:** The complainant or the person accused may appeal any findings to the Board within 10 business days of receiving the written report of the coordinator's findings. The Superintendent or designee shall provide the Board with all information presented during the investigation. Upon receiving an appeal, the Board shall schedule a hearing as soon as practicable. Any complaint against a district employee shall be addressed in closed session in accordance with law. The Board shall render its decision within 10 business days.

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)
(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

Other Remedies

Note: Items #1-3 below state the time limits within which employees must file their complaints. EEOC's guidance states that it is important for employers' nondiscrimination policies to contain information about timeframes for filing charges of unlawful discrimination or harassment with EEOC or DFEH. Employees should be informed that the deadline for filing charges starts to run from the last date of the unlawful act, not

NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT (continued)

from the conclusion of the district's complaint investigation. Pursuant to DFEH procedures, DFEH will automatically forward any complaint it has accepted for investigation to EEOC when the matter falls within EEOC's jurisdiction.

In addition to filing a discrimination or harassment complaint with the district, a person may file a complaint with either DFEH or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). The time limits for filing such complaints are as follows:

Note: Pursuant to Government Code 12960, an employee has one year to file a complaint with DFEH, although that period may be extended under certain circumstances, such as when a person obtains knowledge of the unlawful practice after the expiration of the one-year period.

1. To file a valid complaint with DFEH, within one year of the alleged discriminatory act(s), unless an exception exists pursuant to Government Code 12960

Note: 42 USC 2000e-5 specifies that a person must file a discrimination complaint with EEOC within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory act. Pursuant to 42 USC 2000e-5, the 180-day timeline for compensation discrimination starts when the discriminatory paycheck is received and that each discriminatory paycheck restarts the timeline for the filing of a complaint.

2. To file a valid complaint directly with EEOC, within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory act(s) (42 USC 2000e-5)
3. To file a valid complaint with EEOC after first filing a complaint with DFEH, within 300 days of the alleged discriminatory act(s) or within 30 days after the termination of proceedings by DFEH, whichever is earlier (42 USC 2000e-5)

(12/15 12/16) 3/19

CSBA Sample

Administrative Regulation

Certificated Personnel

AR 4161.1(a)
4361.1

PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE

Note: The following administrative regulation is subject to collective bargaining. Education Code 44978 provides a minimum of 10 days of personal illness or injury leave (sick leave) per year for certificated employees working five days a week. The Governing Board may allow additional days at its discretion; if it does so, the following paragraph should be revised accordingly.

Labor Code 245-249 (the Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act) require districts to grant a minimum of one hour of paid sick leave for every 30 hours worked to their employees who work for 30 days or more within a year of their employment, including temporary and substitute employees. Pursuant to Labor Code 246, a district may use a different sick leave accrual method which provides for the accrual to be on a regular basis so that employees accrue at least 24 hours of sick leave or paid time off by the 120th calendar day of their employment or each calendar year or 12-month period.

The provisions of Labor Code 245-249 are very broad and **only** district employees covered by a valid collective bargaining agreement may be exempted from them, if the collective bargaining agreement expressly provides paid sick leave in an amount equal to or exceeding the amount of leave required pursuant to Labor Code 246, includes final and binding arbitration of disputes regarding the application of the paid sick days provisions, and provides premium wage rates for all overtime hours worked and a regular hourly rate of pay of not less than 30 percent more than the state minimum wage rate. Since many districts may not satisfy all of the conditions for this exemption, this administrative regulation has been drafted to include the requirements of Labor Code 245-249. Any district which has a collective bargaining agreement that meets all of the conditions for exemption may modify this administrative regulation accordingly.

For additional requirements of Labor Code 245-249, see the section titled "Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act Requirements" below. For paid sick leave for temporary and substitute certificated employees, see BP/AR 4121 - Temporary/Substitute Personnel. For sick leave for classified employees, see AR 4261.1 - Personal Illness/Injury Leave.

Certificated employees employed five school days per week are entitled to 10 days' leave of absence with full pay for personal illness or injury (sick leave) per school year of service. Employees who work less than five school days per week (part-time employees) shall be granted sick leave in proportion to the time they work. However, any part-time employees who are entitled to less than three days of paid sick leave per year due to the amount of time worked shall be granted sick leave pursuant to Labor Code 246, if they are eligible. (Education Code 44978; Labor Code 245-249)

(cf. 4161/4261/4361 - Leaves)

(cf. 4161.9/4261.9/4361.9 - Catastrophic Leave Program)

Use of Sick Leave

Note: Items #1-8 below reflect allowable uses of sick leave specified in law. The district may expand this list to include any additional purposes authorized by law, authorized by the district, or included in a bargaining agreement.

PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE (continued)

Certificated employees may use sick leave for absences due to:

1. Accident or illness, whether or not the absence arises out of and in the course of employment; quarantine which results from contact in the course of employment with other persons having a contagious disease; or temporary inability to perform assigned duties because of illness, accident, or quarantine (Education Code 44964)

(cf. 4157.1/4257.1/4357.1 - Work-Related Injuries)

2. Pregnancy, miscarriage, childbirth, and related recovery (Education Code 44965, 44978)

(cf. 4161.8/4261.8/4361.8 - Family Care and Medical Leave)

3. Personal necessity (Education Code 44981)

(cf. 4161.2/4261.2/4361.2 - Personal Leaves)

Note: Optional item #4 below may be revised as desired to specify a different minimum increment for sick leave.
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4. Medical and dental appointments, in increments of not less than one hour
5. Industrial accidents or illnesses when leave granted specifically for that purpose has been exhausted (Education Code 44984)

(cf. 4161.11/4261.11/4361.11 - Industrial Accident/Illness Leave)

Note: Pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) (29 USC 2612) and California Family Rights Act (CFRA) (Government Code 12945.2), a district is required to grant leave to an eligible employee to bond with a child after the birth, adoption, or foster care placement of the child, if the district employs 50 or more employees within 75 miles of the worksite where the employee requesting the leave is employed. For this purpose, employees may, but are not required to, use sick leave for any otherwise unpaid FMLA or CFRA leave.

Government Code 12945.6 extends the right to parental leave to an eligible employee who is not covered by FMLA or CFRA when the district employs 20-49 employees within 75 miles of the worksite where the employee requesting the leave is employed.

For further information regarding parental leave, see AR 4161.8/4261.8/4361.8 - Family Care and Medical Leave.
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PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE (continued)

6. Need of the employee to bond with a child within one year of the child's birth, adoption, or foster care placement (parental leave) (Education Code 44977.5; Government Code 12945.2, 12945.6; 29 USC 2612; 29 CFR 825.112)

Note: Pursuant to Labor Code 233, any district that provides sick leave to its employees is required to permit them to use sick leave, in an amount not less than the sick leave that would be accrued during six months at the employee's then current rate of entitlement, for the purposes specified in items #7-8 below.

For the purpose of using sick leave to attend to the health care needs of a family member, as specified in item #7 below, Labor Code 245.5 defines "family member" as an employee's spouse, registered domestic partner, child (biological, adopted, or foster child; stepchild; legal ward; or a child to whom the employee stands in loco parentis), parent (biological, adoptive, or foster parent; stepparent; legal guardian of an employee or the employee's spouse or registered domestic partner; or a person who stood in loco parentis when the employee was a minor child), grandparent, grandchild, or sibling.

For additional information about leaves for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking granted in accordance with item #8 below, see AR 4161.2/4261.2/4361.2 - Personal Leaves.

7. Need of the employee or employee's family member, as defined in Labor Code 245.5, for the diagnosis, care, or treatment of an existing health condition or for preventive care (Labor Code 233, 246.5)
8. Need of the employee to seek or obtain any relief or medical attention specified in Labor Code 230(c) and/or 230.1(a) for the health, safety, or welfare of the employee or the employee's child, when the employee has been a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking (Labor Code 233, 246.5)

For the purposes specified in items #7-8, an employee may use, in any calendar year, the amount of sick leave that would be accrued during six months at the employee's then current rate of entitlement. (Labor Code 233)

An employee may take sick leave at any time during the school year, even if credit for sick leave has not yet been accrued. (Education Code 44978)

Note: The following paragraph is **optional**.

An employee shall reimburse the district for any unearned sick leave used as of the date of termination.

Unused days of sick leave shall be accumulated from year to year without limitation. (Education Code 44978)

PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE (continued)

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

At the beginning of each school year, employees shall be notified of the amount of sick leave they have accumulated.

The district shall not require new employees to waive leave accumulated in a previous district. (Education Code 44979, 44980)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 44979-44980, certificated employees are entitled to have their accumulated sick leave transferred with them in the circumstances specified in the following **optional** paragraph.

The Superintendent or designee shall notify any certificated employee who leaves the district after at least one school year of employment that if the employee accepts a certificated position in another district, county office of education, or community college district within one year, the employee may request that the district transfer any accumulated sick leave to the new employer. (Education Code 44979, 44980)

Additional Leave for Disabled Military Veterans

In addition to any other entitlement for sick leave with pay, a certificated employee who is a former active duty member of the U.S. Armed Forces or a former or current member of the California National Guard or a federal reserve component shall be entitled to sick leave with pay of up to 10 days for the purpose of undergoing medical treatment, including mental health treatment, for a military service-connected disability rated at 30 percent or more by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. An eligible employee who works less than five days per week shall be entitled to such leave in proportion to the time worked. (Education Code 44978.2)

The amount of leave shall be credited to the employee either on the date the employee receives confirmation of the submission of the disability application to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or on the first day the employee begins or returns to employment after active duty, whichever is later. When the employee receives the disability rating decision, the employee shall report that information to the Superintendent or designee. If the disability rating decision makes the employee eligible for the leave, the time used before the decision shall be counted toward the 10-day maximum leave. If the disability rating decision makes the employee ineligible for the leave, the district may change the sick leave time used before the disability rating decision to an alternative leave balance. (Education Code 44978.2)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 44978.2, the district may require proof that a leave granted under this law is used for treatment of a military service-connected disability. The following paragraph may be revised to reflect district practice.

PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE (continued)

The Superintendent or designee may require verification, in accordance with the section "Verification Requirements" below, that the employee used the leave to obtain treatment of a military service-connected disability.

Leave for military-service connected disability shall be available for 12 months following the first date that the leave was credited. Leave not used during the 12-month period shall not be carried over and shall be forfeited. (Education Code 44978.2)

Notification of Absence

Note: The following optional section may be revised to reflect district practice.
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An employee shall notify the district of the need to be absent as soon as such need is known, so that substitute services may be secured. This notification shall include an estimate of the expected duration of absence. If the absence becomes longer than estimated, the employee shall so notify the district. If the duration of absence becomes shorter than estimated, the employee shall notify the district not later than three o'clock in the afternoon of the day preceding the day on which the employee intends to return to work. If the employee fails to notify the district and the failure results in a substitute being secured, the cost of the substitute shall be deducted from the employee's pay.

(cf. 4121 - Temporary/Substitute Personnel)

Continued Absence After Available Sick Leave Is Exhausted/Differential Pay

<p>Note: Pursuant to Education Code 44977, employees who are absent due to illness for up to five months after exhausting all available sick leave must receive their regular salary minus the cost of a substitute. Alternatively, Education Code 44983 allows districts to adopt a rule that gives certificated employees 50 percent or more of their regular salary during the period of absence. When an employee is absent for a cause other than illness, Education Code 44977 and 44983 provide that the amount deducted from the employee's salary shall be determined according to the rules and regulations adopted by the Board as long as such rules are not in conflict with State Board of Education regulations.</p>

<p>Option 1 below is for use by districts that subtract the cost of a substitute from the absent employee's salary pursuant to Education Code 44977. Option 2 is mandated pursuant to Education Code 44983 for districts that choose to give certificated employees 50 percent or more of their regular salary during the period of absence, and may be revised to specify a percentage higher than 50 percent in accordance with district practice.</p>

<p>If not covered in the district's bargaining agreement, the district may add provisions to this section reflecting salary deductions for employees absent longer than five months.</p>
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PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE (continued)

OPTION 1:

During each school year, when a certificated employee has exhausted all available sick leave, including all accumulated sick leave, and, due to illness or accident, continues to be absent for an additional period of up to five school months, the district shall deduct from the employee's regular salary for that period the actual cost of a substitute to fill the position. If the district has made every reasonable effort to secure the services of a substitute and has been unable to do so, the amount that would have been paid to a substitute shall be deducted from the employee's salary. (Education Code 44977)

An employee shall not be provided more than one five-month period per illness or accident. However, if the school year ends before the five-month period is exhausted, the employee may take the balance of the five-month period in a subsequent school year. (Education Code 44977)

OPTION 2:

After a certificated employee has exhausted all available sick leave, including all accumulated sick leave, and, due to illness or accident, continues to be absent for an additional period of up to five months, the employee shall receive at least 50 percent of the employee's regular salary during the additional period of absence. (Education Code 44983)

Absence Beyond Five-Month Period/Reemployment List

Note: The following paragraph is required for districts that select Option 1 (i.e., differential pay) in the section "Continued Absence After Available Sick Leave Is Exhausted/Differential Pay" above and should be carefully considered by districts that select Option 2 (i.e., 50 percent pay). Education Code 44978.1 requires the establishment of a reemployment list for employees who are unable to resume their duties after the five-month period provided pursuant to Education Code 44977.

Although Education Code 44978.1 does not explicitly require a reemployment list for districts selecting Option 2, such districts should be aware that failure to establish a reemployment list may subject employees to termination following a five-month absence. Therefore, any district that selects Option 2 and currently maintains a reemployment list for employees who are absent beyond the five-month period, or that wishes to establish such a list, should consult legal counsel before changing its policy or practices.

If a certificated employee is not medically able to return to work after the five-month period provided pursuant to Education Code 44977, the employee shall be placed either in another position or on a reemployment list. Placement on the reemployment list shall be for 24 months for probationary employees or 39 months for permanent employees and shall begin at the expiration of the five-month period. If during this time the employee becomes medically able, the employee shall be returned to employment in a position for which the employee is credentialed and qualified. (Education Code 44978.1)

(cf. 4116 - Probationary/Permanent Status)

PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE (continued)

Parental Leave

Note: The following section is subject to any conflicting provision in a collective bargaining agreement that provides greater parental leave rights.

During each school year, a certificated employee may use all available sick leave, including accumulated sick leave, for the purpose of parental leave for a period of up to 12 work weeks. The 12-week period shall be reduced by any period of sick leave, including accumulated sick leave, taken during a period of such parental leave. (Education Code 44977.5)

Note: Unlike leave taken pursuant to Government Code 12945.2, leave taken pursuant to Education Code 44977.5 does not require an employee to have at least 1,250 hours of service with the district during the previous 12-month period in order to be eligible for parental leave. See AR 4161.8/4261.8/4361.8 - Family Care and Medical Leave for further information on requirements related to the California Family Rights Act.

Eligibility for such leave shall not require 1,250 hours of service with the district during the previous 12 months. (Education Code 44977.5)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 44977.5, the district is required to provide differential pay to a certificated employee for up to 12 work weeks when the employee has exhausted all available sick leave, including accumulated sick leave, and continues to be absent due to parental leave pursuant to Government Code 12945.2. Such an employee is entitled to receive differential pay, calculated in the same manner described in Option 1 or 2 in the section "Continued Absence After Available Sick Leave Is Exhausted/Differential Pay" above. As amended by AB 2012 (Ch. 994, Statutes of 2018), Education Code 44977.5 requires that, regardless of the type of differential pay system used by the district, employees must receive at least 50 percent of their regular salary for any portion of the 12-week parental leave that remains following the exhaustion of sick leave. The following paragraph may be revised to specify a percentage higher than 50 percent in accordance with district practice.

Since Education Code 44977.5 does not expressly require districts to provide differential pay to employees who are eligible for parental leave pursuant to Government Code 12945.6, it is unclear whether such employees would be entitled to differential pay. Districts should consult legal counsel if they have questions regarding differential pay for such employees.

An employee who has exhausted all available sick leave, including accumulated sick leave, and continues to be absent on account of parental leave shall receive differential pay of at least 50 percent of the employee's regular salary for the remainder of the 12 work weeks. (Education Code 44977.5)

Parental leave taken pursuant to Education Code 44977.5 shall run concurrently with the parental leave taken pursuant to Government Code 12945.2 or 12945.6, and the aggregate amount of parental leave shall not exceed 12 work weeks in a 12-month period. (Education Code 44977.5; Government Code 12945.2, 12945.6)

PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE (continued)

Verification Requirements

Note: Education Code 44978 **mandates** the Board to adopt regulations requiring proof of illness or injury and prescribing the means of verification. However, Education Code 44978 provides that these regulations shall not discriminate against evidence of treatment and the need for treatment by the practice of a well-recognized religion. For verification requirements for employees on leave pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act, see AR 4161.8/4261.8/4361.8 - Family Care and Medical Leave. The following section should be modified to reflect district practice and any procedures which have been specified in bargaining agreements.

Labor Code 233 requires districts to allow their employees to use sick leave for the purposes specified in Labor Code 246.5, the paid sick leave law. Because the paid sick leave law is silent on requests for verification, and actually requires an employer to provide an employee with paid sick days upon oral or written request, districts should be cautious in requiring verification for sick leave used for the purposes specified in Labor Code 246.5 (items #7-8 in the section "Use of Sick Leave" above). Although a district is permitted to require verification from an employee who is a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, pursuant to Labor Code 230 and 230.1, a general insistence on verification could be deemed a violation of Labor Code 246.5. Any district with questions regarding its authority related to verification should consult legal counsel.

After any absence due to illness or injury, the employee shall verify the absence by submitting a completed and signed district absence form to the employee's immediate supervisor.

The Superintendent or designee may require verification whenever an employee's absence record shows chronic absenteeism or a pattern of absences immediately before or after weekends and/or holidays or whenever available evidence clearly indicates that an absence is not related to illness or injury.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee may require an employee to visit a physician selected by the district, at district expense, in order to receive a report on the employee's need for further leave of absence and a prognosis as to when the employee will be able to return to work. If the report concludes that the employee's condition does not warrant continued absence, the Superintendent or designee may, after giving notice to the employee, deny further leave.

Note: 42 USC 2000ff-1, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, and its implementing regulations, 29 CFR 1635.1-1635.12, specify that it is unlawful for a district to request, require, or purchase employees' or their family member's individual genetic information except in complying with the medical certification requirements for family care and medical leave purposes or with the employee's prior written authorization. See AR 4161.8/4261.8/4361.8 - Family Care and Medical Leave. Pursuant to 29 CFR 1635.9, any such information received by the district must be kept confidential as specified below.

PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE (continued)

Any district request for additional verification by an employee's physician or a district-selected physician shall be in writing and shall specify that the report to be submitted to the district should not contain the employee's genetic information. Any genetic information received by the district on behalf of an employee shall be treated as a confidential medical record, maintained in a file separate from the employee's personnel file, and not be disclosed except in accordance with 29 CFR 1635.9.

Before returning to work, an employee who has been absent for surgery, hospitalization, or extended medical treatment may be asked to submit a letter from a physician stating that the employee is able to return to duty and stipulating any necessary restrictions or limitations.

(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)

(cf. 4113.4/4213.4/4313.4 - Temporary Modified/Light-Duty Assignment)

Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act Requirements

Note: Pursuant to Labor Code 245-249, all employers, including those that provide paid time off to their employees under existing policy or other law, must comply with the requirements specified in the following section. Pursuant to Labor Code 248.5, noncompliance with the Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act could result in an enforcement action against the employer, including the imposition of civil and monetary penalties. Any district with questions regarding the applicability of this law should consult its legal counsel.

No employee shall be denied the right to use accrued sick days, and the district shall not in any manner discriminate or retaliate against an employee for using or attempting to use sick leave, filing a complaint with the Labor Commissioner, or alleging district violation of Labor Code 245-249.

To ensure the district's compliance with Labor Code 245-249, the Superintendent or designee shall:

1. At a conspicuous location in each workplace, display a poster on paid sick leave that includes the following information:
 - a. That an employee is entitled to accrue, request, and use paid sick days
 - b. The number of sick days provided by Labor Code 245-249
 - c. The terms of use of paid sick days
 - d. That discrimination or retaliation against an employee for requesting and/or using sick leave is prohibited by law and that an employee has the right to file a complaint with the Labor Commissioner if the district discriminates or retaliates against the employee

PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE (continued)

2. Provide at least 24 hours or three days of paid sick leave to each eligible employee to use per year and allow eligible employees to use accrued sick leave upon reasonable request
3. Provide eligible employees written notice, on their pay stub or other document issued with their pay check, of the amount of paid sick leave they have available

(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)

4. Keep a record documenting the hours worked and paid sick days accrued and used by each eligible employee for three years

Legal Reference: (see next page)

PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 44964 Power to grant leave of absence in case of illness, accident, or quarantine
- 44965 Granting of leaves of absence for pregnancy and childbirth
- 44976 Transfer of leave rights when school is transferred to another district
- 44977 Salary deduction during absence from duties up to five months after sick leave is exhausted
- 44977.5 Differential pay during parental leave up to 12 weeks after sick leave is exhausted
- 44978 Provisions for sick leave of certificated employees
- 44978.1 Inability to return to duty; placement in another position or on reemployment list
- 44978.2 Leave for military service connected disability
- 44979 Transfer of accumulated sick leave to another district
- 44980 Transfer of accumulated sick leave to a county office of education
- 44981 Leave of absence for personal necessity
- 44983 Exception to sick leave when district adopts specific rule
- 44984 Industrial accident or illness
- 44986 Leave of absence for disability allowance applicant

GOVERNMENT CODE

- 12945.1-12945.2 California Family Rights Act
- 12945.6 Parental leave

LABOR CODE

- 220 Sections inapplicable to public employees
- 230 Jury duty; legal actions by domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking victims, right to time off
- 230.1 Employers with 25 or more employees; domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking victims, right to time off
- 233 Illness of child, parent, spouse or domestic partner
- 234 Absence control policy
- 245-249 Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act of 2014

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

- 5601 Transfer of accumulated sick leave

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

- 2601-2654 Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, as amended

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

- 2000ff-2000ff-11 Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 29

- 825.100-825.702 Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993
- 1635.1-1635.12 Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008

COURT DECISIONS

- Veguez v. Governing Board of Long Beach Unified School District, (2005) 127 Cal.App.4th 406

CSBA Sample

Administrative Regulation

Classified Personnel

AR 4261.1(a)

PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE

Note: The following administrative regulation is subject to collective bargaining. Twelve days of paid personal illness or injury leave (sick leave) per year is the minimum prescribed by Education Code 45191 for classified employees employed five days a week in both merit and non-merit system districts. The Governing Board may allow more sick leave at its discretion; if it does so, the following paragraph should be revised accordingly.

Labor Code 245-249 (the Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act) require districts to grant a minimum of one hour of paid sick leave for every 30 hours worked to their employees who work for 30 days within a year of their employment, including classified employees. Pursuant to Labor Code 246, a district may use a different sick leave accrual method which provides for the accrual to be on a regular basis so that employees accrue at least 24 hours of sick leave or paid time off by the 120th calendar day of their employment or each calendar year or 12-month period.

The provisions of Labor Code 245-249 are very broad and **only** district employees covered by a valid collective bargaining agreement may be exempted from them, if the collective bargaining agreement expressly provides paid sick leave in an amount equal to or exceeding the amount of leave required pursuant to Labor Code 246, includes final and binding arbitration of disputes regarding the application of the paid sick days provisions, and provides premium wage rates for all overtime hours worked and a regular hourly rate of pay of not less than 30 percent more than the state minimum wage rate. Since many districts may not satisfy all of the conditions for this exemption, this administrative regulation reflects the requirements of Labor Code 245-249. Any district which has a collective bargaining agreement that meets all of the conditions for exemption may modify this administrative regulation accordingly.

For additional requirements of Labor Code 245-249, see sections titled "Short-Term and Substitute Employees" and "Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act Requirements" below. For sick leave for certificated employees, see AR 4161.1/4361.1 - Personal Illness/Injury Leave.

Classified employees employed five days a week are entitled to 12 days' leave of absence with full pay for personal illness or injury (sick leave) per fiscal year. Employees who work less than a full fiscal year or fewer than five days a week (part-time employees) shall be granted sick leave in proportion to the time they work. However, part-time employees who are entitled to less than 24 hours of paid sick leave per fiscal year due to the amount of time worked shall be granted sick leave pursuant to Labor Code 246, if they are eligible. (Education Code 45191; Labor Code 245-249)

(cf. 4161/4261/4361 - Leaves)

(cf. 4161.9/4261.9/4361.9 - Catastrophic Leave Program)

Use of Sick Leave

Note: Items #1-8 below reflect allowable uses of sick leave specified in law. The district may expand this list to include any additional purposes authorized by law, authorized by the district, or included in a bargaining agreement.

A classified employee may use sick leave for absences due to:

PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE (continued)

1. Accident or illness, whether or not the absence arises out of or in the course of employment, or by quarantine which results from contact in the course of employment with other persons having a contagious disease (Education Code 45199)
2. Pregnancy, childbirth, and recovery (Education Code 45193)

(cf. 4161.8/4261.8/4361.8 - Family Care and Medical Leave)

3. Personal necessity as specified in Education Code 45207

(cf. 4161.2/4261.2/4361.2 - Personal Leaves)

Note: Optional item #4 below may be revised to specify a different minimum increment.
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4. Medical and dental appointments, in increments of not less than one hour
5. Industrial accident or illness when leave granted specifically for that purpose has been exhausted (Education Code 45192)

(cf. 4161.11/4261.11/4361.11 - Industrial Accident/Illness Leave)

Note: Pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) (29 USC 2612) and California Family Rights Act(cfRA) (Government Code 12945.2), a district is required to grant leave to an eligible employee to bond with a child after the birth, adoption, or foster care placement of the child, if the district employs 50 or more employees within 75 miles of the worksite where the employee requesting the leave is employed. For this purpose, employees may, but are not required to, use sick leave for any otherwise unpaid FMLA or CFRA leave.
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Government Code 12945.6 extends the right to parental leave to an eligible employee who is not covered by FMLA or CFRA when the district employs 20-49 employees within 75 miles of the worksite where the employee requesting the leave is employed.

For further information regarding parental leave, see AR 4161.8/4261.8/4361.8 - Family Care and Medical Leave.
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6. Need of an employee to bond with a child within one year of the child's birth, adoption, or foster care placement (parental leave) (Education Code 45196.1; Government Code 12945.2, 12945.6; 29 USC 2612; 29 CFR 825.112)

Note: Pursuant to Labor Code 233, any district that provides sick leave to its employees is required to permit them to use sick leave, in an amount not less than the sick leave that would be accrued during six months at the employee's then current rate of entitlement, for the purposes specified in items #7-8 below.
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For the purpose of using sick leave to attend to the health care needs of a family member, as specified in item #7 below, Labor Code 245.5 defines "family member" as an employee's spouse, registered domestic partner, child (biological, adopted, or foster child; stepchild; legal ward; or a child to whom the employee
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PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE (continued)

stands in loco parentis), parent (biological, adoptive, or foster parent; stepparent; legal guardian of an employee or the employee's spouse or registered domestic partner; or a person who stood in loco parentis when the employee was a minor child), grandparent, grandchild, or sibling.

For additional information about leaves for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking granted in accordance with item #8 below, see AR 4161.2/4261.2/4361.2 - Personal Leaves.

7. Need of the employee or the employee's family member, as defined in Labor Code 245.5, for the diagnosis, care, or treatment of an existing health condition or for preventive care (Labor Code 233, 246.5)
8. Need of the employee to seek or obtain any relief or medical attention specified in Labor Code 230(c) and 230.1(a) for the health, safety, or welfare of the employee or the employee's child, when the employee has been a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking (Labor Code 233, 246.5)

For the purposes specified in items #7-8, an employee may use, in any calendar year, the amount of sick leave that would be accrued during six months at the employee's then current rate of entitlement. (Labor Code 233)

An employee may take leave for personal illness or injury at any time during the year, even if credit for such leave has not yet been accrued. However, a new full-time classified employee shall not be entitled to more than six days of sick leave, or the proportionate amount to which the employee may be entitled, until the first day of the month after the employee has completed six months of active service with the district. (Education Code 45191)

Unused days of sick leave shall be accumulated from year to year without limitation. (Education Code 45191)

Note: The following paragraph is **optional**.

An employee shall reimburse the district for any unearned sick leave used as of the date of termination.

The district shall not require newly employed classified employees to waive leave accumulated in a previous district. However, if the employee's previous employment was terminated for cause, the transfer of the accumulated leave shall be made only if approved by the Governing Board. (Education Code 45202)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 45202, classified employees who are terminated after at least one year of employment for any reason unrelated to discipline are entitled to have their accumulated sick leave transferred with them in certain circumstances. The following paragraph, which provides for the notification of employees as a way to implement this provision, is **optional** and may be revised to reflect district practice.

PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE (continued)

The Superintendent or designee shall notify any classified employee whose employment with the district is terminated after at least one calendar year for reasons other than for cause that, if the employee accepts employment in another district, county office of education, or community college district within one year of the termination of employment, the employee may request that the district transfer any accumulated sick leave to the new employer. (Education Code 45202)

Additional Leave for Disabled Military Veterans

In addition to any other entitlement for sick leave with pay, a classified employee who is a former active duty member of the U.S. Armed Forces or a former or current member of the California National Guard or a federal reserve component shall be entitled to sick leave with pay of up to 12 days for the purpose of undergoing medical treatment, including mental health treatment, for a military service-connected disability rated at 30 percent or higher by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. An eligible employee who works less than five days per week shall be entitled to such leave in proportion to the time worked. (Education Code 45191.5)

The amount of leave shall be credited to the employee either on the date the employee receives confirmation of the submission of the disability application to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or on the first day the employee begins or returns to employment after active duty, whichever is later. When the employee receives the disability rating decision, the employee shall report that information to the Superintendent or designee. If the disability rating decision makes the employee eligible for the leave, the time used before the decision shall be counted toward the 12-day maximum leave. If the disability rating decision makes the employee ineligible for the leave, the district may change the sick leave time used before the disability rating decision to an alternative leave balance. (Education Code 45191.5)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 45191.5, the district may require proof that a leave granted under this law is used for treatment of a military service-connected disability. The following paragraph may be revised to reflect district practice.

The Superintendent or designee may require verification, in accordance with the section "Verification Requirements" below, that the employee used the leave to obtain treatment of a military service-connected disability.

Leave for military-service connected disability shall be available for 12 months following the first date that the leave was credited. Leave not used during the 12-month period shall not be carried over and shall be forfeited. (Education Code 45191.5)

Notification of Absence

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

PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE (continued)

An employee shall notify the Superintendent or the designated manager or supervisor of the need to be absent as soon as such need is known so that the services of a substitute may be secured as necessary. This notification shall include an estimate of the expected duration of absence. If the absence becomes longer than estimated, the employee shall so notify the district. If the duration of absence becomes shorter than estimated, the employee shall notify the district not later than three o'clock in the afternoon of the day preceding the day on which the employee intends to return to work. If the employee fails to notify the district and the failure results in a substitute being secured, the cost of the substitute shall be deducted from the employee's pay.

Continued Absence After Available Sick Leave Is Exhausted/Differential Pay

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 45196, districts may choose one of two methods for compensating classified employees who have exhausted their paid leaves and continue to be absent due to illness or injury.

Option 1 below is for use by districts that subtract the actual cost of a substitute from the absent employee's salary for up to five months. Pursuant to Education Code 45196, the amount paid to a substitute must be less than the absent employee's salary unless the Board has adopted a salary schedule for substitutes. In California School Employees Association v. Tustin Unified School District, the court ruled that a district could deduct from the absent employee's salary only the cost of an outside substitute employee, not the cost of existing classified employee(s) working additional hours to fill the position during the absence.

Option 2 is **mandated** pursuant to Education Code 45196 for districts that annually credit regular classified employees with at least 100 working days of paid sick leave and, after they have exhausted all fully paid leaves, compensate them at 50 percent or more of their regular salary for the remainder of the 100 working days. Option 2 may be revised to specify more than 100 working days and/or the level of compensation the district will pay an employee, if it chooses to pay more than 50 percent of the employee's salary.

Districts that maintain a catastrophic leave program for their classified employees should specify how the program will affect the differential leave pay to which the employee may be entitled.

OPTION 1:

When a classified employee has exhausted all paid leaves, including sick leave, and continues to be absent on account of illness or injury for a period of five months or less, the district shall deduct from the employee's regular salary for that period an amount that does not exceed the actual cost of a substitute to fill the position. (Education Code 45196)

The five-month period shall commence on the first day of the leave of absence and shall run concurrently with any other paid leave.

OPTION 2:

Each year, each regular classified employee shall be credited with no fewer than 100 working days of paid leave for personal illness or injury, including current year and accumulated days of leave. When the current year and accumulated days at full pay are exhausted, the

PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE (continued)

remainder of the 100 days shall be compensated at least 50 percent of the employee's regular salary. Any of the 100 days of leave not used during the year in which they are credited shall be forfeited and shall not accumulate from year to year. This paid leave shall be exclusive of any other paid leave, holidays, vacation, or compensatory time to which the employee may be entitled. (Education Code 45196)

Parental Leave

Note: The following section is subject to any conflicting provision in a collective bargaining agreement that provides greater parental leave rights.

During each school year, a classified employee may use all available sick leave, including accumulated sick leave, for the purpose of parental leave for a period of up to 12 work weeks. The 12-week period shall be reduced by any period of sick leave, including accumulated sick leave, taken during a period of such parental leave. (Education Code 45196.1)

Note: Unlike leave taken pursuant to Government Code 12945.2, leave taken pursuant to Education Code 45196.1 does not require an employee to have at least 1,250 hours of service with the district during the previous 12-month period in order to be eligible for parental leave. See AR 4161.8/4261.8/4361.8 - Family Care and Medical Leave for further information on requirements related to the California Family Rights Act.

Eligibility for such leave shall not require 1,250 hours of service with the district during the previous 12 months. (Education Code 45196.1)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 45196.1, the district is required to provide differential pay to a classified employee for up to 12 work weeks when the employee has exhausted all available sick leave, including accumulated sick leave, and continues to be absent due to parental leave pursuant to Government Code 12945.2. Such an employee is entitled to receive differential pay, calculated in the same manner described in Option 1 or 2 in the section "Continued Absence After Available Sick Leave Is Exhausted/Differential Pay" above. As amended by AB 2012 (Ch. 994, Statutes of 2018), Education Code 45196.1 requires that, regardless of the type of differential pay system used by the district, employees must receive at least 50 percent of their regular salary for any portion of the 12-week parental leave that remains following the exhaustion of sick leave. The following paragraph may be revised to specify a percentage higher than 50 percent in accordance with district practice.

Since Education Code 45196.1 does not expressly require districts to provide differential pay to employees who are eligible for parental leave pursuant to Government Code 12945.6, it is unclear whether such employees would be entitled to differential pay. Districts should consult legal counsel if they have questions regarding differential pay for such employees.

An employee who has exhausted all available sick leave, including accumulated sick leave, and continues to be absent on account of parental leave shall receive differential pay of at least 50 percent of the employee's regular salary for the remainder of the 12 work weeks. (Education Code 45196.1)

PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE (continued)

Parental leave taken pursuant to Education Code 45196.1 shall run concurrently with the parental leave taken pursuant to Government Code 12945.2 or 12945.6, and the aggregate amount of parental leave shall not exceed 12 work weeks in a 12-month period. (Education Code 45196.1; Government Code 12945.2, 12945.6)

Extension of Leave

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 45195, the following extension of leave may be either paid or unpaid, and the Board may grant full pay for the full 18 months' allowable absence, if desired.

A permanent employee who is absent because of a personal illness or injury and who has exhausted all available sick leave, vacation, compensatory overtime, and any other paid leave shall be so notified, in writing, and offered an opportunity to request additional leave. The Board may grant the employee additional leave, paid or unpaid, for a period not to exceed six months and may renew this leave for two additional six-month periods or for lesser periods. The total additional leave granted shall not exceed 18 months. (Education Code 45195)

(cf. 4216 - Probationary/Permanent Status)

If the employee is still unable to return to work after all available paid and unpaid leaves have been exhausted, the employee shall be placed on a reemployment list for a period of 39 months. If during this time the employee becomes medically able, the employee shall be offered reemployment in the first vacancy in the classification of the employee's previous assignment. During the 39 months, the employee's reemployment shall take preference over all other applicants except those laid off for lack of work or lack of funds, in which case the employee shall be ranked according to seniority. (Education Code 45195)

Verification Requirements

Note: Education Code 45191 **mandates** the Board to adopt regulations that require proof of illness or injury and prescribe the means of verification. However, Education Code 45191 provides that these regulations shall not discriminate against evidence of treatment and the need for treatment by the practice of a well-recognized religion. The following section should be modified to reflect district practice and any procedures that have been specified in bargaining agreements.

Labor Code 233 requires districts to allow their employees to use sick leave for the purposes specified in Labor Code 246.5, the paid sick leave law. Because the paid sick leave law is silent on requests for verification, and actually requires an employer to provide an employee with paid sick days upon oral or written request, districts should be cautious in requiring verification for sick leave used for the purposes specified in Labor Code 246.5 (items #7-8 in the section "Use of Sick Leave" above). Although a district is permitted to require verification from an employee who is a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, pursuant to Labor Code 230 and 230.1, a general insistence on verification could be deemed a violation of Labor Code 246.5. Any district with questions regarding its authority related to verification should consult legal counsel.

PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE (continued)

After any absence due to illness or injury, the employee shall submit a completed and signed district absence form to the employee's immediate supervisor.

The Superintendent or designee may require verification whenever an employee's absence record shows chronic absenteeism or a pattern of absences immediately before or after weekends and/or holidays or whenever available evidence clearly indicates that an absence is not related to illness or injury.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee may require an employee to visit a physician selected by the district, at district expense, in order to receive a report on the medical condition of the employee. The report shall include a statement as to the employee's need for additional leave of absence and a prognosis as to when the employee will be able to return to work. If the report concludes that the employee's condition does not warrant continued absence, the Superintendent or designee may, after giving notice to the employee, deny the request for additional leave.

Note: 42 USC 2000ff-1, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, and its implementing regulations, 29 CFR 1635.1-1635.12, specify that it is unlawful for a district to request, require, or purchase an employee's or family member's individual genetic information except in complying with the medical certification requirements for family care and medical leave purposes or with the employee's prior written authorization. See AR 4161.8/4261.8/4361.8 - Family Care and Medical Leave. Pursuant to 29 CFR 1635.9, any such information received by the district must be kept confidential as specified below.

Any district request for additional verification by an employee's physician or a district-selected physician shall be in writing and shall specify that the report to be submitted to the district should not contain the employee's genetic information. Any genetic information received by the district on behalf of an employee shall be treated as a confidential medical record, maintained in a file separate from the employee's personnel file, and shall not be disclosed except in accordance with 29 CFR 1635.9.

Before returning to work, an employee who has been absent for surgery, hospitalization, or extended medical treatment may be asked to submit a letter from a physician stating that the employee is able to return to work and stipulating any necessary restrictions or limitations.

(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)

(cf. 4113.4/4213.4/4313.4 - Temporary Modified/Light-Duty Assignment)

Short-Term and Substitute Employees

Note: Pursuant to Labor Code 245-249, the district is required to grant a minimum of one hour of paid sick leave for every 30 hours worked by an employee who works for 30 days within a year of employment. In implementing this requirement, Labor Code 246 permits the district to use any of the options specified below. Option 1 provides for paid leave accrual based on one hour for every 30 hours worked. Option 2 allows an accrual method that provides for a regular accrual basis and ensures that the employee receives 24

PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE (continued)

hours of paid sick leave by the 120th calendar day of employment or each calendar year or 12-month period. Option 3 is for any district that credits employees with 24 hours or three days of paid sick leave at the beginning of each year and does not allow unused sick leave to carry over to the next year. In addition, pursuant to Labor Code 245.5, retired annuitants who have not reinstated to the applicable public retirement system are excluded from participation in these leave benefit provisions. The district should select the option below which corresponds to its approach under Labor Code 246.

See section below titled "Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act Requirements" for additional requirements.

OPTION 1:

Except for a retired annuitant who is not reinstated to the retirement system, short-term or substitute employees who work for 30 or more days within a year of their employment shall be entitled to one hour of paid sick leave for every 30 hours worked. Accrued paid sick days shall carry over to the following year of employment, up to a maximum of 48 hours. (Labor Code 246)

OPTION 2:

Except for a retired annuitant who is not reinstated to the retirement system, short-term or substitute employees who work for 30 or more days within a year of their employment shall accrue, on a regular basis, paid sick leave of up to 24 hours by the 120th calendar day of their employment or each calendar year or 12-month period. Accrued paid sick days shall carry over to the following year of employment, up to a maximum of 48 hours. (Labor Code 246)

OPTION 3:

Except for a retired annuitant who is not reinstated to the retirement system, short-term or substitute employees who work for 30 or more days within a year of their employment shall be credited with 24 hours or three days of paid sick leave for that year. Unused sick leave shall not carry over to the following year of employment. (Labor Code 246)

Note: The following paragraph applies to all the above options.

Short-term or substitute employees may begin to use accrued paid sick days on the 90th day of their employment, after which they may use the sick days as they are accrued. (Labor Code 246)

Note: The following paragraph applies to all of the above options and reflects the intent of the Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act to enable California workers to address their own and their family's health needs and to provide them with economic security when they need to take time off work for reasons of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking. The following paragraph may be revised to include additional reasons for which short-term or substitute employees may use sick leave, pursuant to

PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE (continued)

district policy or practice. Pursuant to Labor Code 247.5, a district is not required to inquire into the purposes for which an employee uses paid leave.

A short-term or substitute employee may use accrued sick leave for absences due to: (Labor Code 246.5)

1. The employee's own need or the need of a family member, as defined in Labor Code 245.5, for the diagnosis, care, or treatment of an existing health condition or for preventive care
2. Need of the employee to obtain or seek any relief or medical attention specified in Labor Code 230(c) and 230.1(a) for the health, safety, or welfare of the employee, or the employee's child, when the employee has been a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking

Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act Requirements

Note: Pursuant to Labor Code 245-249, all employers, including those that provide paid time off to their employees under existing policy or other law, must comply with the requirements specified in the following section. Pursuant to Labor Code 248.5, noncompliance with the Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act could result in an enforcement action against the employer, including the imposition of civil and monetary penalties. Any district with questions regarding the applicability of this law should consult its legal counsel.

No employee, including a short-term or substitute employee, shall be denied the right to use accrued sick days and the district shall not in any manner discriminate or retaliate against an employee for using or attempting to use sick leave, filing a complaint with the Labor Commissioner, or alleging district violation of Labor Code 245-249.

To ensure the district's compliance with Labor Code 245-249, the Superintendent or designee shall:

1. At a conspicuous location in each workplace, display a poster on paid sick leave that includes the following information:
 - a. That an employee is entitled to accrue, request, and use paid sick days
 - b. The number of sick days provided by Labor Code 245-249
 - c. The terms of use of paid sick days
 - d. That discrimination or retaliation against an employee for requesting and/or using sick leave is prohibited by law and that an employee has the right to file a complaint with the Labor Commissioner if the district discriminates or retaliates against the employee

PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE (continued)

2. Provide at least 24 hours or three days of paid sick leave to each eligible employee to use per year and allow eligible employees to use accrued sick leave upon reasonable request
3. Provide eligible employees written notice, on their pay stub or other document issued with their pay check, of the amount of paid sick leave they have available

(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)

4. Keep a record documenting the hours worked and paid sick days accrued and used by each eligible employee for three years

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

45103 Substitute employees

45190 Leaves of absence and vacations

45191 Leaves of absence for illness and injury

45191.5 Leave for military service connected disability

45193 Leave of absence for pregnancy (re use of sick leave under certain circumstances)

45195 Additional leave for nonindustrial accident or illness; reemployment preference

45196 Salary; deductions during sick leave

45196.1 Differential pay during parental leave up to 12 weeks after sick leave is exhausted

45202 Transfer of accumulated sick leave and other benefits

GOVERNMENT CODE

12945.1-12945.2 California Family Rights Act

12945.6 Parental leave

LABOR CODE

230 Jury duty; legal actions by domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking victims, right to time off

230.1 Employers with 25 or more employees; domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking victims, right to time off

233 Illness of child, parent, spouse or domestic partner

245-249 Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act of 2014

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

2601-2654 Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, as amended

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

2000ff-2000ff-11 Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 29

825.100-825.702 Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993

1635.1-1635.12 Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008

COURT DECISIONS

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(3/17 3/18) 3/19

Policy Reference UPDATE Service

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CSBA Sample

Board Policy

Students

BP 5117(a)

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE

Note: The Education Code provides a number of options under which a district may enroll a student whose parent/guardian does not reside within district boundaries. Under an "interdistrict attendance permit" or "reciprocal agreement" pursuant to Education Code 46600-46610, a student may attend school in a different district when both the district of residence and the district of proposed attendance agree (Option 1 below). Alternatively, pursuant to Education Code 48300-48317, the Governing Board may declare the district to be a "school district of choice" willing to accept a specific number of interdistrict transfers into the district through a random selection process (Option 2 below). In order to maintain the integrity of the random selection process, it is recommended that a school district of choice not also accept transfers under the interdistrict attendance permit option except when extraordinary circumstances exist, as provided in Option 2 below. Districts that wish to use both sources of authority should consult legal counsel.

In addition, pursuant to Education Code 48204, a district may authorize a student whose parent/guardian is employed within district boundaries to attend a school in the district (Allen bill transfer); see AR 5111.1 - District Residency.

The Governing Board recognizes that parents/guardians of students who reside within the geographic boundaries of one district may, for a variety of reasons, desire to enroll their children in a school in another district.

(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)

(cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)

OPTION 1: Interdistrict Attendance Agreements and Permits

Note: The following section is for use by districts that have entered into an agreement with one or more other districts to accept student transfers through interdistrict attendance permits pursuant to Education Code 46600-46610. Districts selecting this option should also select Option 1 in the accompanying administrative regulation.

The Board may enter into an agreement with any other school district, for a term not to exceed five school years, for the interdistrict attendance of students who are residents of the districts. (Education Code 46600)

Note: Education Code 46600 requires that the interdistrict attendance agreement specify the terms and conditions under which individual permits may be granted or denied. In addition, pursuant to Education Code 46600, students who have been granted an interdistrict attendance permit must be allowed to continue to attend the school without having to reapply unless the agreement between the two districts contains specific agreed-upon standards for reapplication; see the accompanying administrative regulation. Districts also may include in the agreement their agreed-upon standards for revocation of students' interdistrict attendance. Examples of conditions that may result in revocation include falsification of information stated on the permit application, unsatisfactory attendance, continual disruption, or poor academic achievement.

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE (continued)

The agreement shall specify the terms and conditions under which interdistrict attendance shall be permitted or denied. It also may contain standards agreed to by both districts for reapplication and/or revocation of the student's permit. (Education Code 46600)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 46600, it is the responsibility of the superintendent or designee of the district of residence, subject to board policies of the district of residence and terms of the agreement, to issue an individual permit verifying the district's approval of an interdistrict transfer out of the district. The permit shall become valid when endorsed by the board's designee in the district of proposed enrollment.

See the accompanying administrative regulation for procedures to follow when the permit is denied.

Upon receiving a permit for transfer into the district that has been approved by the student's district of residence, or upon receiving a written request from the parent/guardian of a district student who wishes to enroll in another district, the Superintendent or designee shall review the request and may approve or deny the permit subject to the terms and conditions of the interdistrict attendance agreement.

OPTION 2: School District of Choice Program

Note: The following section is for use by districts that elect to participate in the school district of choice program pursuant to Education Code 48300-48317. Pursuant to Education Code 48301, such a district must register as a school district of choice with the Superintendent of Public Instruction and County Board of Education before enrolling students under this option. Districts selecting this option should also select Option 2 in the accompanying administrative regulation.

The Board has designated the district as a "school district of choice" and shall accept students who reside within other California school districts who wish to attend a district school.

The Board shall, by resolution, annually establish the number of students who will be accepted into the district through this program based on recommendations by the Superintendent or designee as to the number of transfer students the district will be able to accept and the schools, grades, and programs that will be able to accept the students. Once established, the district shall accept all students who apply to transfer into the district until the district is at maximum capacity, as required pursuant to Education Code 48301.

Note: Education Code 48301 requires a random, unbiased process for selecting students who will be admitted through the school district of choice program and prohibits consideration of certain characteristics and factors in making the selections. Pursuant to Education Code 48301, family income may only be considered to the extent necessary to determine enrollment priority pursuant to Education Code 48306; see the accompanying administrative regulation.

Students shall be admitted to district schools through an unbiased process that prohibits an inquiry into or evaluation or consideration of whether or not a student should be enrolled based upon the student's academic or athletic performance, physical condition, proficiency in

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE (continued)

English, any of the individual characteristics set forth in Education Code 200, or family income. (Education Code 48301)

If the number of transfer applications exceeds the number of transfers the Board has elected to accept, approval for transfer shall be determined by a random drawing held in public at a regularly scheduled Board meeting. (Education Code 48301)

Note: Because the school district of choice program requires a random selection process, it is recommended that participating districts not admit students through the interdistrict attendance permit process described in Option 1 above except under extraordinary circumstances. Such circumstances might include approving interdistrict attendance permits for students who are victims of an act of bullying. Such students are given priority for interdistrict attendance permits pursuant to Education Code 46600; see the accompanying administrative regulation.

Because the district admits students in accordance with the school district of choice program, the Superintendent or designee shall not admit students based on individual interdistrict attendance permits pursuant to Education Code 46600-46610 except under extraordinary circumstances.

The Superintendent or designee shall keep an accounting of all requests for admittance and a record of their disposition, including, but not limited to, 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 into and out of the district pursuant to this program
3. The race, ethnicity, gender, self-reported socioeconomic status, eligibility for free or reduced-price meals, and the district of residence for each student transferred into or out of the district pursuant to this program
4. The number of students transferred into or out of the district pursuant to this program who are classified as English learners or students with disabilities

Note: Education Code 48311 authorizes, but does not require, a school district of choice to provide transportation to participating students to the extent that the district provides transportation assistance to other students. See section on "Transportation" below. Item #5 may be deleted by districts that do not provide transportation.

5. As applicable, the number of students described in items #3 and 4 above who are provided transportation assistance to a district school or program, and the total number of students provided transportation assistance, pursuant to the school district of choice program

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE (continued)

The Superintendent or designee shall report to the Board, at a regularly scheduled meeting, the information specified in items #1-5 above. No later than October 15 of each year, the Superintendent or designee shall provide the same information for the current school year, 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, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction. (Education Code 48313)

The district's compliance with specified program requirements shall be reviewed as part of the annual district audit conducted pursuant to Education Code 41020. (Education Code 48301)

(cf. 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability)

Transportation

Note: The following **optional** section is for use by all districts and should be revised to reflect district practice. Districts are not required to provide transportation or transportation assistance to students admitted under an interdistrict attendance permit pursuant to Education Code 46600-46610. Pursuant to Education Code 48311, a school district of choice is authorized, but not required, to provide transportation assistance to the extent that the district otherwise provides transportation assistance to students.

The district shall not provide transportation beyond any school attendance area. Upon request of a student's parent/guardian, the Superintendent or designee may authorize transportation for an interdistrict transfer student to and from designated bus stops within the attendance area of the school that the student attends if space is available.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

41020 Annual district audits

46600-46610 Interdistrict attendance agreements

48204 Residency requirements for school attendance

48300-48317 Student attendance alternatives, school district of choice program

48900 Grounds for suspension or expulsion; definition of bullying

48915 Expulsion; particular circumstances

48915.1 Expelled individuals; enrollment in another district

48918 Rules governing expulsion procedures

48980 Notice at beginning of term

48985 Notices to parents in language other than English

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

CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

Article 1, Section 31 Nondiscrimination on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

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

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

COURT DECISIONS

Walnut Valley Unified School District v. the Superior Court of Los Angeles County, (2011) 192 Cal.App.4th 234

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>

(12/15 10/17) 3/19

CSBA Sample

Administrative Regulation

Students

AR 5117(a)

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE

OPTION 1: Interdistrict Attendance Agreements and Permits

Note: The following option is for use by districts that have entered into an agreement with one or more other school districts to accept transfers through the "interdistrict attendance permit" or "reciprocal agreement" process pursuant to Education Code 46600-46610. (See Option 1 in the accompanying Board policy.) In 87 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 132 (2004), the Attorney General opined that districts could not charge students a fee for processing applications for interdistrict attendance.

In accordance with an agreement between the Governing Board and the board of another district, a permit authorizing a student of either district to enroll in the other district may be issued upon approval of both districts.

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 46600.2, as added by AB 2826 (Ch. 550, Statutes of 2018), districts are required to post on their web sites, in a manner accessible to the public without a password, the procedures and timelines regarding a request for an interdistrict transfer permit.

The district shall post on its web site the procedures and timelines for requesting an interdistrict transfer permit, including a link to BP 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance. The posted information shall include, but is not limited to: (Education Code 46600.1, 46600.2)

1. The date upon which the district will begin accepting and processing interdistrict transfer requests for the following school year
2. The reasons for which the district may approve or deny a request, and any information or documents that must be submitted as supporting evidence
3. If applicable, the process and timelines by which a denial of a request may be appealed within the district before the district renders a final decision
4. A statement that failure of a parent/guardian to meet any timelines established by the district shall be deemed an abandonment of the request
5. Applicable timelines for processing a request, including the following statements:
 - a. For an interdistrict transfer request received by the district 15 or fewer calendar days before the commencement of instruction in the school year for which the transfer is sought, the district will notify the parent/guardian of its final decision within 30 calendar days from the date the request was received.

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE (continued)

- b. For an interdistrict transfer request received by the district more than 15 days before the commencement of instruction in the school year for which the interdistrict transfer is sought, the district will notify the parent/guardian of its final decision as soon as possible, but no later than 14 calendar days after the commencement of instruction in the school year for which transfer is sought.
6. The conditions under which an existing interdistrict transfer permit may be revoked or rescinded

Note: Education Code 46600 requires districts to give priority for interdistrict attendance permits to a student who is a victim of an act of bullying, as provided below. For this purpose, Education Code 48900(r) defines bullying to include, but not be limited to, bullying committed by means of an electronic act directed specifically toward the student; see AR 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process.

Priority for interdistrict attendance shall be given to a student who has been determined by staff of either the district of residence or district of proposed enrollment to be a victim of an act of bullying, as defined in Education Code 48900(r), committed by a student of the district of residence. (Education Code 46600)

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

In addition, the Superintendent or designee may approve an interdistrict attendance permit for a student for any of the following reasons when stipulated in the agreement:

Note: **Optional** items #1-11 below should be revised and/or deleted to reflect district practice.

1. To meet the child care needs of the student, only as long as the student's child care provider remains within district boundaries

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)

2. To meet the student's special mental or physical health needs as certified by a physician, school psychologist, or other appropriate school personnel

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

3. When the student has a sibling attending school in the receiving district, to avoid splitting the family's attendance
4. To allow the student to complete a school year when the student's parents/guardians have moved out of the district during that year
5. To allow the student to remain with a class graduating that year from an elementary, middle, or senior high school

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE (continued)

6. To allow a high school senior to attend the same school attended as a junior, even if the student's family moved out of the district during the junior year
7. When the parent/guardian provides written evidence that the family will be moving into the district in the immediate future and would like the student to start the school year in the district
8. When the student will be living out of the district for one year or less
9. When recommended by the school attendance review board or by county child welfare, probation, or social service agency staff in documented cases of serious home or community problems which make it inadvisable for the student to attend the school of residence

(cf. 5113.1 - Chronic Absence and Truancy)

(cf. 5113.12 - District School Attendance Review Board)

10. When there is valid interest in a particular educational program not offered in the district of residence
11. To provide a change in school environment for reasons of personal and social adjustment

Note: In 84 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 198 (2001), the Attorney General opined that a lack of school facilities is a justifiable reason for denial of the interdistrict attendance permit request. However, according to the Attorney General, once the student is admitted, the district may not later deny the student continued attendance at a district school because of overcrowding. Although Attorney General opinions are not binding on the courts, they are generally afforded deference in the court when there is no specific statutory or case law to the contrary. The following paragraph is based on this Attorney General opinion.

The Superintendent or designee may deny initial requests for interdistrict attendance permits due to limited district resources, overcrowding of school facilities at the relevant grade level, or other considerations that are not arbitrary. However, once a student is admitted, the district shall not deny continued attendance because of overcrowded facilities at the relevant grade level.

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

Note: Education Code 46600.2, as added by AB 2826, establishes the following timelines for notifying a student's parents/guardians of the district's final decision regarding the interdistrict transfer request.

If the transfer request is for a school year that begins within 15 calendar days of the receipt of the request, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of the final

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE (continued)

decision within 30 calendar days of receiving the request. If the transfer request is for a school year that begins more than 15 calendar days after the receipt of the request, the parent/guardian shall be notified of the final decision as soon as possible, but no later than 14 calendar days after the commencement of instruction during that school year. (Education Code 46600.2)

Note: Education Code 46600.2, as added by AB 2826, requires a district that denies a request for an interdistrict transfer to give written notice to the parent/guardian of the right to appeal to the County Board of Education.

Pursuant to Education Code 46601, parents/guardians may submit their appeal to the County Board within 30 calendar days of the district's final denial of the permit. The County Board then has 30 calendar days, unless extended by an additional five school days for good cause, to make its determination as to whether the student should be allowed to attend the district of proposed enrollment and the applicable period of attendance. However, Education Code 46601 allows a class 1 county (i.e., a county with a 1994-95 average daily attendance (ADA) of 500,000 or more for all districts in the county), until July 1, 2023, 60 calendar days to make its determination.

Pursuant to Education Code 46602, if the County Board determines that the student should be permitted to attend the district of proposed enrollment, the district shall admit the student without delay.

If a student's interdistrict transfer request is denied, the Superintendent or designee shall, in writing, notify the parents/guardians of their right to appeal to the County Board of Education within 30 calendar days from the date of the final denial. (Education Code 46600.2)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

All notices to parents/guardians regarding the district's decision on any request for interdistrict transfer shall conform to the translation requirements of Education Code 48985, and may be provided by regular mail, electronic format if the parent/guardian provides an email address, or by any other method normally used to communicate with parents/guardians in writing. (Education Code 46600.2)

Pending a decision by the two districts or by the County Board on appeal, the Superintendent or designee may provisionally admit a student who resides in another district for a period not to exceed two school months, provided the district is the district of proposed enrollment. If the decision has not been rendered by the conclusion of two school months and the districts or County Board is still operating within the prescribed timelines, the student shall not be allowed to continue attending the district school to which the student was provisionally admitted. (Education Code 46603)

Students who are under consideration for expulsion or who have been expelled may not appeal interdistrict attendance denials or rescissions while expulsion proceedings are pending or during the term of the expulsion. (Education Code 46601)

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE (continued)

(cf. 5119 - Students Expelled from Other Districts)
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

Once a student is admitted to a school on the basis of an interdistrict attendance permit, the student shall not be required to reapply for an interdistrict transfer and shall be allowed to continue to attend the school of enrollment, unless reapplication standards are otherwise specified in the interdistrict attendance agreement. Existing interdistrict attendance permits shall not be rescinded after June 30 following a student's completion of grade 10 or for any student entering grade 11 or 12 in the subsequent school year. (Education Code 46600)

OPTION 2: School District of Choice Program

Note: The following section is for use by districts that elect to participate in the school district of choice program pursuant to Education Code 48300-48317. (See Option 2 in the accompanying Board policy.)

The Superintendent or designee shall communicate with parents/guardians regarding transfer opportunities under the school district of choice program. Communications sent to parents/guardians shall be available in all languages for which translations are required pursuant to Education Code 48985, shall be factually accurate, and shall not target particular neighborhoods or individual parents/guardians on the basis of a child's actual or perceived academic or athletic skill or any other personal characteristic. (Education Code 48301, 48980)

The Superintendent or designee shall also make public announcements regarding district schools, programs, policies, and procedures, including transportation options if applicable, during the enrollment period. (Education Code 48312)

Note: The following optional paragraph reflects Education Code 48302, which encourages districts to hold informational meetings as described below, and may be revised to reflect district practice.

The Superintendent or designee may hold informational meetings on the district's current educational programs, so that parents/guardians can provide input to the district on methods to improve current programs and make informed decisions regarding their children's education. (Education Code 48302)

The process for student transfers into the district under the school district of choice program, including, but not limited to, any applicable form, the timeline for a transfer, and an explanation of the selection process, shall be posted on the district's web site. (Education Code 48301)

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

Parents/guardians shall submit applications for interdistrict attendance to the district office before January 1 of the school year preceding the school year for which the student is

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE (continued)

requesting to be transferred. The application deadline may be waived upon agreement between the district and the student's district of residence. (Education 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. (Education Code 48308)

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

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 48305, if the district chooses to use existing entrance criteria for specialized schools or programs, then the criteria must be uniformly applied. The following **optional** paragraph is for use by districts that choose to use existing entrance criteria.

Any existing entrance criteria for specialized schools or programs shall be uniformly applied to all applicants. (Education Code 48305)

The district may deny a transfer into the district under the school district of choice program if the transfer 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. (Education Code 48303)

Whenever the number of transfer applications exceeds the number of interdistrict transfers that may be accepted as annually determined by the Governing Board, students accepted for transfer shall be selected by a random drawing held in public at a regularly scheduled Board meeting before February 15 of the school year preceding the school year for which the transfer is sought. (Education Code 48301)

Priority for transfer under the school district of choice program shall be granted as follows: (Education Code 48306)

1. First priority shall be given to siblings of students already in attendance in the district.
2. Second priority shall be given to students eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

3. Third priority shall be given to children of military personnel.

No later than February 15 of the school year preceding the school year for which the student is requesting to be transferred, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the parent/guardian in writing whether the application has been provisionally accepted or rejected or of the student's position on any waiting list. (Education Code 48308)

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE (continued)

If a student's application for transfer is accepted, the Superintendent or designee shall so notify the student's district of residence no later than February 15 of the school year preceding the school year for which the student is requesting to be transferred. (Education Code 48308)

The number of students accepted for transfer into the district, by school and grade level, shall be reported to the district of residence on or before February 15. (Education Code 48308)

If a student's application is denied, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the student's parents/guardians that the number of students requesting to transfer exceeded the district's capacity and that the student was not selected during the random drawing. Such determination shall be accurately recorded in the minutes of the Board meeting at which the determination was made. (Education Code 48308)

(cf. 9324 - Minutes and Recordings)

For a student whose parent/guardian was relocated by the military less than 90 days prior to the submission of the application, 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 acceptance, the student may immediately enroll in a district school. (Education Code 48308)

Vacancies may be filled from the waiting list until May 1 of the school year preceding the school year for which students are requesting to be transferred. (Education Code 48308)

The final number of students enrolled in the district through the school district of choice program, by school and grade level, along with the names of the students, shall be reported to the district of residence on or before May 2. (Education Code 48308)

Students admitted through the school district of choice program are deemed to have fulfilled district residency requirements pursuant to Education Code 48204. (Education Code 48301)

(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)

(cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)

Final acceptance of the transfer is applicable for one school year and shall be renewed automatically each year unless the Board, by adoption of a resolution, withdraws from participation in the program and no longer accepts transfer students from other districts. (Education Code 48308)

Note: The following paragraph may be revised by districts that do not maintain high schools.
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INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE (continued)

Even if the district withdraws from participation in the program, students who attended or received a notice of acceptance into the district before the Board's resolution of withdrawal shall be permitted to attend school in the district, and admitted high school students may continue attending school in the district until they graduate from high school. (Education Code 48307, 48308)

The district may accept any completed coursework, attendance, and other academic progress credited to an accepted student by any district(s) the student has previously attended and may grant academic standing to the student based upon the district's evaluation of the student's academic progress. (Education Code 48309)

(cf. 6146.3 - Reciprocity of Academic Credit)

The district may revoke a student's enrollment if the student is recommended for expulsion pursuant to Education Code 48918. (Education Code 48309)

Transfers Out of the District

Note: The following optional section is for use by all districts.
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A student whose parent/guardian is in active military duty shall not be prohibited from transferring out of the district, provided the school district of proposed enrollment approves the application for transfer. (Education Code 46600, 48307)

The district may limit transfers out of the district to a school district of choice under any of the following circumstances: (Education Code 48307)

Note: Even if a district has not designated itself as a school district of choice, it has the authority pursuant to Education Code 48307 to limit the number of students transferring out of the district into other districts that have designated themselves as school districts of choice. A district with an ADA of more than 50,000 may annually limit the number of such transfers to one percent of its current year estimated ADA. A district with an ADA of 50,000 or less may limit the number of such transfers to three percent of its current estimated ADA and may limit the maximum number of such transfers for the duration of the program to 10 percent of the ADA for that period. In <u>Walnut Valley Unified School District v. Superior Court of Los Angeles County</u> , the appellate court held that the 10 percent cap on outbound transfers "for the duration of the program" should be based on the district's ADA over the entire life of the district of choice program (i.e., from the program's inception in 1994 until the present day). The district may revise item #1 to reflect the applicable percentage in Education Code 48307 based on its ADA.
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1. The number of student transfers out of the district to a school district of choice has reached the limit specified in Education Code 48307 based on the district's average daily attendance.

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE (continued)

2. The County Superintendent of Schools has given the district a negative budget certification or has determined that the district will not meet the state's standards and criteria for fiscal stability in the subsequent fiscal year exclusively as a result of student transfers from this district to a school district of choice.

(cf. 3100 - Budget)

Note: Item #3 is **optional** and should be revised to reflect district practice. Education Code 48307 authorizes the district to prohibit a transfer out of the district under the school district of choice program if the Board determines that the transfer would negatively impact a court-ordered desegregation plan, a voluntary desegregation plan, or the racial and ethnic balance of the district. Education Code 48307 provides that denial of transfers on the basis of a voluntary desegregation plan or the racial and ethnic balance of the district must be consistent with the constitutional provisions added by Proposition 209 in 1996 (California Constitution, Article 1, Section 31). It is recommended that districts consult legal counsel before adopting policy to allow denial of transfers on either of these bases.

3. The Board determines that the transfer would negatively impact any of the following: (Education Code 48307)
 - a. A court-ordered desegregation plan
 - b. A voluntary desegregation plan of the district, consistent with the California Constitution, Article 1, Section 31
 - c. The racial and ethnic balance of the district, consistent with the California Constitution, Article 1, Section 31

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CSBA Sample

Administrative Regulation

Students

AR 5125.2(a)

WITHHOLDING GRADES, DIPLOMA OR TRANSCRIPTS

Note: In certain limited circumstances, state law permits districts to withhold student grades, diplomas, and/or transcripts. Pursuant to Education Code 48904, the district may withhold the grades, diploma, and/or transcripts of a student who willfully cuts, defaces, or otherwise injures any real or personal property belonging to the district, or who willfully does not return district property that was loaned to the student, until the damages are paid. For more information regarding limits of damages, as annually adjusted for inflation, see BP/AR 3515.4 - Recovery for Property Loss or Damage. Pursuant to Education Code 49014, as added by AB 1974 (Ch. 577, Statutes of 2018), a current or former homeless or foster youth is exempted from the requirement to pay damages.

If a student's parents/guardians are unable to pay the damages, Education Code 48904 requires the district to offer an option for the student to provide work in lieu of payment. Pursuant to Education Code 49014, a district may offer any other student regardless of the ability to pay, other than a current or former homeless or foster youth, alternative, nonmonetary means to settle the debt owed as a result of damage or loss of district property. In such cases, the district may withhold the student's grades, diploma, and/or transcripts until the work or other alternative is completed.

Education Code 48904 **mandates** the Governing Board to establish procedures for withholding a student's grades, diploma, and/or transcripts until reparation is made.

When a minor student willfully cuts, defaces, or otherwise injures real or personal property of the district or willfully does not return district property that has been loaned to the student, the student's parents/guardians may be required to pay the costs of all damages within the limits established pursuant to Education Code 48904. Until the student's parents/guardians have paid for the damages or the student has completed voluntary work or other nonmonetary alternative offered by the district in lieu of monetary damages, the Superintendent or designee may withhold the student's grades, diploma, and/or transcripts. (Education Code 48904, 49014)

(cf. 3515.4 - Recovery for Property Loss or Damage)
(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)
(cf. 5125 - Student Records)
(cf. 5131.5 - Vandalism and Graffiti)
(cf. 6161.2 - Damaged or Lost Instructional Materials)

This administrative regulation shall not apply to a student who is a current or former homeless or foster youth. (Education Code 49014)

Before withholding a student's grades, diploma, and/or transcripts, the Superintendent or designee shall inform the student's parents/guardians in writing of the student's alleged misconduct. (Education Code 48904)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

WITHHOLDING GRADES, DIPLOMA OR TRANSCRIPTS (continued)

Note: Education Code 48904 **mandates** that the district's procedures for withholding a student's grades, diploma, and/or transcripts conform to procedures established in the Education Code for student expulsion. For due process procedures related to student expulsion, see BP/AR 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process.

The student shall be afforded due process consistent with procedures established for the expulsion of students. (Education Code 48904)

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

When a student who is transferring into the district has had grades, a diploma, and/or transcripts withheld by the previous district, the Superintendent or designee shall continue to withhold the student's grades, diploma, and/or transcripts until notified by the previous district that the decision to withhold has been rescinded. (Education Code 48904.3)

Upon receiving notice that a student whose grades, diploma, and/or transcripts have been withheld by this district has transferred to another district in California, the Superintendent or designee shall provide the student's records to the new district and notify the new district that the student's grades, diploma, and/or transcripts are being withheld from the student and parents/guardians pursuant to Education Code 48904.

The Superintendent or designee shall also notify the student's parents/guardians in writing that the decision to withhold the student's grades, diploma, and/or transcripts will be enforced by the new district. (Education Code 48904.3)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48904 Liability of parent

48904.3 Withholding grades, diplomas, or transcripts of pupils causing property damage or injury; transfer of pupils to new school districts; notice to rescind decision to withhold

48911 Suspension by principal, designee or superintendent

49014 Public School Fair Debt Collection Act

49069 Absolute right to access

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Policy Reference UPDATE Service

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CSBA Sample

Board Policy

Students

BP 5127(a)

GRADUATION CEREMONIES AND ACTIVITIES

Note: The following **optional** policy is for use by any district that maintains a high school and should be modified to reflect district practice.

High school graduation ceremonies shall be held to recognize those students who have earned a diploma by successfully completing the required course of study, satisfying district standards, and passing any required assessments. The Governing Board believes that these students deserve the privilege of a public celebration that recognizes the significance of their achievement and encourages them to continue the pursuit of learning throughout their lives.

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)

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

At the discretion of the Superintendent or designee, a student who will complete graduation requirements during the summer may be allowed to participate in graduation exercises without receiving a diploma. When the requirements have been satisfied, a diploma shall be sent to the student.

Note: There are three high school equivalency tests that are approved by the State Board of Education for the purpose of receiving a California High School Equivalency Certificate: the General Educational Development Test (GED), the High School Equivalency Test, and the Test Assessing Secondary Completion. In addition, students age 16 or older may take the California High School Proficiency Examination (CHSPE) for the purpose of receiving a Certificate of Proficiency, which is equivalent to a high school diploma. On its web site, the California Department of Education (CDE) indicates that a student's successful completion of a high school equivalency test or the CHSPE is not equivalent to completing all coursework required for regular graduation from high school. The following **optional** paragraph provides that students receiving such certificates are not eligible to participate in graduation ceremonies and may be revised to reflect district practice.

High school students who have passed a high school equivalency test or the California High School Proficiency Examination must also meet district graduation requirements in order to participate in graduation ceremonies.

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

Note: School-sponsored and school-directed prayer at public high school graduation ceremonies has been ruled unconstitutional by both the U.S. Supreme Court (Lee v. Weisman) and the California Supreme Court (Sands v. Morongo Unified School District). However, the law is unclear as to whether student-led, student-initiated prayer at graduation ceremonies is constitutional. In Cole v. Oroville Union High School District, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals found that it would be unconstitutional for a district to allow a student to give a sectarian and proselytizing invocation at graduation. In that case, the district had developed a policy

GRADUATION CEREMONIES AND ACTIVITIES (continued)

whereby students determined whether an invocation would be granted and, if so, would then select a fellow student to deliver it. The principal would then review the content of the student invocation for proselytizing messages. The court upheld the policy authorizing principal review, but did not rule on the underlying policy allowing the invocation. Some attorneys have argued that the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in Santa Fe Independent School District v. Doe, which found unconstitutional a district policy allowing student-led, student-initiated prayers at football games, would also apply to student-led, student-initiated prayer and invocations at graduation ceremonies. In Workman v. Greenwood Community School Corporation, a federal district court in Indiana relied on the holdings in Lee and Santa Fe to grant a preliminary injunction prohibiting the district from permitting students to lead a prayer during the graduation ceremony even though the invocation was chosen through election by the senior class. The court reasoned that attendance at the graduation was functionally obligatory and the election was school sponsored. Because this issue has not been authoritatively resolved by the courts, it is strongly recommended that districts consult legal counsel prior to adopting policies or procedures allowing prayer at graduation. See also the U.S. Department of Education's Guidance on Constitutionally Protected Prayer in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools.

Invocations, prayers, or benedictions shall not be included in graduation ceremonies. The school or district shall not sponsor other ceremonies or programs for graduates that include prayer.

(cf. 1330 - Use of School Facilities)

(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)

Honors and Awards

Note: The following **optional** section may be modified to reflect district practice. Districts that choose to recognize students for outstanding academic performance should adopt procedures for selecting honorees and notifying students and their parents/guardians. Such rules, procedures, and criteria may be added to this section.

To honor superior academic achievement, graduation ceremonies shall include recognition of valedictorian(s) and salutatorian(s). Valedictorian(s) and salutatorian(s) shall be selected based on established criteria and procedures that use multiple measures of academic performance.

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

The Superintendent or designee shall identify other school-sponsored awards which may be given during graduation exercises. A separate awards program may be held to recognize graduating students receiving other school and non-school awards.

(cf. 5126 - Awards for Achievement)

Graduation Attire

Note: Under the authority granted the Governing Board to regulate student conduct, the Board may require graduating students to wear ceremonial attire, such as cap and gown, at the ceremony. In its Fiscal Management Advisory 17-01, Pupil Fees, Deposits, and other Charges, CDE advises that a district that

GRADUATION CEREMONIES AND ACTIVITIES (continued)

requires its students to wear a cap and gown as a condition of their participation in the high school graduation ceremony may not require such students to purchase the cap and gown. CDE recommends that such districts provide the graduates with a cap and gown for their use at the graduation ceremony and inform them that those interested may purchase a cap and gown from a vendor. See AR 3260 - Fees and Charges.

The Superintendent or designee may require graduating students to wear ceremonial attire, such as cap and gown, at the ceremony.

(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)

Any graduating student who has completed basic training and is an active member of any branch of the United States Armed Forces may, at the student's option, wear a military dress uniform at the ceremony. (Education Code 35183.3)

Note: The following **optional** paragraphs may be revised to reflect district practice. Education Code 35183.1, as added by AB 1248 (Ch. 804, Statutes of 2018), permits students to wear tribal regalia or recognized objects of religious or cultural significance as an adornment to the customary cap and gown. However, the district may exercise discretion to prohibit any item that is likely to cause a substantial disruption of, or material interference with, the ceremony.

Students shall be permitted to wear tribal regalia or recognized objects of religious or cultural significance as an adornment to the customary ceremonial attire, as long as the adornment does not cause a substantial disruption of, or material interference with, the graduation ceremony. (Education Code 35183.1)

Students who desire to wear such adornments shall seek permission from the Superintendent or designee at least 14 days before the graduation ceremony.

Disciplinary Considerations

Note: The following **optional** section may be revised to reflect district practice. The withholding of a diploma is governed by Education Code 48904 and is separate from the denial of participation in graduation ceremonies; see AR 5125.2 - Withholding Grades, Diploma or Transcripts and BP 6161.2 - Damaged or Lost Instructional Materials. Even though the graduation ceremony is not an essential component to the granting of a diploma, it is an important symbolic event. Therefore, it is recommended that districts provide some due process before denying a student the privilege of participating in the ceremony.

Students are expected to comply with district and school policies, regulations, and rules throughout the school session, including during graduation and related events. Students shall not be denied the privilege of participating in graduation ceremonies and activities except as discipline in cases of serious misconduct. In no event shall a student be denied participation in graduation ceremonies unless the principal or designee has informed the student and the student's parents/guardians of the misconduct and has given them an opportunity to respond.

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

GRADUATION CEREMONIES AND ACTIVITIES (continued)

During the graduation ceremony, a student may be removed from the ceremony for conduct that is disruptive or that poses a risk to safety.

High school seniors shall be notified of this policy in advance, through the student handbook or other means, and shall be required to acknowledge receiving it.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35183.1 Graduation ceremonies; tribal regalia or recognized object of religious/cultural significance

35183.3 Graduation ceremonies; military dress uniforms

38119 Lease of personal property; caps and gowns

48904 Liability of parent or guardian; withholding of grades, diplomas, transcripts

51225.5 Honorary diplomas; foreign exchange students

51410-51413 Diplomas

COURT DECISIONS

Workman v. Greenwood Community School Corporation, (2010) Case No. 1:2010cv00293

Cole v. Oroville Union High School District, (2000, 9th Cir.) 228 F.3d 1092

Santa Fe Independent School District v. Doe, (2000) 530 U.S. 290

Lee v. Weisman, (1992) 505 U.S. 577

Sands v. Morongo Unified School District, (1991) 53 Cal. 3d 863

Lemon v. Kurtzman, (1971) 403 U.S. 602

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Pupil Fees, Deposits and Other Charges, Fiscal Management Advisory 17-01, July 28, 2017

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Guidance on Constitutionally Protected Prayer in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools, February 2003

WEB SITES

AASA The School Superintendents Association: <http://www.aasa.org>

Antidefamation League: <https://www.adl.org>

California Department of Education, High School: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/gs/hs>

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

CSBA Sample

Exhibit

Students

E 5145.6(a)

PARENTAL NOTIFICATIONS

Cautionary Notice: Government Code 17581.5 releases districts from the obligation to perform specified mandated activities when the Budget Act does not provide reimbursement during that fiscal year. The Budget Act of 2018 (SB 840, Ch. 29, Statutes of 2018) extends the suspension of these requirements through the 2018-19 fiscal year. As a result, certain provisions of the following Exhibit related to scoliosis screening and bus safety instruction may be suspended.

Note: The following exhibit lists notices which the law explicitly requires be provided to parents/guardians. See the referenced Board policy, administrative regulation, or Board bylaw for further information about related program and notice requirements. For example, see AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures for the contents of the annual notice regarding uniform complaint procedures as mandated by 5 CCR 4622.

The exhibit does not include other notices that are recommended throughout CSBA's sample policy manual but are not required by law. The district may revise the exhibit to reflect additional notifications provided by the district.

When to Notify	Education or Other Legal Code	Board Policy/ Administrative Regulation #	Subject
I. Annually			
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 222.5	BP 5146	Rights and options for pregnant and parenting students
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 234.7	BP 0410	Right to a free public education regardless of immigration status or religious beliefs
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 310	BP 6142.2 AR 6174	Information on the district's language acquisition programs
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 17611.5, 17612, 48980.3	AR 3514.2	Use of pesticide product, active ingredients, Internet address to access information, and, if district has no web site and uses certain pesticides, integrated pest management plan
By February 1	Education Code 35256, 35258	BP 0510	School Accountability Report Card provided
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 35291, 48980	AR 5144 AR 5144.1	District and site discipline rules

PARENTAL NOTIFICATIONS (continued)

When to Notify	Education or Other Legal Code	Board Policy/ Administrative Regulation #	Subject
I. Annually (continued)			
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 44050	BP 4119.21 4219.21 4319.21	Code of conduct addressing employee interactions with students
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 46010.1	AR 5113	Absence for confidential medical services
Beginning of each school year, if district has adopted policy on involuntary transfer of students convicted of certain crimes when victim is enrolled at same school	Education Code 48929, 48980	BP 5116.2	District policy authorizing transfer
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 48980	BP 6111	Schedule of minimum days and student-free staff development days
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 48980, 231.5; 5 CCR 4917	AR 5145.7	Copy of sexual harassment policy as related to students
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 48980, 32255-32255.6	AR 5145.8	Right to refrain from harmful or destructive use of animals
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 48980, 35160.5, 46600-46611, 48204, 48301, 48350-48361	BP 5111.1 AR 5116.1 AR 5117	All statutory attendance options, available local attendance options, options for meeting residency, form for changing attendance, appeals process
Beginning of each school year, if Board allows such absence	Education Code 48980, 46014	AR 5113	Absence for religious exercises or purposes
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 48980, 48205	AR 5113 BP 6154	Excused absences; grade/credit cannot be reduced due to excused absence if work or test has been completed; full text of Education Code 48205

PARENTAL NOTIFICATIONS (continued)

When to Notify	Education or Other Legal Code	Board Policy/ Administrative Regulation #	Subject
I. Annually (continued)			
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 48980, 48206.3, 48207, 48208	AR 6183	Availability of home/hospital instruction for students with temporary disabilities
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 48980, 49403	BP 5141.31	School immunization program
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 48980, 49423, 49480	AR 5141.21	Administration of prescribed medication
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 48980, 49451; 20 USC 1232h	AR 5141.3	Right to refuse consent to physical examination
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 48980, 49471, 49472	BP 5143	Availability of insurance
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 49013; 5 CCR 4622	AR 1312.3	Uniform complaint procedures, available appeals, civil law remedies
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 49063	AR 5125 AR 5125.3	Challenge, review, and expunging of records
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 49063, 49069; 20 USC 1232g; 34 CFR 99.7	AR 5125	Student records: inspect and review, access, types, location, persons responsible, location of log, access criteria, cost of copies, amendment requests, criteria to determine legitimate educational interest, course prospectus availability
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 49063, 49073; 20 USC 1232g; 34 CFR 99.37	AR 5125.1	Release of directory information
Beginning of each school year and at least one more time during school year using specified methods	Education Code 49428	None	How to access mental health services at school and/or in community

PARENTAL NOTIFICATIONS (continued)

When to Notify	Education or Other Legal Code	Board Policy/ Administrative Regulation #	Subject
I. Annually (continued)			
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 49520, 48980; 42 USC 1758; 7 CFR 245.5	AR 3553	Eligibility and application process for free and reduced-price meals
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 51513; 20 USC 1232h	AR 5022 BP 6162.8	Notice of privacy policy and dates of activities re: survey, health examination, or collection of personal information for marketing; process to opt out of such activities; inspection rights and procedures
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 56301	BP 6164.4	Parental rights re: special education identification, referral, assessment, instructional planning, implementation and review, and procedures for initiating a referral for assessment
Beginning of each school year	Education Code 58501, 48980	AR 6181	Alternative schools
Beginning of each school year	Health and Safety Code 104855	AR 5141.6	Availability of dental fluoride treatment; opportunity to accept or deny treatment
Annually	5 CCR 852; Education Code 60615	AR 6162.51	Student's participation in state assessments; option to request exemption from testing
Beginning of each school year, if district receives Title I funds	20 USC 6312; 34 CFR 200.48	BP 4112.2 AR 4222	Right to request information re: professional qualifications of child's teacher and paraprofessional
Beginning of each school year	34 CFR 104.8, 106.9	BP 0410 BP 6178	Nondiscrimination
Beginning of each school year to parent, teacher, and employee organizations or, in their absence, individuals	40 CFR 763.84, 763.93	AR 3514	Availability of asbestos management plan; any inspections, response actions or post-response actions planned or in progress

PARENTAL NOTIFICATIONS (continued)

When to Notify	Education or Other Legal Code	Board Policy/ Administrative Regulation #	Subject
I. Annually (continued)			
Beginning of each school year	USDA SP-23-2017	AR 3551	District policy on meal payments
II. At Specific Times During the Student's Academic Career			
Beginning in grade 7, at least once prior to course selection and career counseling	Education Code 221.5, 48980	BP 6164.2	Course selection and career counseling
Upon a student's enrollment	Education Code 310	BP 6142.2 AR 6174	Information on the district's language acquisition programs
When child first enrolls in a public school, if school offers a fingerprinting program	Education Code 32390, 48980	AR 5142.1	Fingerprinting program
When participating in driver training courses under the jurisdiction of the district	Education Code 35211	None	Civil liability, insurance coverage
Upon registration in K-6, if students have not previously been transported	Education Code 39831.5	AR 3543	School bus safety rules and information, list of stops, rules of conduct, red light crossing instructions, bus danger zones, walking to and from stops
Beginning of each school year for high school students, if high school is open campus	Education Code 44808.5, 48980	BP 5112.5	Open campus
Beginning of each school year in grades 9-12, if district allows career technical education (CTE) course to satisfy graduation requirement	Education Code 48980, 51225.3	AR 6146.1	How each graduation requirement does or does not satisfy college entrance a-g course criteria; district CTE courses that satisfy a-g criteria
Upon a student's enrollment	Education Code 49063	AR 5125 AR 5125.3	Specified rights related to student records
When students enter grade 7	Education Code 49452.7	AR 5141.3	Specified information on type 2 diabetes

PARENTAL NOTIFICATIONS (continued)

When to Notify	Education or Other Legal Code	Board Policy/ Administrative Regulation #	Subject
II. At Specific Times During the Student's Academic Career (continued)			
When in kindergarten, or first grade if not previously enrolled in public school	Education Code 49452.8	AR 5141.32	Requirement for oral health assessment, explanation of law, importance of oral health, agency contact, privacy rights
Beginning of each school year for students in grades 9-12	Education Code 51229, 48980	AR 6143	College admission requirements, UC and CSU web sites that list certified courses, description of CTE, CDE Internet address, how students may meet with counselors
Beginning of each school year for students in grades 7-12, or at time of enrollment if after beginning of year	Education Code 51938, 48980	AR 6142.1	Sexual health and HIV prevention education, right to view A/V materials, whether taught by district staff or outside consultants, right to request specific Education Code sections, right to excuse
Within 20 working days of receiving results of standardized achievement tests or, if results not available in school year, within 20 working days of start of next school year	Education Code 60641; 5 CCR 863	AR 6162.51	Results of tests; test purpose, individual score and intended use
By October 15 for students in grade 12	Education Code 69432.9	AR 5121 AR 5125	Forwarding of student's grade point average to Cal Grant program; timeline to opt out
When child is enrolled or reenrolled in a licensed child care center or preschool	Health and Safety Code 1596.7996	AR 5148	Information on risks and effects of lead exposure, blood lead testing
When child is enrolled in kindergarten	Health and Safety Code 124100, 124105	AR 5141.32	Health screening examination
To students in grades 11-12, early enough to enable registration for fall test	5 CCR 11523	AR 6146.2	Notice of proficiency examination provided under Education Code 48412

PARENTAL NOTIFICATIONS (continued)

When to Notify	Education or Other Legal Code	Board Policy/ Administrative Regulation #	Subject
II. At Specific Times During the Student's Academic Career (continued)			
To secondary students, if district receives Title I funds	20 USC 7908	AR 5125.1	Request that district not release name, address, phone number of child to military recruiters without prior written consent
III. When Special Circumstances Occur			
In the event of a breach of security of district records, to affected persons	Civil Code 1798.29	BP 3580	Types of records affected, date of breach, description of incident, contact information for credit reporting agencies
Upon receipt of a complaint alleging discrimination	Education Code 262.3	AR 1312.3	Civil law remedies available to complainants
When determining whether an English learner should be reclassified as fluent English proficient	Education Code 313; 5 CCR 11303	AR 6174	Description of reclassification process, opportunity for parent/guardian to participate
When student is identified as English learner and district receives Title I or Title III funds for English learner programs, not later than 30 days after beginning of school year or within two weeks of placement if identified during school year	Education Code 313.2, 440; 20 USC 6312	AR 6174	Reason for classification, level of English proficiency, identification as long-term English learner, description of program(s), option to decline program or choose alternate, option to remove student from program at any time, exit requirements of program
When homeless or foster youth applies for enrollment in before/after school program	Education Code 8483	AR 5148.2	Right to priority enrollment; how to request priority enrollment
Before high school student attends specialized secondary program on a university campus	Education Code 17288	None	University campus buildings may not meet Education Code requirements for structural safety
At least 72 hours before use of pesticide product not included in annual list	Education Code 17612	AR 3514.2	Intended use of pesticide product
To members of athletic teams	Education Code 32221.5	AR 5143	Offer of insurance; no-cost and low-cost program options

PARENTAL NOTIFICATIONS (continued)

When to Notify	Education or Other Legal Code	Board Policy/ Administrative Regulation #	Subject
III. When Special Circumstances Occur (continued)			
Annually to parents/guardians of student athletes before they participate in competition	Education Code 33479.3	AR 6145.2	Information on sudden cardiac arrest
If school has lost its WASC accreditation status	Education Code 35178.4	BP 6190	Loss of status, potential consequences
When district has contracted for electronic products or services that disseminate advertising	Education Code 35182.5	BP 3312	Advertising will be used in the classroom or learning center
At least six months before implementing uniform policy	Education Code 35183	AR 5132	Dress code policy requiring schoolwide uniform
Before implementing a year-round schedule	Education Code 37616	BP 6117	Public hearing on year-round schedule
When interdistrict transfer is requested and not approved or denied within 30 days	Education Code 46601	AR 5117	Appeal process
Before early entry to kindergarten, if offered	Education Code 48000	AR 5111	Effects, advantages and disadvantages of early entry
When student identified as being at risk of retention	Education Code 48070.5	AR 5123	Student at risk of retention
When student excluded due to quarantine, contagious or infectious disease, danger to safety or health	Education Code 48213	AR 5112.2 BP 5141.33	Student has been excluded from school
Before already admitted student is excluded for lack of immunization	Education Code 48216; 17 CCR 6040	AR 5141.31	Need to submit evidence of immunization or exemption within 10 school days; referral to medical care
When a student is classified as truant	Education Code 48260.5, 48262	AR 5113.1	Truancy, parental obligation, availability of alternative programs, student consequences, need for conference

PARENTAL NOTIFICATIONS (continued)

When to Notify	Education or Other Legal Code	Board Policy/ Administrative Regulation #	Subject
III. When Special Circumstances Occur (continued)			
When a truant is referred to a SARB or probation department	Education Code 48263	AR 5113.1	Name and address of SARB or probation department and reason for referral
When student requests to voluntarily transfer to continuation school	Education Code 48432.3	AR 6184	Copy of district policy and regulation on continuation education
Prior to involuntary transfer to continuation school	Education Code 48432.5	AR 6184	Right to request meeting prior to involuntary transfer to continuation school
To person holding educational rights, prior to recommending placement of foster youth outside school of origin	Education Code 48853.5	AR 6173.1	Basis for the placement recommendation
When student is removed from class and teacher requires parental attendance at school	Education Code 48900.1	AR 5144.4	Parental attendance required; timeline for attendance
Prior to withholding grades, diplomas, or transcripts	Education Code 48904	AR 5125.2	Damaged school property
When withholding grades, diplomas or transcripts from transferring student	Education Code 48904.3	AR 5125.2	Next school will continue withholding grades, diplomas, or transcripts
When student is released to peace officer	Education Code 48906	BP 5145.11	Release of student to peace officer for the purpose of removing minor from school, unless taken into custody as victim of suspected child abuse
At time of suspension	Education Code 48911	BP 5144.1 AR 5144.1	Notice of suspension
When original period of suspension is extended	Education Code 48911	AR 5144.1	Extension of suspension
At the time a student is assigned to a supervised suspension classroom	Education Code 48911.1	AR 5144.1	The student's assignment to a supervised suspension classroom
Before holding a closed session re: suspension	Education Code 48912	AR 5144.1	Intent to hold a closed session re: suspension

PARENTAL NOTIFICATIONS (continued)

When to Notify	Education or Other Legal Code	Board Policy/ Administrative Regulation #	Subject
III. When Special Circumstances Occur (continued)			
When student expelled from another district for certain acts seeks admission	Education Code 48915.1, 48918	BP 5119	Hearing re: possible danger presented by expelled student
When readmission is denied	Education Code 48916	AR 5144.1	Reasons for denial; determination of assigned program
When expulsion occurs	Education Code 48916	AR 5144.1	Readmission procedures
At least 10 calendar days before expulsion hearing	Education Code 48918	AR 5144.1	Notice of expulsion hearing
When expulsion or suspension of expulsion occurs	Education Code 48918	AR 5144.1	Decision to expel; right to appeal to county board; obligation to inform new district of status
Before involuntary transfer of student convicted of certain crime when victim is enrolled at same school	Education Code 48929, 48980	BP 5116.2	Right to request a meeting with principal or designee
One month before the scheduled minimum day	Education Code 48980	BP 6111	When minimum days are scheduled after beginning of the school year
When parents/guardians request guidelines for filing complaint of child abuse at a school site	Education Code 48987	AR 5141.4	Guidelines for filing complaint of child abuse at a school site with local child protective agencies
When student in danger of failing a course	Education Code 49067	AR 5121	Student in danger of failing a course
When student transfers from another district or private school	Education Code 49068	AR 5125	Right to receive copy of student's record and to challenge its content
When parent/guardian's challenge of student record is denied and parent/guardian appeals	Education Code 49070	AR 5125.3	If board sustains allegations, the correction or destruction of record; if denied, right to submit written objection

PARENTAL NOTIFICATIONS (continued)

When to Notify	Education or Other Legal Code	Board Policy/ Administrative Regulation #	Subject
III. When Special Circumstances Occur (continued)			
When district is considering program to gather safety-related information from students' social media activity	Education Code 49073.6	BP 5125	Opportunity for input on proposed program
When district adopts program to gather information from students' social media activity, and annually thereafter	Education Code 49073.6	AR 5125	Information is being gathered, access to records, process for removal or corrections, destruction of records
Within 24 hours of release of information to a judge or probation officer	Education Code 49076	AR 5125	Release of student record to a judge or probation officer for conducting truancy mediation program or for presenting evidence at a truancy petition
Before release of information pursuant to court order or subpoena	Education Code 49077	AR 5125	Release of information pursuant to court order or subpoena
When screening results in suspicion that student has scoliosis	Education Code 49452.5	AR 5141.3	Scoliosis screening
When test results in discovery of visual or hearing defects	Education Code 49456; 17 CCR 2951	AR 5141.3	Vision or hearing test results
Within 10 days of negative balance in meal account	Education Code 49557.5	AR 3551	Negative balance in meal account; encouragement to apply for free or reduced-price meals
Annually to parents/guardians of student athletes before their first practice or competition	Education Code 49475	AR 6145.2	Information on concussions and head injuries
Within 30 days of foster youth, homeless youth, former juvenile court school student, child of military family, or migrant student being transferred after second year of high school, or immigrant student enrolled in newcomer program in grades 11-12	Education Code 51225.1	BP 6146.1 AR 6173 AR 6173.1 AR 6173.3 AR 6175	Exemption from local graduation requirements, effect on college admission, option for fifth year of high school

PARENTAL NOTIFICATIONS (continued)

When to Notify	Education or Other Legal Code	Board Policy/ Administrative Regulation #	Subject
III. When Special Circumstances Occur (continued)			
Before any test/survey questioning personal beliefs	Education Code 51513	AR 5022	Permission for test, survey questioning personal beliefs
At least 14 days before HIV prevention or sexual health instruction, if arrangement made for guest speaker after beginning of school year	Education Code 51938	AR 6142.1	Instruction in HIV prevention or sexual health by guest speaker or outside consultant
Prior to administering survey regarding health risks and behaviors to students in 7-12	Education Code 51938	AR 5022	Notice that the survey will be administered
Within 30 calendar days of receipt of results of assessment or reassessment of English proficiency	Education Code 52164.1, 52164.3; 5 CCR 11511.5	AR 6174	Results of state test of English proficiency
When migrant education program is established	Education Code 54444.2	BP 6175 AR 6175	Parent advisory council membership composition
When child participates in licensed child care and development program	Health and Safety Code 1596.857	AR 5148	Parent/guardian right to enter facility
When district receives Tobacco-Use Prevention Education Funds	Health and Safety Code 104420	AR 3513.3	The district's tobacco-free schools policy and enforcement procedures
When testing by community water system finds presence of lead exceeding specified level	Health and Safety Code 116277	AR 3514	Elevated lead level at school
When sharing student immunization information with an immunization system	Health and Safety Code 120440	AR 5125	Types of information to be shared, name and address of agency, acceptable use of the information, right to examine, right to refuse to share
At least 14 days prior to sex offender coming on campus as volunteer	Penal Code 626.81	AR 1240 BP 1250	Dates and times permission granted; obtaining information from law enforcement

PARENTAL NOTIFICATIONS (continued)

When to Notify	Education or Other Legal Code	Board Policy/ Administrative Regulation #	Subject
III. When Special Circumstances Occur (continued)			
When hearing is requested by person asked to leave school premises	Penal Code 627.5	AR 3515.2	Notice of hearing
When responding to complaint re: discrimination, special education, or noncompliance with law	5 CCR 4631	AR 1312.3	Findings, disposition of complaint, any corrective actions, appeal rights and procedures
When child participates in licensed child care and development program	5 CCR 18066	AR 5148	Policies re: excused and unexcused absences
Within 30 days of application for subsidized child care or preschool services	5 CCR 18094, 18118	AR 5148 AR 5148.3	Approval or denial of services
Upon recertification or update of application for child care or preschool services	5 CCR 18095, 18119	AR 5148 AR 5148.3	Any change in service, such as in fees, amount of service, termination of service
Upon child's enrollment in child care program	5 CCR 18114	AR 5148	Policy on fee collection
When payment of child care fees is seven days late	5 CCR 18114	AR 5148	Notice of delinquent fees
When district substantively changes policy on student privacy rights	20 USC 1232h	AR 5022	Notice of any substantive change in policy or regulation
For districts receiving Title I funds, when child has been assigned or taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet state certification requirements for the grade level/subject taught	20 USC 6312	AR 4112.2	Timely notice to parent/guardian of child's assignment
For districts receiving Title I funds, not later than 30 days after beginning of school year, to parents/guardians of English learners	20 USC 6312	AR 6174	Reasons for placement, level of proficiency, instructional methods, how program meets child's strengths and teaches English, exit requirements, right to choose other program

PARENTAL NOTIFICATIONS (continued)

When to Notify	Education or Other Legal Code	Board Policy/ Administrative Regulation #	Subject
III. When Special Circumstances Occur (continued)			
For schools receiving Title I funds, upon development of parent involvement policy	20 USC 6318	AR 6020	Notice of policy
When household is selected for verification of eligibility for free or reduced-price meals	42 USC 1758; 7 CFR 245.6a	AR 3553	Need to submit verification information; any subsequent change in benefits; appeals
When student is homeless or unaccompanied minor	42 USC 11432; Education Code 48852.5	AR 6173	Educational and related opportunities; transportation services; placement decision and right to appeal
When student transfers out of state and records are disclosed without consent pursuant to 34 CFR 99.30	34 CFR 99.34	AR 5125	Right to review records
When district receives federal funding assistance for nutrition program	USDA FNS Instruction 113-1	BP 3555	Rights and responsibilities, nondiscrimination policy, complaint procedures
IV. Special Education Notices			
Prior to conducting initial evaluation	Education Code 56301, 56321, 56321.5, 56321.6, 56329; 20 USC 1415(d); 34 CFR 300.502, 300.503	BP 6159.1 AR 6159.1 AR 6164.4	Proposed evaluation plan, related parental rights, prior written notice, procedural safeguards
Before functional behavioral assessment begins	Education Code 56321	AR 6159.4	Notification and consent
24 hours before IEP when district intending to record	Education Code 56341.1	AR 6159	Intention to audio-record IEP meeting
Early enough to ensure opportunity for parent/ guardian to attend IEP meeting	Education Code 56341.5; 34 CFR 300.322	AR 6159	Time, purpose, location, who will attend, participation of others with special knowledge, transition statements if appropriate
When parent/guardian orally requests review of IEP	Education Code 56343.5	AR 6159	Need for written request

PARENTAL NOTIFICATIONS (continued)

When to Notify	Education or Other Legal Code	Board Policy/ Administrative Regulation #	Subject
IV. Special Education Notices (continued)			
Within one school day of emergency intervention or serious property damage	Education Code 56521.1	AR 6159.4	Emergency intervention
Whenever there is a proposal or refusal to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, placement, or FAPE, including when parent/guardian revokes consent for services	20 USC 1415(c); 34 CFR 300.300, 300.503	AR 6159 AR 6159.1	Prior written notice
Upon filing of state complaint	20 USC 1415(d); 34 CFR 300.504	AR 6159.1	Procedural safeguards notice
When disciplinary measures are taken or change in placement	20 USC 1415(k); 34 CFR 300.530	AR 5144.2	Decision and procedural safeguards notice
Upon requesting a due process hearing	20 USC 1415(k); 34 CFR 300.508	AR 6159.1	Student's name, address, school, description of problem, proposed resolution
Eligibility for services under Section 504	34 CFR 104.32, 104.36	AR 6164.6	District responsibilities, district actions, procedural safeguards
V. Classroom Notices			
In each classroom in each school	Education Code 8235.5, 35186	AR 1312.4 E 1312.4	Complaints subject to Williams uniform complaint procedures

(3/17 3/18) 3/19

CSBA Sample

Administrative Regulation

Students

AR 5148(a)

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT

Note: The following administrative regulation is for use by districts that operate child care and development services through a contract with the California Department of Education (CDE) and reflects provisions generally applicable to programs under the Child Care and Development Services Act (Education Code 8200-8499.7). Such programs include resource and referral programs (Education Code 8210-8216; 5 CCR 18240-18248), alternative payment programs (Education Code 8220-8227.7; 5 CCR 18220-18231), migrant child care and development programs (Education Code 8230-8233), California State Preschool Programs (CSPP) (Education Code 8235-8239.1), general child care and development programs (Education Code 8240-8244), and programs for children with special needs (Education Code 8250-8252). The district may revise this regulation to reflect specific requirements for the program(s) it offers. See BP/AR 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs for requirements pertaining to the After-School Education and Safety program (Education Code 8482-8484.65) and 21st Century Community Learning Centers (Education Code 8484.7-8484.8), and BP/AR 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education for CSPP requirements.

The following administrative regulation does not reflect all policy language mandated for each specific program. The district should be careful to include the mandates, if any, applicable to the program(s) it offers. For example, for the alternative payment program, 5 CCR 18221 mandates a written policy statement that includes specified components, including, but not limited to, program purpose, enrollment priorities, reimbursement of providers, and family fee collection. For the resource and referral program, 5 CCR 18244 mandates written referral policies and written complaint procedures.

In addition to the program requirements described below, child care and development programs may be subject to other policies in the district's policy manual (e.g., BP/AR 1240 - Volunteer Assistance, AR 3514.2 - Integrated Pest Management, BP/AR 3550 - Food Service/Child Nutrition Program). Districts should consult legal counsel if they have questions regarding the applicability of other laws to the district's child care and development program.

Licensing

Note: Pursuant to 22 CCR 101156, all child care centers must be licensed by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) unless exempted by law. Health and Safety Code 1596.792 and 22 CCR 101158 list exemptions from the licensure requirements including, but not limited to, any program that (1) is a "public recreation program" that meets the criteria specified in Health and Safety Code 1596.792, (2) is operated before and/or after school by qualified teachers employed by the district, (3) is a school parenting program or adult education child care program, (4) operates only one day per week for no more than four hours on that day, (5) offers temporary child care services to parents/guardians who are on the same premises as the child care site, (6) provides activities that are of an instructional nature in a classroom-like setting when K-12 students are normally not in session and the sessions do not exceed a total of 30 days when only school-age children are enrolled or 15 days when younger children are enrolled, or (7) is a CSPP program operated in a school building that meets specified health and safety requirements. If the district offers only programs that are exempted from licensure, it should modify the following regulation accordingly.

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code 1596.951, as added by AB 605 (Ch. 574, Statutes of 2018), CDSS is required to adopt regulations by January 1, 2021 to create a new child care center license including components for serving infant, toddler, preschool, and school-age children; health and safety standards; and enhanced ability to transition children to the next age group. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code 1596.951, all child care centers are required to obtain this license by January 1, 2024.

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

All district child care and development services shall be licensed by the California Department of Social Services, unless exempted pursuant to Health and Safety Code 1596.792 or 22 CCR 101158.

The license shall be posted in a prominent, publicly accessible location in the facility. (Health and Safety Code 1596.8555)

Licensed child care centers shall be subject to the requirements of Health and Safety Code 1596.70-1597.21, 22 CCR 101151-101239.2, and, when applicable, 22 CCR 101451-101539.

Program Components

Note: Items #1-7 and 9 below list components of child care and development programs required for all providers pursuant to 5 CCR 18272-18281. The Governing Board is required, pursuant to 5 CCR 18271, to approve goals and objectives addressing each of these program components; see the accompanying Board policy. The district may add components of other programs offered by the district.

The district's child care and development program shall include the following components:

1. The use of a developmental profile reflecting each child's physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development to plan and conduct developmentally and age appropriate activities (Education Code 8203.5; 5 CCR 18272)

Program staff shall complete the "Desired Results Developmental Profile," available from the California Department of Education (CDE), for each child who is enrolled in the program for at least 10 hours per week and for any child with disabilities regardless of the number of hours enrolled. The profile shall be completed within 60 days of enrollment and at least once every six months thereafter for children of all ages. (Education Code 8203.5; 5 CCR 18270.5, 18272)

2. An educational program that complies with 5 CCR 18273, including the provision of services that are developmentally, linguistically, and culturally appropriate and inclusive of children with special needs

(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)

(cf. 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education)

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

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

(cf. 6174 - Education for English Learners)

3. A staff development program which complies with 5 CCR 18274

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

4. Parent/guardian involvement and education that comply with 5 CCR 18275 and include an orientation, at least two individual conferences per year, meetings with program staff, an advisory committee, participation in daily activities, and information regarding their child's progress

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

5. A health and social services component that complies with 5 CCR 18276 and includes referrals to appropriate community agencies as needed

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

(cf. 5141 - Health Care and Emergencies)

(cf. 5141.23 - Asthma Management)

(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)

6. A community involvement component that complies with 5 CCR 18277

Note: Health and Safety Code 1596.808 establishes beverage standards for licensed child care centers. In addition, centers that receive funding through the Child and Adult Care Food Program (42 USC 1766) must meet federal guidelines for meals, snacks, fluid milk or nutritionally equivalent milk substitutes, and drinking water.

7. As applicable, a nutrition component that ensures children in the program are provided nutritious meals, beverages, and snacks that meet state and federal standards and have access to drinking water throughout the day, including meal times (Health and Safety Code 1596.808; 5 CCR 18278; 42 USC 1766)

(cf. 3550 - Food Service/Child Nutrition Program)

(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)

(cf. 5141.27 - Food Allergies/Special Dietary Needs)

Note: Item #8 below is **optional** and may be revised to reflect district practice. 42 USC 1766 encourages child care centers to provide opportunities for physical activity and to limit the amount of time spent in sedentary activities, such as time spent using electronic media.

8. Programs that promote age-appropriate structured and unstructured opportunities for physical activity and that limit the amount of time spent in sedentary activities to an appropriate level

Note: 5 CCR 18279-18281 require an annual evaluation using the standardized "Desired Results for Children and Families" system developed by CDE. The system requires a program self-evaluation that includes, but is not limited to, a staff assessment, a parent/guardian survey, and an environment rating scale using forms selected by CDE. Each contractor is required to submit a summary of the self-evaluation findings to CDE by June 1 of each year. In addition, every three years, CDE conducts a Federal Program Monitoring/Contract Monitoring Review (FPM/CMR) process with each contract agency to review compliance with program requirements. The FPM/CMR instrument is available on the CDE's web site.

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

9. An annual plan for program evaluation which conforms with the state's "Desired Results for Children and Families" system and includes, but is not limited to, a self-evaluation, parent/guardian survey, and environment rating scale using forms provided by the CDE (5 CCR 18270.5, 18279, 18280)

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)

Staffing

The district's child care and development program shall maintain at least the minimum adult-child and teacher-child ratios specified in 5 CCR 18290-18292 based on the ages of the children served.

All persons employed at a licensed district child care center and all volunteers who provide care and supervision to children at such a center shall be immunized against influenza, pertussis, and measles. If they meet all other requirements for employment or volunteering, as applicable, but need additional time to obtain and provide immunization records, they may be employed or volunteer conditionally for a maximum of 30 days upon signing and submitting a written statement attesting that they have been immunized as required. In addition, employees and volunteers shall receive an influenza vaccination between August 1 and December 1 of each year. A person shall be exempt from these requirements only under any of the following circumstances: (Health and Safety Code 1596.7995)

1. The person submits a written statement from a licensed physician declaring either that immunization is not safe because of the person's physical condition or medical circumstances or that the person has evidence of current immunity to influenza, pertussis, and measles.
2. In the case of the influenza vaccine, the person submits a written declaration declining the vaccination.
3. In the case of the influenza vaccine required during the first year of employment or volunteering, the vaccine is not timely because the person was hired after December 1 of the previous year and before August 1 of the current year.

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)

(cf. 4112.4/4212.4/4312.4 - Health Examinations)

Documentation of the required immunizations or exemptions from immunization shall be maintained in the employee's personnel file. (Health and Safety Code 1596.7995)

(cf. 4112.6/4212.6/4312.6 - Personnel Files)

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

In addition to the above immunization requirements, teachers employed in a licensed child care center shall present evidence of a current tuberculosis clearance and meet other requirements specified in Health and Safety Code 1597.055. (Health and Safety Code 1597.055)

Eligibility and Enrollment

Note: CDE contracts provide funding only for services to families who meet the criteria for subsidized services as specified in Education Code 8263. The district may also provide services to nonsubsidized families provided the district uses other funding sources or the families pay the full cost of services; see section on "Fees and Charges" below.

Pursuant to 5 CCR 18105, districts contracting with CDE to offer child care services are **mandated** to develop written admissions policies and procedures that conform to requirements of 22 CCR 101218, including criteria designating those children whose needs can be met by the child care center's program and services and the ages of children who will be accepted.

The following section should be revised to reflect the district's contract(s) with CDE.

The district's subsidized child care and development services may be available to infants and children through 12 years of age and to individuals with disabilities through 21 years of age in accordance with their individualized education program and Education Code 8208. (Education Code 8208, 8263.4; 5 CCR 18089, 18407, 18422)

Note: Pursuant to 5 CCR 18082-18083, the parent/guardian must submit an application for services which contains specified information and documentation. The application form is available on CDE's web site. The family's or child's eligibility must be certified by a person designated by the district.

Pursuant to Education Code 8263.1, as amended by AB 2626 (Ch. 945, Statutes of 2018), income eligibility is based on an adjusted monthly family income at or below 85 percent of the state median income, adjusted for family size, for purposes of establishing ongoing income eligibility after January 1, 2019 or initial eligibility after July 1, 2019.

Eligible families shall be those who document both an eligibility basis and a need for care, as follows: (Education Code 8263)

1. The family is eligible for subsidized services on the basis of being a current aid recipient, income eligible, or homeless and/or the family's children are recipients of protective services or have been identified as being or at risk of being abused, neglected, or exploited.
2. The family has a need for child care based on either of the following:
 - a. The unavailability of the parents/guardians to care for and supervise their children for some portion of the day because they are participating in

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

vocational training leading directly to a recognized trade, paraprofession, or profession; are engaged in an educational program for English language learners or to attain a high school diploma or general educational development certificate; are employed or seeking employment; are seeking permanent housing for family stability; or are incapacitated

- b. The child is identified by a legal, medical, or social services agency, the district liaison for homeless students, a Head Start program, or an emergency or transitional shelter as being a recipient of protective services, as being or at risk of being neglected, abused, or exploited, or as being homeless

Note: The following paragraph may be revised to reflect district practice. Unless state funding is allocated to support the centralized eligibility list established in each county pursuant to Education Code 8499.5, such lists will be maintained only if locally funded. In situations where there is no locally funded centralized eligibility list or the district elects not to participate in the local list, the district must establish its own waiting list in accordance with admission priorities pursuant to Education Code 8263 and 5 CCR 18106.

The Superintendent or designee shall consult the county's centralized eligibility list, when available, or shall maintain a district waiting list in accordance with admission priorities. As vacancies occur, applicants shall be contacted in order of their priority. (5 CCR 18106)

First priority for enrollment shall be given to neglected or abused children who are recipients of child protective services, or children who are at risk of being neglected or abused, upon written referral from a legal, medical, or social services agency. If unable to enroll a child in this category, the district shall refer the child's parent/guardian to local resource and referral services so that services for the child can be located. (Education Code 8263)

Second priority for enrollment shall be given to families who are income eligible, as defined in Education Code 8263.1. Families with the lowest gross monthly income in relation to family size shall be admitted first. If two or more families are in the same priority in relation to income, the family that has a child with disabilities shall be admitted first or, if there is no child with disabilities, the family that has been on the waiting list for the longest time shall be admitted first. (Education Code 8263, 8263.1)

The district shall allow eligible children 11-12 years of age to combine enrollment in a before-school or after-school program with subsidized child care services during the time that the before-school or after-school program does not operate. Children 11-12 years of age, except for children with disabilities, shall be eligible for subsidized child care services only for the portion of care needed that is not available in a before-school or after-school program. (Education Code 8263.4)

Note: The following **optional** paragraph may be revised to reflect additional enrollment priorities or criteria established by the district, such as priority for district students, children of district students, or children of district employees; see the accompanying Board policy.

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

After all children eligible for subsidized services have been enrolled, the district may enroll children in accordance with the priorities established by the Governing Board.

Note: 5 CCR 18094 and 18118 require the district to provide written notification to the parent/guardian as to whether the application for subsidized services has been approved or denied. For this purpose, the district should use the Notice of Action form available on CDE's web site. If the services are denied, the parent/guardian may appeal the decision in accordance with 5 CCR 18120-18122; see section "Rights of Parents/Guardians" below.

The district's decision to approve or deny services shall be communicated to the parent/guardian through a written Notice of Action mailed or delivered within 30 days from the date the application is signed by the parent/guardian. (5 CCR 18094, 18118)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 8263, as amended by AB 2626, effective July 1, 2019, a family that establishes initial or ongoing eligibility for services, regardless of the basis of eligibility, is entitled to receive those services for at least 12 months before being recertified for eligibility, except when an increase in income results in the family income exceeding the threshold for ongoing eligibility.

Upon establishing eligibility for services, a family shall be eligible for and shall receive services for not less than 12 months before having the family's eligibility or need recertified and shall not be required to report changes to income or other changes for at least 12 months. However, a family establishing eligibility on the basis of income shall report any increases in income that exceed the threshold for ongoing income eligibility specified in Education Code 8263.1, and the family's ongoing eligibility shall be recertified at that time. At any time a family may voluntarily report income or other changes, which shall be used, as applicable, to reduce the family's fees, increase the family's services, or extend the period of eligibility before recertification. (Education Code 8263)

Note: 5 CCR 18095 and 18119 require the district to notify a parent/guardian of any change in services or fees as described below. For such notification, the district should use the Notice of Action form available on CDE's web site. Parents/guardians may appeal such actions pursuant to 5 CCR 18120-18122; see section "Rights of Parents/Guardians" below.

The Superintendent or designee shall mail or deliver a Notice of Action to a parent/guardian at least 14 calendar days before any intended change in services, including, but not limited to, an increase or decrease in fees, an increase or decrease in the amount of services, or termination of services, due to any of the following circumstances: (5 CCR 18095, 18119)

1. A determination made during recertification or the update of the application that the need or eligibility requirements are no longer being met or the fee or amount of service needs to be modified

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

2. Failure of the parent/guardian to document the family's need or eligibility after the district requested such documentation in writing
3. An indication by the parent/guardian that the service is no longer wanted
4. The death of a parent/guardian or child
5. The conclusion of a limited-term agreement, provided that the parent/guardian has been informed in writing of the date that the services would terminate

The Superintendent or designee shall establish and maintain a basic data file for each family receiving child care and development services containing the completed and signed application for services, documentation used to determine the child's eligibility and need, and copies of all Notices of Action. (5 CCR 18081, 18095)

Fees and Charges

Note: Education Code 8273 requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) to establish a fee schedule for families using child care services through a CDE contract, including families who are eligible for subsidized child care services based on the criteria specified in item #1 in the section "Eligibility and Enrollment" above. See CDE Management Bulletin 14-03a.

Pursuant to 5 CCR 18109 and CDE's Frequently Asked Questions to Management Bulletin 14-03a, the district may charge a full-time, part-time, or "cost of care" fee calculated pursuant to 5 CCR 18109, whichever is less, depending on the number of hours that a child will receive services.

Education Code 8250 and 5 CCR 18110 prohibit districts from assessing fees for children enrolled in a program for severely disabled children or a federally based migrant program. Districts may revise the following paragraph to reflect any such program(s) offered by the district. Districts that offer only programs prohibited from charging fees may delete the following section.

Except when offering a program that is prohibited by law from charging any fees, the Superintendent or designee may charge fees for services according to the fee schedule established by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the actual cost of services, or the maximum daily/hourly rate specified in the contract, whichever is least. (Education Code 8250, 8263, 8273, 8273.1, 8447; 5 CCR 18078, 18108-18110)

However, no fee shall be charged to a family that is receiving CalWORKS cash aid, an income-eligible family whose child is enrolled in a part-day California State Preschool Program, or a family whose income level, in relation to family size, is less than the first entry in the fee schedule. (Education Code 8273.1; 5 CCR 18110)

In addition, any family receiving child care on the basis of having a child who is a recipient of child protective services, or having a certification by a county child welfare agency that child care services continue to be necessary, may be exempt from these fees for up to 12 months. (Education Code 8273.1)

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 8273 and CDE Management Bulletin 14-03a, family fees must be assessed at initial enrollment and reassessed at recertification or when the family data file is updated due to a change in status.

Pursuant to 5 CCR 18114, districts contracting with CDE to offer child care services are **mandated** to adopt a policy for the collection of fees in advance of providing services, as provided below. 5 CCR 18114 contains an alternative definition of delinquency for alternative payment programs offered pursuant to Education Code 8220-8224.

Fees shall be assessed at initial enrollment and reassessed when a family is recertified or experiences a change in status. Fees shall be considered delinquent after seven days from the date that fees are due. Parents/guardians shall be notified in the event that fees are delinquent. If a reasonable plan for payment of the delinquent fees has not been provided by the parents/guardians, services shall be terminated if all delinquent fees are not paid within two weeks of such notification. Parents/guardians shall receive a copy of the district's regulations regarding fee collection at the time of initial enrollment into the program. (Education Code 8273; 5 CCR 18082, 18114, 18115)

Note: The following paragraph is for use by districts that contract with CDE to offer child care services and wish to require parents/guardians to provide diapers and/or to pay the costs of field trips (unless the program is exempt from fees), and may be modified to delete diapers as appropriate for the age of the children served. Education Code 8273.3 **mandates** that such districts have a written policy which includes parents/guardians in the decision-making process. Pursuant to Education Code 8273.3, the fees cannot exceed \$25 per child in the contract year.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a process that involves parents/guardians in determining whether to require parents/guardians to provide diapers. This process shall also be used to determine whether and how much to charge parents/guardians for field trip expenses, within the limit specified in law. A child shall not be denied participation in a field trip due to the parent/guardian's inability or refusal to pay the fee, and no adverse action shall be taken against a parent/guardian for that inability or refusal. (Education Code 8273.3)

Disenrollment

Note: Education Code 8263.3 specifies the order by which families must be disenrolled from child care and development services when funding levels are reduced. Parents/guardians may appeal such actions pursuant to 5 CCR 18120-18122, but only on the grounds that the factors used to determine the family's disenrollment are incorrect. See section "Rights of Parents/Guardians" below.

When necessary due to a reduction in state reimbursements, families shall be disenrolled from subsidized child care and development services in the following order: (Education Code 8263.3)

1. Families with the highest income in relation to family size shall be disenrolled first.

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

2. If two or more families have the same income ranking, children without disabilities who have been enrolled in child care services the longest shall be disenrolled first. After all children without disabilities have been disenrolled, children with disabilities shall be disenrolled, with those who have been enrolled in child care services the longest being disenrolled first.
3. Families whose children are receiving child protective services or are at risk of neglect, abuse, or exploitation, regardless of family income, shall be disenrolled last.

Health Examination and Information

A physical examination and evaluation, including age-appropriate immunization, shall be required prior to or within six weeks of enrollment. (Education Code 8263)

(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)

(cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations)

Note: Education Code 8263 provides that the physical examination and evaluation, including immunizations, required of children enrolling in a child care center may be waived if a parent/guardian submits a letter stating that such examination is contrary to the parent/guardian's religious beliefs. However, Health and Safety Code 120335 eliminated the personal beliefs exemption for immunization requirements unless the parent/guardian files a letter or affidavit prior to January 1, 2016 or a licensed physician indicates that a student should be exempted for medical reasons. An exemption granted for personal beliefs is only effective until the next grade span (i.e., birth through preschool, grades K-6, and grades 7-12). See BP/AR 5141.31 - Immunizations.

The requirement for a physical examination and evaluation shall be waived if a parent/guardian submits a letter stating that such examination is contrary to the parent/guardian's religious beliefs. (Education Code 8263)

However, a child may be exempted from the immunization requirements only if: (Education Code 8263; Health and Safety Code 120335)

1. A licensed physician indicates that immunization is not safe due to the physical condition or medical circumstances of the child.
2. The parent/guardian submitted a letter or affidavit prior to January 1, 2016 stating that such examination is contrary to the parent/guardian's personal beliefs. An exemption from immunization granted for personal beliefs is effective only until the next grade span (i.e., birth through preschool, grades K-6, and grades 7-12).

If there is good cause to believe that a child is suffering from a recognized contagious or infectious disease, the child shall be temporarily excluded from the child care and development program until it is determined that the child is not suffering from that contagious or infectious disease. (Education Code 8263)

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

(cf. 5141.22 - *Infectious Diseases*)

Note: Health and Safety Code 1596.7996, as added by AB 2370 (Ch. 676, Statutes of 2018), requires licensed child care programs to provide parents/guardians of enrolled children with a flyer developed by CDSS in conjunction with the California Department of Public Health, which contains specified information regarding lead exposure and blood testing. The flyer is available on the CDSS web site.

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code 1597.16, as added by AB 2370, a licensed child care center located in a building constructed before January 1, 2010 will be required to have its drinking water tested for lead contamination levels between January 1, 2020 and January 1, 2023, and every five years after the date of the initial test. At that time the child care center must notify parents/guardians of enrolled children of the requirement to test the drinking water and of the test results.

When a child enrolls or reenrolls in a licensed child care program, the center shall provide the child's parent/guardian with written information on the risks and effects of lead exposure, blood lead testing recommendations and requirements, and options for obtaining blood lead testing, including any state or federally funded programs that offer free or discounted tests. (Health and Safety Code 1596.7996)

Attendance

Sign-in and sign-out sheets shall be used daily for all children for attendance accounting purposes. Attendance records shall include verification of excused absences, including the child's name, date(s) of absence, specific reason for absence, and signature of parent/guardian or district representative. (5 CCR 18065, 18066)

Absences shall be excused for the following reasons:

1. Illness or quarantine of the child or of the parent/guardian (Education Code 8208)
2. Family emergency (Education Code 8208)

Note: Pursuant to 5 CCR 18066, districts contracting with CDE to offer child care services are **mandated** to adopt policies delineating circumstances constituting an excused absence for a family emergency. The following paragraph may be revised to reflect district practice.

A family emergency shall be considered to exist when unforeseen circumstances cause the need for immediate action, such as may occur in the event of a natural disaster or when a member of the child's immediate family dies, has an accident, or is required to appear in court.

3. Time spent with a parent/guardian or other relative as required by a court of law (Education Code 8208)

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

4. Time spent with a parent/guardian or other relative which is clearly in the best interest of the child (Education Code 8208)

Note: 5 CCR 18066 **mandates** a policy that delineates circumstances constituting an excused absence "in the best interest of the child." The following paragraph may be revised to reflect district practice.

An absence shall be considered to be in the best interest of the child when the time is spent with the child's parent/guardian or other relative for reasons deemed justifiable by the program coordinator or site supervisor.

Except for children who are recipients of child protective services or are at risk of abuse or neglect, excused absences in the best interest of the child shall be limited to 10 days during the contract period. (5 CCR 18066)

Note: 5 CCR 18066 **mandates** that providers adopt a policy governing unexcused absences which may include reasonable limitations, if any. The following paragraph may be revised to reflect district practice.

Any absence due to a reason other than any of those stated above, or without the required verification, shall be considered an unexcused absence. After three unexcused absences during the year, the program coordinator or site supervisor shall notify the child's parent/guardian. Children who continue to have excessive unexcused absences may be removed from the program at the discretion of the program coordinator in order to accommodate other families on the waiting list for admission.

Parents/guardians shall be notified of the policies and procedures related to excused and unexcused absences for child care and development services. (5 CCR 18066)

Rights of Parents/Guardians

Note: The following two paragraphs are for use by districts that operate one or more licensed child care centers, but may be used by license-exempt providers.

At the time a child is accepted into a licensed child care and development center, the child's parent/guardian or authorized representative shall be notified of the rights specified in 22 CCR 101218.1, including, but not limited to, the right to enter and inspect the child care facility and the right to be informed, upon request, of the name and type of association to the center of any adult who has been granted a criminal record exemption. (Health and Safety Code 1596.857; 22 CCR 101218.1)

The written notice of parent/guardian rights also shall be permanently posted within the facility in a location accessible to parents/guardians. Notwithstanding these rights, access to

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

the facility may be denied to an adult whose behavior presents a risk to children present in the facility or to noncustodial parents/guardians when so requested by the responsible parent/guardian. (Health and Safety Code 1596.857)

Note: The remainder of this section is for use by all districts and applies to licensed and unlicensed child care programs.

In addition, if a parent/guardian disagrees with any district action to deny a child's eligibility for subsidized child care services, disenroll the child due to a funding shortage, increase or decrease fees, increase or decrease the amount of services, terminate services, or otherwise change the level of services, the parent/guardian may file a request for a hearing with the Superintendent or designee within 14 calendar days of the date the Notice of Action was received. Within 10 calendar days of receiving the request for a hearing, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of the time and place of the hearing, which, to the extent possible, shall be convenient for the parent/guardian. (5 CCR 18120)

The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures specified in 5 CCR 18120 by a district administrator who is at a staff level higher in authority than the staff person who made the contested decision. Within 10 calendar days after the hearing, the district administrator shall mail or deliver a written decision to the parent/guardian. If the parent/guardian disagrees with the written decision, the parent/guardian may, within 14 calendar days, appeal the decision to the CDE. (5 CCR 18120-18122)

Records

Note: CDE contracts require the district to submit data on both subsidized and nonsubsidized families served by child care centers. In addition, the district is required to provide monthly reports, through CDE's online management information system, regarding any families receiving subsidized services during that month.

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain records of enrollment, attendance, types of families served, income received from all families participating in the district's child care and development program, and any other records required by CDE.

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(7/15 10/16) 3/19

CSBA Sample Board Bylaw

Board Bylaws

BB 9323.2(a)

ACTIONS BY THE BOARD

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 35164, a majority vote of all members of the Governing Board is necessary for an item to carry, even in those cases where some members are absent. Thus, for districts with a five-member board, an item will pass with three votes, even if only three members are present or there is a vacancy. Education Code 35165 details the effect of a vacancy in districts with a seven-member board. For language regarding vote requirements when a board member abstains, see BB 9323 - Meeting Conduct.

The law specifies certain board actions as requiring more than a majority vote; see E(1) 9323.2 for a list of such actions.

The Governing Board shall act by a majority vote of all of the membership constituting the Board, unless otherwise required by law. (Education Code 35164)

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

(cf. 9012 - Board Member Electronic Communications)

(cf. 9200 - Limits of Board Member Authority)

An "action" by the Board means: (Government Code 54952.6)

1. A collective decision by a majority of the Board members
2. A collective commitment or promise by a majority of the Board members to make a positive or negative decision
3. A vote by a majority of the Board members when sitting as the Board upon a motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance

The Board shall not take action by secret ballot, whether preliminary or final. (Government Code 54953)

Actions taken by the Board in open session shall be recorded in the Board minutes. (Education Code 35145)

(cf. 9324 - Minutes and Recordings)

Action on Non-Agenda Items

Note: The Brown Act (Government Code 54950-54963) generally prohibits any action or discussion of items not on the posted agenda. However, Government Code 54954.2 provides for three specific and narrow situations in which the Board can act on an item not on the agenda, as specified below. Board members may also briefly respond to questions raised by members of the public concerning items not on the agenda; see BB 9323 - Meeting Conduct.

ACTIONS BY THE BOARD (continued)

After publicly identifying the item, the Board may take action on a subject not appearing on the posted meeting agenda under any of the following conditions: (Government Code 54954.2)

1. When a majority of the Board determines that an emergency situation exists, as defined for emergency meetings pursuant to Government Code 54956.5
2. When two-thirds of the members present, or if less than two-thirds of the members are present then by a unanimous vote of all members present, determine that the need to take immediate action came to the district's attention after the agenda was posted
3. When an item appeared on the agenda of, and was continued from, a meeting that occurred not more than five days earlier

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

Challenging Board Actions

Note: Government Code 54960 grants authority to the district attorney or any interested person to file a civil action asking the court to order the Board to stop or prevent Brown Act violations specified below. The Board should respond to legal challenges to its actions and consult legal counsel when necessary. Pursuant to Government Code 54960.5, a court may award court costs and reasonable attorney's fees to a plaintiff who successfully invalidates a Board action in violation of the Brown Act or successfully enforces one of the Brown Act's civil remedies provided in Government Code 54960-54960.2.

The district attorney's office or any interested person may file an action in court for the purpose of: (Government Code 54960, 54960.2)

1. Stopping or preventing the Board's violation or threatened violation of the Brown Act
2. Determining the applicability of the Brown Act to ongoing or future threatened Board actions
3. Determining the applicability of the Brown Act to a past action of the Board that is not specified in Government Code 54960.1, provided that:
 - a. Within nine months of the alleged violation, a cease and desist letter is submitted to the Board, clearly describing the past Board action and the nature of the alleged violation.

Note: Pursuant to Government Code 54960.2, the Board may respond within 30 days of receiving the cease and desist letter. If the Board decides to respond to the letter with an unconditional commitment to desist from repeating the past action, the unconditional commitment is required to be substantially in the same form provided in Government Code 54960.2 and to be approved in an open session of the Board's regular or special meeting. For a sample unconditional commitment letter, see E(2) 9323.2.

ACTIONS BY THE BOARD (continued)

- b. The time for the Board to respond has expired and the Board has not provided an unconditional commitment to cease and desist from and not repeat the past action alleged to have violated the Brown Act.
- c. The action is brought within the time required by Government Code 54960.2.
- 4. Determining the validity, under state or federal law, of any Board rule or action which penalizes any of its members or otherwise discourages their expression
- 5. Compelling the Board to audio record its closed sessions because of a court's finding of the Board's violation of any applicable Government Code provision

Note: Pursuant to Government Code 54960.1, the district attorney's office or any interested person may file a lawsuit to invalidate (i.e., declare null and void) actions that violate specific provisions of the Brown Act listed in Government Code 54960.1 and specified below. However, even when the action may normally be subject to invalidation, Government Code 54960.1 provides that in certain circumstances (e.g., when there has been substantial compliance with the Brown Act or the Board action resulted in a contract with a party who detrimentally relied on the action in good faith and without notice of a challenge to its validity), the action may not be invalidated.

Before seeking court action, the person who believes a violation occurred must send a written demand to the Board to "cure or correct" the action as specified below. Because the laws regarding these provisions are complex, it is recommended that the district consult with legal counsel upon receipt of a "cure and correct" demand.

The district attorney or any interested person may file an action in court to nullify a Board action which is alleged to be in violation of law regarding any of the following: (Government Code 54960.1)

- 1. Open meeting and teleconferencing (Government Code 54953)
- 2. Agenda posting (Government Code 54954.2)
- 3. Closed session item descriptions (Government Code 54954.5)
- 4. New or increased tax assessments (Government Code 54954.6)
- 5. Special meetings (Government Code 54956)
- 6. Emergency meetings (Government Code 54956.5)

Prior to bringing any action to nullify a Board action, the district attorney or other interested person shall present a demand to "cure and correct" the alleged violation. The demand shall clearly describe the challenged action and the nature of the alleged violation and shall be

ACTIONS BY THE BOARD (continued)

presented to the Board in writing within 90 days of the date when the action was taken. If the alleged violation concerns action taken in an open session but in violation of Government Code 54954.2 (agenda posting), the written demand must be made within 30 days of the date when the alleged action took place. (Government Code 54960.1)

Within 30 days of receiving the demand, the Board shall do one of the following: (Government Code 54960.1)

1. Cure or correct the challenged action and inform the demanding party in writing of its actions to cure or correct.
2. Determine not to cure or correct the alleged violation and inform the demanding party in writing of its decision to not cure or correct.
3. Take no action. If the Board takes no action within the 30-day period, its inaction shall be considered a decision not to cure or correct the challenged action.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

15266 School construction bonds

17466 Declaration of intent to sell or lease real property

17481 Lease of property with residence for nondistrict purposes

17510-17512 Leasing for production of gas, resolution requiring unanimous vote

17546 Private sale of personal property

17556-17561 Dedication of real property

35140-35149 Meetings

35160-35178.4 Powers and duties

48660-48661 Community day schools, establishment and restrictions

CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

425.16 Special motion to strike in connection with a public issue

1245.240 Eminent domain vote requirements

1245.245 Eminent domain, resolution adopting different use

GOVERNMENT CODE

53090-53097.5 Regulation of local agencies by counties and cities

53724 Parcel tax resolution requirements

53790-53792 Exceeding the budget

53820-53833 Temporary borrowing

53850-53858 Temporary borrowing

Legal Reference continued: (see next page)

ACTIONS BY THE BOARD (continued)

Legal Reference: (continued)

GOVERNMENT CODE (continued)

54950-54963 *The Ralph M. Brown Act, especially:*

54952.6 *Action taken, definition*

54953 *Meetings to be open and public; attendance; prohibition against secret ballots*

54960-54960.5 *Actions to prevent violations*

65352.2 *Coordination with planning agency*

PUBLIC CONTRACT CODE

3400 *Bid specifications*

20111 *Contracts over \$50,000; contracts for construction; award to lowest responsible bidder*

20113 *Emergencies, award of contracts without bids*

20114 *Repairs, maintenance, and improvements to district facilities by day labor or force account*

22034 *Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act informal bidding ordinance*

22035 *Repair or replacement of facilities in case of emergency*

22050 *Emergency contracting procedures*

COURT DECISIONS

Los Angeles Times Communications LLC v. Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (2003) 112 Cal.App.4th 1313

McKee v. Orange Unified School District (2003) 110 Cal.App.4th 1310

Bell v. Vista Unified School District (2002) 82 Cal.App.4th 672

Boyle v. City of Redondo Beach (1999) 70 Cal.App.4th 1109

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, 2014

ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

The Brown Act: Open Meetings for Local Legislative Bodies, 2003

LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES PUBLICATIONS

Open and Public IV: A Guide to the Ralph M. Brown Act 2nd Edition, rev. July 2010

WEB SITES

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

Institute for Local Government: <http://www.ca-ilg.org>

Office of the Attorney General: <http://www.oag.ca.gov>

CSBA Sample Exhibit

Board Bylaws

E(1) 9323.2(a)

ACTIONS BY THE BOARD

ACTIONS REQUIRING A SUPER MAJORITY VOTE

Note: The following exhibit lists some of the Governing Board actions that require more than a simple majority vote. Other such actions may exist and may be identified in the future.

Actions Requiring a Two-Thirds Vote of the Board:

Note: For an action requiring a two-thirds vote to pass, a three-member board will need two board members to vote in favor of the item, a five-member board will need four board members to vote in favor of the item, and a seven-member board will need five board members to vote in favor of the item.

1. Resolution declaring the Governing Board's intention to sell or lease real property (Education Code 17466)

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

2. Resolution declaring the Board's intent to convey or dedicate property to the state or any political subdivision for the purposes specified in Education Code 17556 (Education Code 17557)
3. Resolution authorizing and directing the Board president, or any other presiding officer, secretary, or member, to execute a deed of dedication or conveyance of property to the state or a political subdivision (Education Code 17559)
4. Lease, for up to three months, of school property which has a residence on it and which cannot be developed for district purposes because funds are unavailable (Education Code 17481)

Note: Item #5 below is different from temporary borrowing pursuant to Government Code 53850-53858 which requires only a majority vote of the Board.

5. Request for temporary borrowing of funds needed for immediate requirements of the district to pay district obligations incurred before the receipt of district income for the fiscal year sufficient to meet the payment(s) (Government Code 53821)
6. Upon complying with Government Code 65352.2 and Public Resources Code 21151.2, action to render city or county zoning ordinances inapplicable to a proposed use of the property by the district (Government Code 53094)

ACTIONS BY THE BOARD (continued)

(cf. 7131 - Relations with Local Agencies)
(cf. 7150 - Site Selection and Development)
(cf. 7160 - Charter School Facilities)

7. When the district is organized to serve only grades K-8, action to establish a community day school for any of grades K-8 (Education Code 48660)

(cf. 6185 - Community Day School)

8. When the district is organized to serve only grades K-8, has an average daily attendance (ADA) of 2,500 or less, or desires to operate a community day school to serve any of grades K-6 (and no higher grades) and seeks to situate a community day school on an existing school site, certification that satisfactory alternative facilities are not available for a community day school (Education Code 48661)

9. Resolution of intent to issue general obligation bonds with the approval of 55 percent of the voters of the district (Education Code 15266)

(cf. 7214 - General Obligation Bonds)

10. Resolution of intent to issue bonds within a school facilities improvement district with the approval of 55 percent of the voters of the school facilities improvement district (Education Code 15266)

(cf. 7213 - School Facilities Improvement Districts)

11. Resolution to place a parcel tax on the ballot (Government Code 53724)

Note: Code of Civil Procedure 1245.240 requires that, prior to commencing an eminent domain action, the Board adopt a resolution of necessity approved by a two-thirds vote of the Board unless a greater vote is required by statute, charter, or ordinance. In addition, if the Board desires to use the property for a different purpose than stated in the resolution of necessity, then pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure 1245.245, the Board must adopt, by two-thirds vote, another resolution authorizing the different use unless a greater vote is required by statute, charter, or ordinance.
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12. Resolution of necessity to proceed with an eminent domain action and, if the Board subsequently desires to use the property for a different use than stated in the resolution of necessity, a subsequent resolution so authorizing the different use (Code of Civil Procedure 1245.240, 1245.245)

Note: Item #13 is for use by three-member boards.

13. When the district has a three-member Board, action to respond to an emergency facilities condition without giving notice for bids to let contracts, including the repair

ACTIONS BY THE BOARD (continued)

or replacement of district facilities, the taking of any other action that is directly related to and immediately required by that emergency, the procurement of the necessary equipment, services, and supplies for those purposes, the delegation of authority to the Superintendent or designee to take such action, and the determination during a regular Board meeting of the need to continue the action (Public Contract Code 22035, 22050)

Actions Requiring a Two-Thirds Vote of the Board Members Present at the Meeting:

1. Determination that there is a need to take immediate action and that the need for action came to the district's attention after the posting of the agenda. If less than two-thirds of the Board members are present at the meeting, a unanimous vote of all members present is required. (Government Code 54954.2)
2. Determination that a closed session is necessary during an emergency meeting. If less than two-thirds of the Board members are present, a unanimous vote of all members present is required. (Government Code 54956.5)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

Actions Requiring a Four-Fifths Vote of the Board:

Note: For an action requiring a four-fifths vote to pass, a three-member board will need a unanimous vote in favor of the item, a five-member board will need four board members to vote in favor of the item, and a seven-member board will need six board members to vote in favor of the item.

1. Expenditure and transfer of necessary funds and use of district property or personnel to meet a national or local emergency created by war, military, naval, or air attack, or sabotage, or to provide for adequate national or local defense (Government Code 53790-53792)
2. Resolution for district borrowing based on issuance of notes, tax anticipation warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness, in an amount up to 50 percent of the district's estimated income and revenue for the fiscal year or the portion not yet collected at the time of the borrowing (Government Code 53822, 53824)
3. Resolution for district borrowing, between July 15 and August 30 of any fiscal year, of up to 25 percent of the estimated income and revenue to be received by the district during that fiscal year from apportionments based on ADA for the preceding school year (Government Code 53823-53824)

(cf. 3110 - Transfer of Funds)

ACTIONS BY THE BOARD (continued)

4. Declaration of an emergency in order to authorize the district to include a particular brand name or product in a bid specification (Public Contract Code 3400)

(cf. 3311 - Bids)

Note: Item #5 is for use by districts governed by a five-member or seven-member board.
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5. When the district has a five-member or seven-member Board, action to respond to an emergency facilities condition without giving notice for bids to let contracts, including the repair or replacement of district facilities, the taking of any other action that is directly related to and immediately required by that emergency, the procurement of the necessary equipment, services, and supplies for those purposes, the delegation of authority to the Superintendent or designee to take such action, and the determination during a regular Board meeting of the need to continue the action (Public Contract Code 22035, 22050)

Note: AB 2249 (Ch. 169, Statutes of 2018) amended Public Contract Code 22034 to change the thresholds for public works projects bid pursuant to the Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act, thereby increasing the amount requiring board resolution, as provided in item #6.
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6. Resolution to award a contract for a public works project at \$212,500 or less to the lowest responsible bidder, when the district is using the informal process authorized under the Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act for projects of \$200,000 or less, all bids received are in excess of \$200,000, and the Board determines that the district's cost estimate was reasonable (Public Contract Code 22034)

(cf. 3311.1 - Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Procedures)

Actions Requiring a Unanimous Vote of the Board:

1. Resolution authorizing and prescribing the terms of a lease of district property for extraction and taking of gas not associated with oil (Education Code 17510-17511)
2. Authorization of the use of day labor or force account, or waiver of the competitive bid process pursuant to Public Contract Code 20111, when the Board determines that an emergency exists requiring the repair, alteration, work, or improvement to any facility to permit the continuance of existing classes or to avoid danger to life or property, and upon approval of the County Superintendent of Schools (Public Contract Code 20113)

ACTIONS BY THE BOARD (continued)

Action Requiring a Unanimous Vote of the Board Members Present at the Meeting:

1. Private sale of surplus property without advertisement in order to establish that such property is not worth more than \$2,500. Disposal of surplus property or donation to a charitable organization requires the unanimous vote of the Board members present to establish that the value of such property would not defray the cost of arranging its sale. (Education Code 17546)

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

CSBA Sample Exhibit

Board Bylaws

E(2) 9323.2

ACTIONS BY THE BOARD

UNCONDITIONAL COMMITMENT LETTER

Note: Government Code 54960 authorizes the district attorney or other interested person to file an action in court to determine the applicability of the Ralph M. Brown Act to any past Governing Board action which is not specified in Government Code 54960.1; see the accompanying board bylaw. Pursuant to Government Code 54960.2, prior to commencing such an action the district attorney or other interested person must send a cease and desist letter to the Board within nine months of the alleged violation. Within 30 days of receiving the cease and desist letter, the Board may respond by sending an unconditional commitment, substantially in the same form provided in Government Code 54960.2, to desist from repeating the past action. If the Board so responds, the district attorney or other interested person may not file an action in court. The following exhibit presents a sample unconditional commitment letter.

To: *(Name of district attorney or any interested person)*

The Governing Board of *(name of school district)* has received your cease and desist letter dated *(date)* alleging that the following past action taken by the Board violates the Ralph M. Brown Act: *(Describe alleged past action as set forth in the cease and desist letter.)*

In order to avoid unnecessary litigation and without admitting any violation of the Ralph M. Brown Act, the Board hereby unconditionally commits that it will cease, desist from, and not repeat the challenged past action described above. The Board may rescind this commitment only by a majority vote of its membership taken in open session at a regular meeting and noticed on its posted agenda as "Rescission of Brown Act Commitment." You will be provided with written notice, sent by any means or media you provide in response to this message, to whatever address(es) you specify, of any intention to consider rescinding this commitment at least 30 days before any such regular meeting. In the event that this commitment is rescinded, a notice will be delivered to you by the same means as this commitment, or by mail to an address that you have designated in writing, and you will have the right to commence legal action pursuant to Government Code 54960(a).

Sincerely,

(Name)

(Title of Board President or other designee)

(11/12) 3/19