

CSBA Sample Board Policy

Students

BP 5141.6(a)

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

Note: The following **optional** policy should be revised to reflect district practice. This policy addresses the provision of health services at or near school sites (e.g., a school-based or school-linked health center or mobile van) through the employment of or contract with health care professionals or community health centers. Districts maintaining or planning to establish school health services are encouraged to review CSBA's policy brief entitled Expanding Access to School Health Services: Policy Considerations for Governing Boards.

Other CSBA sample policies and/or administrative regulations address specific health requirements and services for students. For example, see BP/AR 5141.21 - Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions, AR 5141.24 - Specialized Health Care Services, BP/AR 5141.3 - Health Examinations, and AR 5141.32 - Health Screening for School Entry.

The Governing Board recognizes that good physical and mental health is critical to a student's ability to learn and believes that all students should have access to comprehensive health services. The district may provide access to health services at or near district schools through the establishment of a school health center and/or mobile van(s) that serve multiple campuses.

The Board and the Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with local and state agencies and health care providers to assess the health needs of students in district schools and the community. Based on the results of this needs assessment and the availability of resources, the Superintendent or designee shall recommend for Board approval the types of health services to be provided by the district.

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

(cf. 5131.6 - Alcohol and Other Drugs)

(cf. 5131.61 - Drug Testing)

(cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)

(cf. 5131.63 - Steroids)

(cf. 5141 - Health Care and Emergencies)

(cf. 5141.21 - Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions)

(cf. 5141.22 - Infectious Diseases)

(cf. 5141.23 - Asthma Management)

(cf. 5141.24 - Specialized Health Care Services)

(cf. 5141.25 - Availability of Condoms)

(cf. 5141.26 - Tuberculosis Testing)

(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)

(cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations)

(cf. 5141.32 - Health Screening for School Entry)

(cf. 5141.33 - Head Lice)

(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting)

(cf. 5141.52 - Suicide Prevention)

(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

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

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES (continued)

Note: School health centers are generally funded by a combination of insurance reimbursements; state, federal, and county grants; district funds; subsidies from community clinics or hospitals; and/or private donations.

Board approval shall be required for any proposed use of district resources and facilities to support school health services. The Superintendent or designee shall identify funding opportunities available through grant programs, private foundations, and partnerships with local agencies and organizations.

(cf. 1260 - Educational Foundation)

(cf. 1330.1 - Joint Use Agreement)

(cf. 3100 - Budget)

(cf. 7000 - Facilities Master Plan)

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

The Board may prioritize school health services to schools serving students with the greatest need, including schools with medically underserved populations and/or a high percentage of low-income and uninsured children and youth.

(cf. 0415 - Equity)

School health services shall be provided under the supervision of a licensed health care professional. The Board may employ or contract with health care professionals or partner with community health centers to provide the services under the terms of a written contract or memorandum of understanding.

(cf. 3312 - Contracts)

If a school nurse is employed by the school or district, he/she shall be involved in planning and implementing the school health services as appropriate.

Note: The following **optional** paragraph may be revised to reflect district practice. The California Department of Education's Health Framework for California Public Schools recommends a coordinated school health approach which integrates health services, health education, physical education, parent/community involvement, nutrition services, psychological and counseling services, a safe and healthy school environment, and health promotion for staff.

The Superintendent or designee shall coordinate the provision of school health services with other student wellness initiatives, including health education, nutrition and physical fitness programs, and other activities designed to create a healthy school environment. The Superintendent or designee shall encourage joint planning and regular communications among health services staff, district administrators, teachers, counselors, other staff, and parents/guardians.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES (continued)

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

(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)

(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)

(cf. 6164.2 - Counseling/Guidance Services)

Note: The following **optional** paragraph is for use by districts that choose to engage in outreach and enrollment efforts to encourage eligible students' participation in no-cost or low-cost health coverage programs.

Education Code 49557.2 authorizes the district to include on the application for free and reduced-price meals information about the Medi-Cal program and a student's potential eligibility. Pursuant to Education Code 49558, districts may release information on the free and reduced-price meals application to the local agency that determines eligibility under the Medi-Cal program, provided that the student is approved for free meals and the parent/guardian consents to the sharing of information. See BP/AR 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals.

To further encourage student access to health care services, the Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement outreach strategies to increase enrollment of eligible students from low- to moderate-income families in affordable, comprehensive state or federal health coverage programs and local health initiatives. Such strategies may include, but are not limited to, providing information about the Medi-Cal program on the application for free and reduced-price meals in accordance with law.

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

Consent and Confidentiality

Note: Parent/guardian consent is generally required prior to providing health services to a minor student. However, Family Code 6920-6929 specify exceptions under which minors do not need parent/guardian consent prior to receiving services, including an exception for a minor age 12 years or older to consent to medical care related to the prevention of a sexually transmitted disease. In addition, Health and Safety Code 124260 allows a minor age 12 or older to consent to outpatient mental health services if, in the opinion of a professional person, as defined, the minor is mature enough to participate intelligently in the mental health treatment or counseling services. In this case, the child's parent/guardian must be involved unless the professional person determines it would be inappropriate.

The Superintendent or designee shall obtain written parent/guardian consent prior to providing services to a student, except when the student is authorized to consent to the service pursuant to Family Code 6920-6929, Health and Safety Code 124260, or other applicable law.

Note: The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) (45 CFR 164.500-164.534) mandates actions that "covered entities" must take to protect the privacy of an individual's health information. Generally, entities covered by HIPAA may release or receive "protected health information" about an individual only if that individual gives permission or the Act expressly permits its release. Districts with questions about the applicability of HIPAA should consult legal counsel as appropriate.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES (continued)

In addition, 22 CCR 51270 requires districts serving as Medi-Cal providers (see section entitled "Payment/Reimbursement for Services" below) to comply with confidentiality requirements specified in Education Code 49073-49079, Welfare and Institutions Code 14100.2, 22 CCR 51009, 42 USC 1320c-9, and 42 CFR 431.300.

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain the confidentiality of student health records in accordance with law.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

Payment/Reimbursement for Services

Note: Some school health services, such as medical and related services specified in an individualized education program for students with disabilities, must be provided free of charge. For other services, districts may charge a fee and are entitled to seek third-party reimbursement from students' private insurance and state or federal programs such as Medi-Cal or the Child Health and Disability Prevention program. See the accompanying administrative regulation.

The Superintendent or designee may bill public and private insurance programs and other applicable programs for reimbursement of services as appropriate. Services may be provided free of charge or on a sliding scale in accordance with law.

(cf. 5143 - Insurance)

Note: The following **optional** paragraph is for use by districts that have received approval from the California Department of Health Care Services to serve as Medi-Cal providers. Pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 14132.06 and 22 CCR 51051 and 51190.1, to the extent that federal funding is available, local educational agencies (LEAs) may receive partial Medi-Cal reimbursement through the LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option for health services provided to an enrolled student under age 22 who is certified for Medi-Cal and/or a member of the student's family. In addition, pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 14132.47, LEAs may be reimbursed through the Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) program for some of their administrative costs associated with school-based health and outreach activities that are not claimable under the LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option or other programs. See the accompanying administrative regulation.

Districts may receive assistance with Medi-Cal billing through CSBA's Practi-Cal program. See CSBA's web site for further information.

The district shall serve as a Medi-Cal provider to the extent feasible, comply with all related legal requirements, and seek reimbursement of costs to the extent allowed by law.

Program Evaluation

In order to continuously improve school health services, the Board shall evaluate the effectiveness of such services and the extent to which they continue to meet student needs.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES (continued)

The Superintendent or designee shall provide the Board with periodic reports that may include, but are not necessarily limited to, rates of participation in school health services; changes in student outcomes such as school attendance or achievement; measures of school climate; feedback from staff and participants regarding program accessibility and operations, including accessibility to low-income and linguistically and culturally diverse students and families; and program costs and revenues.

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

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SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

49073-49079 Privacy of student records

49423.5 Specialized physical health care services

49557.2-49558 Eligibility for free and reduced-price meals; sharing information with Medi-Cal

FAMILY CODE

6920-6929 Consent by minor for medical treatment

GOVERNMENT CODE

95020 Individualized family service plan

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

104830-104865 School-based application of fluoride or other tooth decay-inhibiting agent

121020 HIV/AIDS testing and treatment; parental consent for minor under age 12

123110 Minor's right to access health records

123115 Limitation on parent/guardian access to minor's health records

123800-123995 California Children's Services Act

124025-124110 Child Health and Disability Prevention Program

124172-124174.6 Public School Health Center Support Program

124260 Mental health services; consent by minors age 12 and older

130300-130317 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)

WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

14059.5 Definition of "medically necessary"

14100.2 Confidentiality of Medi-Cal information

14115 Medi-Cal claims process

14115.8 LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option program guide

14124.90 Third-party health coverage

14132.06 Covered benefits; health services provided by local educational agencies

14132.47 Administrative claiming process and targeted case management

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 17

2951 Testing standards for hearing tests

6800-6874 Child Health and Disability Prevention Program

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 22

51009 Confidentiality

51050-51192 Definitions of Medi-Cal providers and services

51200 Requirements for providers

51231.2 Wheelchair van requirements

51270 Local educational agency provider; conditions for participation

51304 Limitations on specified benefits

51309 Psychology, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech pathology, audiological services

51323 Medical transportation services

51351 Targeted case management services

51360 Local educational agency; types of services

51491 Local educational agency eligibility for payment

51535.5 Reimbursement to local educational agency providers

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232g Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

1320c-9 Prohibition against disclosure of records

1397aa-1397mm State Children's Health Insurance Program

Legal Reference continued: (see next page)

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES (continued)

Legal Reference: (continued)

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 42

431.300 *Use and disclosure of information on Medicaid applicants and recipients*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 45

164.500-164.534 *Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)*

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Expanding Access to School Health Services: Policy Considerations for Governing Boards, Policy Brief, November 2008

Promoting Oral Health for California's Students: New Role, New Opportunities for Schools, Policy Brief, November 2008

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Health Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES PUBLICATIONS

California School-Based Medi-Cal Administrative Activities Manual

LEA Medi-Cal Provider Manual

CALIFORNIA SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH ALLIANCE PUBLICATIONS

How to Fund Health Services in Your School District, September 2014

Documenting the Link Between School-Based Health Centers and Academic Success, May 2014

NATIONAL CENTER FOR YOUTH LAW PUBLICATIONS

Confidential Medical Release: Frequently Asked Questions from Schools and Districts, November 2015

WEB SITES

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

CSBA, Practi-Cal Program: <http://www.csba.org/ProductsAndServices/AllServices/PractiCal>

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

California Department of Education, Health Services and School Nursing:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/hs/hs/ln>

California Department of Health Care Services: <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov>

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

California School-Based Health Alliance: <http://www.schoolhealthcenters.org>

California School Nurses Organization: <http://www.csno.org>

Center for Health and Health Care in Schools: <http://www.healthinschools.org>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, School Health Policies and Programs (SHPPS) Study:

<http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/shpps>

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov>

National Center for Youth Law: <http://www.youthlaw.org>

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Policy Reference UPDATE Service

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CSBA Sample Administrative Regulation

Students

AR 5141.6(a)

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

Types of Health Services

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

In accordance with student and community needs and available resources, school health services offered by the district may include, but are not limited to:

1. Health screenings, evaluations, and assessments of students' need for health services
2. Physical examinations, immunizations, and other preventive medical services

(cf. 5141.26 - Tuberculosis Testing)

(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)

(cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations)

(cf. 5141.32 - Health Screening for School Entry)

3. First aid and administration of medications

(cf. 5141.21 - Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions)

4. Diagnosis and treatment of minor injuries and acute medical conditions

5. Management of chronic medical conditions

(cf. 5141.23 - Asthma Management)

6. Basic laboratory tests

7. Emergency response procedures

(cf. 5141 - Health Care and Emergencies)

8. Nutrition services

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

(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)

9. Oral health services that may include preventive services, basic restorative services, and referral to specialty services

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES (continued)

Note: Pursuant to Health and Safety Code 104830-104865, elementary and secondary students must be offered an opportunity each school year to receive a topical application of fluoride or other decay-inhibiting agent by a dentist or dental assistant, under a program organized and operated by the county health officer. Districts are required to cooperate with the county health officer in carrying out the program in any school in their jurisdiction and to provide notification to parents/guardians regarding the availability of the program, as provided below.

The Superintendent or designee shall notify all parents/guardians of the opportunity pursuant to Health and Safety Code 104830-104865 for their child to receive the topical application of fluoride, including fluoride varnish, or other decay-inhibiting agent to the teeth during the school year. Such application of fluoride or other decay-inhibiting agent shall only be provided to a student whose parent/guardian returns the notification with an indication consenting to the treatment. (Health and Safety Code 104830, 104850, 104855)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

10. Mental health services, which may include assessments, crisis intervention, counseling, treatment, and referral to a continuum of services including emergency psychiatric care, community support programs, inpatient care, and outpatient programs

(cf. 5141.52 - Suicide Prevention)

(cf. 6164.2 - Counseling/Guidance Services)

11. Substance abuse prevention and intervention services

(cf. 5131.6 - Alcohol and Other Drugs)

(cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)

(cf. 5131.63 - Steroids)

12. Vision and audiology services

13. Speech therapy

14. Occupational therapy

15. Physical therapy

Note: Item #16 may be deleted by districts that offer only elementary grades.

16. Reproductive health services

(cf. 5141.25 - Availability of Condoms)

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES (continued)

17. Specialized health care services for students with disabilities

(cf. 5141.24 - Specialized Health Care Services)

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

18. Medical transportation
19. Targeted case management
20. Referrals and linkage to services not offered on-site
21. Public health and disease surveillance
22. Individual and family health education
23. School or districtwide health promotion

Medi-Cal Billing

Note: The following **optional** section is for use by districts that have contracted with the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) in order to provide services as a Medi-Cal provider as authorized by Welfare and Institutions Code 14132.06; see the accompanying Board policy. To the extent that the district contracts with health care practitioners or clinics to provide the services, the practitioner or clinic is considered the provider of services and is the entity billing and receiving Medi-Cal payments for services.

Welfare and Institutions Code 1415.8, as amended by AB 3192 (Ch. 658, Statutes of 2018), requires DHCS, by January 1, 2020, to develop and distribute a program guide containing information regarding processes, documentation, and the proper submission of claims under the LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option program.

In order to provide services as a Medi-Cal provider, the district shall enter into and maintain a contract with the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). (Welfare and Institutions Code 14132.06; 22 CCR 51051, 51270)

Note: With the exception of health care aides who provide specialized physical health care services pursuant to Education Code 49423.5, any practitioner whom the district employs or with whom it contracts must be credentialed to practice as a physician, registered nurse, psychologist, school counselor, or one of the other professions listed in 22 CCR 51190.3 in order for the district to receive Medi-Cal reimbursement.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all practitioners employed by or under contract with the district possess the appropriate license, certification, registration, or credential and provide only those services that are within their scope of practice. (22 CCR 51190.3, 51270, 51491)

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES (continued)

Note: Reimbursement under Medi-Cal is limited to the services specified in Welfare and Institutions Code 14132.06 and 22 CCR 51190.4 and 51360. Pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 14132.06, services may be reimbursable whether or not the student has an individualized education program (IEP) or individualized family service plan (IFSP) or whether those same services are provided at no charge to the beneficiary or to the community at large.

22 CCR 51360 provides that services for accompanying a student off campus for nursing or school health aide services will be reimbursable when specified as medically necessary in an IEP or IFSP.

The Superintendent or designee shall submit a claim for Medi-Cal reimbursement whenever the district provides a Medi-Cal-eligible student under age 22 and/or a member of the student's family a covered service specified in 22 CCR 51190.4 or 51360. (Welfare and Institutions Code 14132.06; 22 CCR 51096, 51098, 51190.1, 51190.4, 51309, 51360, 51535.5)

The district shall maintain records and supporting documentation including, but not limited to, records of the type and extent of services provided to a Medi-Cal beneficiary in accordance with law. (22 CCR 51270, 51476)

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

Note: 22 CCR 51270 requires federal reimbursements to be reinvested in health and social services for students and their families, as provided below. This requirement does not apply to reimbursements received under the Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) program described in the following section.

Any federal funds received by the district as reimbursement for the costs of services under the Medi-Cal billing option shall be reinvested in approved services for students and their families. The Superintendent or designee shall consult with a local school-linked services collaborative group regarding decisions on reinvestment of federal funds. (22 CCR 51270)

Note: 22 CCR 51270 requires that districts submit an annual report, as described below, as a condition of continued participation as a Medi-Cal provider. The deadline for this annual report is specified in the program provider participation agreement that districts enter into with DHCS.

The Superintendent or designee shall submit an annual report to DHCS to identify participants in the community collaborative, provide a financial summary including reinvestment expenditures, and describe service priorities for the future. (22 CCR 51270)

Medi-Cal Administrative Activities

Note: The following **optional** section is for use by districts that participate in the MAA program administered by DHCS pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 14132.47. Under this program, districts providing Medi-Cal-covered health services may be reimbursed for some of their administrative and outreach costs. This section reflects program requirements described in the California School-Based Medi-Cal Administrative Activities Manual published by DHCS.

Districts may receive assistance with Medi-Cal administrative billing through CSBA's Practi-Cal program. See CSBA's web site for further information.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES (continued)

The district shall apply for reimbursement for activities identified by DHCS which are related to the administration of the Medi-Cal program. Such activities include, but are not limited to, outreach, translation for Medi-Cal services, facilitation of applications, arrangement of nonemergency and nonmedical transportation of eligible individuals, program planning and policy development, claims coordination and administration, training, and general administration.

Appropriate staff shall receive training in administrative claiming categories and related activities.

Note: The district must submit claims through either a local educational agency consortium (i.e., one of the service regions of the California County Superintendent Educational Services Association) or a local governmental agency (i.e., county or chartered city) that has contracted with DHCS. The district may modify the following two paragraphs to reflect the appropriate entity or agency.

To receive reimbursement for Medi-Cal administrative activities, the Superintendent or designee shall, on a quarterly basis, submit an invoice to the local educational consortium or local governmental agency through which the district has contracted.

Note: The MAA program requires randomly selected employees who perform MAA activities as a normal part of their job duties to complete a random-moment time study which is used to determine the work effort of all time study participants over a given time period. Further information regarding the required procedure is available on the DHCS web site.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall submit to the local educational consortium or local governmental agency, and shall update each quarter, a roster of all employees who perform direct Medi-Cal services or administrative activities. When notified by the local educational consortium or local governmental agency of the date and time that a random-moment time survey must be conducted by a particular employee, the Superintendent or designee shall coordinate the completion and submission of the survey in accordance with DHCS timelines and procedures.

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain an audit file containing random-moment time survey documentation and other records specified by DHCS. Such documentation shall be kept for three years after the end of the quarter in which expenditures were incurred or, if an audit is in progress, until the completion of the audit.

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CSBA Sample Board Policy

Students

BP 5144.1(a)

SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION/DUE PROCESS

Note: Education Code 35291 requires the Governing Board to prescribe rules and regulations for maintaining discipline in the schools under its jurisdiction. Education Code 48918 **mandates** the setting of rules and regulations for student expulsion as specified in this Board policy and the accompanying administrative regulation.

While recognizing that suspension or expulsion of students is sometimes necessary, legislative, administrative, regulatory, civic, and educational leaders are united in the belief that instructional time should be used for student learning purposes and that school discipline should be imposed in a way that, as much as possible, does not exclude students from school or limit their ability or opportunity to learn. According to the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division (DOJ) and the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR), in their joint January 2014 Dear Colleague Letter on the Nondiscriminatory Administration of School Discipline, studies suggest a correlation between exclusionary discipline policies and practices (such as suspension and expulsion) and an array of serious educational, economic, and social problems, including school avoidance and diminished educational engagement, decreased academic achievement, increased behavior problems, and increased likelihood of dropping out, substance abuse, and involvement with the juvenile justice system. Consequently, they recommend that districts adopt alternative disciplinary measures that provide students with appropriate interventions and supports as a means for preventing and addressing student misbehaviors.

Pursuant to Education Code 48900.5, a district is not authorized to suspend a student for certain specified violations unless the student has been subjected to other means of correction which have failed to bring about proper conduct. Such other means of correction include, but are not limited to, conferences between school personnel and the student and his/her parents/guardians; use of study, guidance, or other intervention teams to develop a plan to address the behavior in partnership with the student; and participation in a restorative justice program. For further information about specific disciplinary strategies, including alternatives to class or school removals, see BP/AR 5144 - Discipline. Education Code 48900.5 authorizes a district to document in a student's records the alternative means of correction used to address the student's behavior. Furthermore, when a student is being suspended by the Superintendent, principal, or designee, Education Code 48911 requires that the student be informed, during the informal conference that precedes the suspension, of the other means of correction that were attempted before the suspension.

The Governing Board desires to provide district students access to educational opportunities in an orderly school environment that protects their safety and security, ensures their welfare and well-being, and promotes their learning and development. The Board shall develop rules and regulations setting the standards of behavior expected of district students and the disciplinary processes and procedures for addressing violations of those standards, including suspension and/or expulsion.

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

(cf. 5131.1 - Bus Conduct)

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

The grounds for suspension and expulsion and the procedures for considering, recommending, and/or implementing suspension and expulsion shall be only those specified in law, in this policy, and in the accompanying administrative regulation.

SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION/DUE PROCESS (continued)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 48900(s), a student may be subject to discipline only when the violation is related to a school activity or school attendance as specified below. A student may also be disciplined for a violation committed away from school if it is related to a school activity or to school attendance. For example, Education Code 48900 defines bullying by means of an electronic act as including an act that originates off campus; see the accompanying administrative regulation and BP/AR 5131.2 - Bullying. Another example is the hostile school environment which a victim may suffer from sexual harassment that occurs off campus; see BP/AR 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment.

Except when otherwise permitted by law, a student may be suspended or expelled only when his/her behavior is related to a school activity or school attendance occurring within any district school or another school district, regardless of when it occurs, including, but not limited to, the following: (Education Code 48900(s))

1. While on school grounds
2. While going to or coming from school
3. During the lunch period, whether on or off the school campus
(*cf. 5112.5 - Open/Closed Campus*)
4. During, going to, or coming from a school-sponsored activity

Note: The following paragraph addresses the problem of unlawful discrimination in the administration of student discipline. In their joint January 2014 Dear Colleague Letter on the Nondiscriminatory Administration of School Discipline, DOJ and OCR noted that, based on the civil rights data collection conducted by OCR, students of certain racial or ethnic groups tended to be disciplined more, and sometimes more harshly, than their similarly situated peers in violation of federal nondiscrimination laws. The letter warned that any district determined to have engaged in unlawful discrimination could be subject to OCR investigation and significant remedial action.

District staff shall enforce the rules concerning suspension and expulsion of students fairly, consistently, equally, and in accordance with the district's nondiscrimination policies.

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

Appropriate Use of Suspension Authority

Note: Education Code 48900.5 requires districts to use other means of correction instead of suspension or expulsion except when a student commits certain enumerated offenses. The following section reflects legislative intent regarding appropriate use of suspension as a means of disciplining students and may be modified to reflect district practice.

Except when a student's act violates Education Code 48900(a)-(e), as listed in items #1-5 under "Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades K-12" of the accompanying

SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION/DUE PROCESS (continued)

administrative regulation, or when his/her presence causes a danger to others, suspension shall be used only when other means of correction have failed to bring about proper conduct. (Education Code 48900.5, 48900.6)

(*cf.* 5138 - Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation)
 (*cf.* 5144 - Discipline)
 (*cf.* 6142.4 - Service Learning/Community Service Classes)
 (*cf.* 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)
 (*cf.* 6164.5 - Student Success Teams)

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

A student's parents/guardians shall be notified as soon as possible when there is an escalating pattern of misbehavior that could lead to on-campus or off-campus suspension.

Note: Education Code 48900(k) prohibits a district from suspending students in grades K-3 for disruption or willful defiance and authorizes, but does not require, a district to suspend students in grades 4-12 for disruption or willful defiance. Even with this authority, districts should be careful in using these grounds, as available data have indicated a disproportionate use with certain student subgroups. Option 1 below is for use by any district that chooses to suspend students in grades 4-12 for disruption and/or willful defiance as authorized pursuant to Education Code 48900(k). Any district that chooses to eliminate disruption and willful defiance as reasons for suspending any of its students from school should select Option 2 below. Such districts should also delete the first paragraph in the section titled "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 4-12" in the accompanying administrative regulation.

Each option below reflects an exception granted to teachers pursuant to Education Code 48910 to suspend students, including a K-3 student, from class; see section "Suspension from Class by a Teacher" in the accompanying administrative regulation.

OPTION 1: No student in grades K-3 may be suspended for disruption or willful defiance, except by a teacher pursuant to Education Code 48910. (Education Code 48900)

OPTION 2: No student may be suspended for disruption or willful defiance, except by a teacher pursuant to Education Code 48910. (Education Code 48900)

Note: The following **optional** paragraph reflects the Legislature's intent, expressed in Education Code 48900, concerning disciplinary actions against truant, tardy, or absent students. Since these are not enumerated offenses, a district does not have the authority to suspend or expel students for committing any of these acts.

Students shall not be suspended or expelled for truancy, tardiness, or absenteeism from assigned school activities.

(*cf.* 5113 - Absences and Excuses)
 (*cf.* 5113.1 - Chronic Absence and Truancy)

SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION/DUE PROCESS (continued)**On-Campus Suspension**

Note: As an alternative to off-campus suspension, Education Code 48911.1 authorizes a supervised suspension classroom program for students who pose no imminent danger to anyone at school and who have not been recommended for expulsion, as specified below. Education Code 48911.2 states that, if the number of students suspended during the prior year exceeds 30 percent of the school's enrollment, the district should consider implementing this program and/or another on-campus progressive discipline program.

The following **optional** section is for use by districts implementing a supervised suspension classroom program. Such districts may continue to claim funding apportionments for students so assigned, provided they meet specific criteria which are set forth under "Supervised Suspension Classroom" in the accompanying administrative regulation. A district does not receive funding for off-campus suspensions.

To ensure the proper supervision and ongoing learning of students who are suspended for any of the reasons enumerated in Education Code 48900 and 48900.2, but who pose no imminent danger or threat to anyone at school and for whom expulsion proceedings have not been initiated, the Superintendent or designee shall establish a supervised suspension classroom program which meets the requirements of law.

Except where a supervised suspension is permitted by law for a student's first offense, supervised suspension shall be imposed only when other means of correction have failed to bring about proper conduct. (Education Code 48900.5)

Authority to Expel

A student may be expelled only by the Board. (Education Code 48918(j))

As required by law, the Superintendent or principal shall recommend expulsion and the Board shall expel any student found to have committed any of the following "mandatory recommendation and mandatory expulsion" acts at school or at a school activity off school grounds: (Education Code 48915)

1. Possessing a firearm which is not an imitation firearm, as verified by a certificated employee, unless the student had obtained prior written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, with the principal or designee's concurrence

(cf. 5131.7 - Weapons and Dangerous Instruments)

2. Selling or otherwise furnishing a firearm
3. Brandishing a knife at another person
4. Unlawfully selling a controlled substance listed in Health and Safety Code 11053-11058

SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION/DUE PROCESS (continued)

5. Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault as defined in Penal Code 261, 266c, 286, 288, 288a, or 289, or committing a sexual battery as defined in Penal Code 243.4
6. Possessing an explosive as defined in 18 USC 921

For all other violations listed in the accompanying administrative regulation under "Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades K-12" and "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 4-12," the Superintendent or principal shall have the discretion to recommend expulsion of a student. If expulsion is recommended, the Board shall order the student expelled only if it makes a finding of either or both of the following: (Education Code 48915(b) and (e))

1. That other means of correction are not feasible or have repeatedly failed to bring about proper conduct
2. That due to the nature of the violation, the presence of the student causes a continuing danger to the physical safety of the student or others

A vote to expel a student shall be taken in an open session of a Board meeting.

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 48917, the Board may decide to suspend the enforcement of an order for expulsion as long as a student satisfies specific conditions. See the accompanying administrative regulation for criteria. In addition, the Attorney General opined in 80 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 85 (1997) that the enforcement of an expulsion order may be suspended even in those cases where the student has committed an offense for which expulsion is required by law. Legal counsel should be consulted as appropriate.

The Board may vote to suspend the enforcement of the expulsion order pursuant to the requirements of law and the accompanying administrative regulation. (Education Code 48917)

No student shall be expelled for disruption or willful defiance. (Education Code 48900)

Note: The following paragraph is for use by districts that contract with the California Department of Education (CDE) to operate a California State Preschool Program. Education Code 8239.1, as added by AB 752 (Ch. 708, Statutes of 2017), prohibits the expulsion or disenrollment of a child in a preschool program unless the district has taken specified steps and the child's continued enrollment would present a serious safety threat to the child or other enrolled children. For further details regarding the steps the district must take prior to expelling a child, see BP 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education.

No child enrolled in a preschool program shall be expelled except under limited circumstances as specified in AR 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education.

(cf. 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education)

SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION/DUE PROCESS (continued)**Due Process**

The Board shall provide for the fair and equitable treatment of students facing suspension and/or expulsion by affording them their due process rights under the law. The Superintendent or designee shall comply with procedures for notices, hearings, and appeals as specified in law and administrative regulation. (Education Code 48911, 48915, 48915.5, 48918)

(cf. 5119 - Students Expelled from Other Districts)

(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

Maintenance and Monitoring of Outcome Data

Note: Education Code 48900.8 and 48916.1 require the district to maintain data related to suspensions and expulsions as provided below. Pursuant to Education Code 48916.1, the Superintendent of Public Instruction may require submission of such data as part of the Federal Program Monitoring process. In addition, 20 USC 7961 requires districts to submit to the CDE a description of the circumstances surrounding any expulsions based on bringing or possessing a firearm on campus, including the name of the school, the number of students expelled, and the type of firearms involved.

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain outcome data related to student suspensions and expulsions in accordance with Education Code 48900.8 and 48916.1, including, but not limited to, the number of students recommended for expulsion, the grounds for each recommended expulsion, the actions taken by the Board, the types of referral made after each expulsion, and the disposition of the students after the expulsion period. For any expulsion that involves the possession of a firearm, such data shall include the name of the school and the type of firearm involved, as required pursuant to 20 USC 7961. Suspension and expulsion data shall be reported to the Board annually and to the California Department of Education when so required.

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 52060, districts are required to address school climate in the local control and accountability plan, as measured by student suspension and expulsion rates and other local measures for each school and each numerically significant student subgroup. As defined in Education Code 52052, numerically significant subgroups include ethnic subgroups, socioeconomically disadvantaged students, English learners, students with disabilities, foster youth, and homeless students, when there are at least 30 students in the subgroup or at least 15 foster youth or homeless students.

In presenting the report to the Board, the Superintendent or designee shall disaggregate data on suspensions and expulsions by school and by numerically significant student subgroups, including, but not limited to, ethnic subgroups, socioeconomically disadvantaged students, English learners, students with disabilities, foster youth, and homeless students. Based on the data, the Board shall address any identified disparities in the imposition of student discipline and shall determine whether and how the district is meeting its goals for improving school climate as specified in its local control and accountability plan.

SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION/DUE PROCESS (continued)

(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

212.5 Sexual harassment

233 Hate violence

1981-1981.5 Enrollment of students in community school

8239.1 Prohibition against expulsion of preschool student

17292.5 Program for expelled students

32261 Interagency School Safety Demonstration Act of 1985

35145 Open board meetings

35146 Closed sessions (regarding suspensions)

35291 Rules (for government and discipline of schools)

35291.5 Rules and procedures on school discipline

48645.5 Readmission; contact with juvenile justice system

48660-48666 Community day schools

48853.5 Foster youth

48900-48927 Suspension and expulsion

48950 Speech and other communication

48980 Parental notifications

49073-49079 Privacy of student records

52052 Numerically significant student subgroups

52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan

64000-64001 Consolidated application

CIVIL CODE

47 Privileged communication

48.8 Defamation liability

CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

1985-1997 Subpoenas; means of production

GOVERNMENT CODE

11455.20 Contempt

54950-54963 Ralph M. Brown Act

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

11014.5 Drug paraphernalia

11053-11058 Standards and schedules

LABOR CODE

230.7 Employee time off to appear in school on behalf of a child

PENAL CODE

31 Principal of a crime, defined

240 Assault defined

241.2 Assault fines

242 Battery defined

243.2 Battery on school property

243.4 Sexual battery

245 Assault with deadly weapon

Legal Reference continued: (see next page)

SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION/DUE PROCESS (continued)

Legal Reference: (continued)

PENAL CODE (continued)

- 245.6 Hazing
- 261 Rape defined
- 266c Unlawful sexual intercourse
- 286 Sodomy defined
- 288 Lewd or lascivious acts with child under age 14
- 288a Oral copulation
- 289 Penetration of genital or anal openings
- 417.27 Laser pointers
- 422.55 Hate crime defined
- 422.6 Interference with exercise of civil rights
- 422.7 Aggravating factors for punishment
- 422.75 Enhanced penalties for hate crimes
- 626.2 Entry upon campus after written notice of suspension or dismissal without permission
- 626.9 Gun-Free School Zone Act of 1995
- 626.10 Dirks, daggers, knives, razors, or stun guns
- 868.5 Supporting person; attendance during testimony of witness

WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

- 729.6 Counseling

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 18

- 921 Definitions, firearm

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

- 1415(K) Placement in alternative educational setting
- 7961 Gun-free schools

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

- 11432-11435 Education of homeless children and youths

COURT DECISIONS

- T.H. v. San Diego Unified School District (2004) 122 Cal. App. 4th 1267
- Woodbury v. Dempsey (2003) 108 Cal. App. 4th 421
- Board of Education of Sacramento City Unified School District v. Sacramento County Board of Education and Kenneth H. (2001) 85 Cal.App.4th 1321
- Fremont Union High School District v. Santa Clara County Board (1991) 235 Cal. App. 3d 118
- Garcia v. Los Angeles Board of Education (1991) 123 Cal. App. 3d 807
- John A. v. San Bernardino School District (1982) 33 Cal. 3d 301

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

- 84 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 146 (2001)
- 80 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 348 (1997)
- 80 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 91 (1997)
- 80 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 85 (1997)

Management Resources: (see next page)

SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION/DUE PROCESS (continued)

Management Resources:

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

Dear Colleague Letter on the Nondiscriminatory Administration of School Discipline, January 2014

WEB SITES

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

California Attorney General's Office: <http://www.oag.ca.gov>

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

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights:

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/crdc-2012-data-summary.pdf>

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Safe and Healthy Students:

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ose/osh>

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