

Policy 4118: Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 07/01/2000 | **Last Revised Date:** 09/01/2022 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 09/01/2022

The Governing Board expects all employees to perform their jobs satisfactorily, exhibit professional and appropriate conduct, and serve as positive role models both at school and in the community. A certificated employee may be disciplined for conduct or performance in accordance with law, the applicable collective bargaining agreement, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

Disciplinary action shall be based on the particular facts and circumstances involved and the severity of the conduct or performance. An employee's private exercise of personal beliefs and activities, including religious, political, cultural, social, or other beliefs or activities, or lack thereof, shall not be grounds for disciplinary action against the employee, provided that the beliefs or activities do not involve coercion of students or any other violation of law, Board policy, or administrative regulation.

In addition, an employee shall not be suspended, disciplined, reassigned, transferred, dismissed, or otherwise retaliated against solely for acting to protect a student engaged in exercising any free speech or press right authorized by, or for refusing to infringe upon a student's conduct protected pursuant to, Education Code 48907 or 48950.

Disciplinary actions may include, but are not limited to, verbal warnings, written warnings, reassignment, suspension, freezing or reduction of wages, compulsory leave, or dismissal.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that disciplinary actions are taken in a consistent, nondiscriminatory manner and are appropriately documented.

Suspension/Dismissal Procedures

The Superintendent shall notify the Board whenever there is cause to suspend or dismiss an employee pursuant to Education Code 44932 or 44933.

When the Board finds that there is cause to suspend or dismiss an employee pursuant to Education Code 44932 or 44933, it may formulate a written statement of charges specifying instances of behavior and the acts or omissions constituting the charge, the statutes and rules that the employee is alleged to have violated when applicable, and the facts relevant to each charge. The Board shall also review any duly signed and verified written statement of charges filed by any other person. (Education Code 44934, 44934.1)

Based on the written statement of charges, the Board may, upon majority vote, give notice to the employee of the Board's intention to suspend or dismiss the employee at the expiration of 30 days from the date the notice is served. (Education Code 44934, 44934.1)

Prior to serving a suspension or dismissal notice that includes a charge of unsatisfactory performance, the district shall give the employee written notice of the unsatisfactory performance that specifies the nature of the unsatisfactory performance with such specific instances of behavior and with such particularity as to furnish the employee an opportunity to correct the faults and overcome the grounds for any unsatisfactory performance charges and, if applicable, that includes the evaluation made pursuant to Education Code 44660-44665. The written notice of the unsatisfactory performance shall be provided at least 90 days prior to the filing of the suspension or dismissal notice or prior to the last one-fourth of the school days in the year. (Education Code 44938)

Prior to serving a suspension or dismissal notice that includes a charge of unprofessional conduct, the district shall give the employee written notice that describes the nature of the unprofessional conduct with such specific instances of behavior and with such particularity as to furnish the employee an opportunity to correct the faults and overcome the grounds for any unprofessional conduct charges and, if applicable, that includes the evaluation made pursuant to Education Code 44660-44665. The written notice of the unprofessional conduct shall be provided at least 45 days prior to the filing of the suspension or dismissal notice. (Education Code 44938)

Except for notices that only include charges of unsatisfactory performance, the written suspension or dismissal notice may be served at any time of year. Such notice shall be served upon the employee personally if given outside of the instructional year or, if given during the instructional year, may be served personally or by registered mail to the employee's last known address. Notices with a charge of unsatisfactory performance shall be given only during the instructional year of the school site where the employee is physically employed and may be served personally or by registered mail to the employee's last known address. (Education Code 44936)

If an employee has been served notice and demands a hearing pursuant to Government Code 11505 and 11506, the Board shall either rescind its action or schedule a hearing on the matter. (Education Code 44941, 44941.1, 44943, 44944)

Pending suspension or dismissal proceedings for an employee who is charged with egregious misconduct, immoral conduct, conviction of a felony or of any crime involving moral turpitude, incompetency due to mental disability, or willful refusal to perform regular assignments without reasonable cause as prescribed by district rules and regulations, the Board may, if it deems it necessary, immediately suspend the employee from assigned duties. If the employee files a motion with the Office of Administrative Hearings for immediate reversal of the suspension based on a cause other than egregious misconduct, the Board may file a written response before or at the time of the hearing. (Education Code 44939, 44939.1, 44940)

When a suspension or dismissal hearing is to be conducted by a Commission on Professional Competence, the Board shall, no later than 45 days before the date set for the hearing, select one person with a currently valid credential to serve on the Commission. The appointee shall not be an employee of the district and shall have at least three years' experience within the past 10 years at the same grade span or assignment as the employee, as defined in Education Code 44944. (Education Code 44944)

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State References	Description
5 CCR 80303	Reports of change in employment status; alleged misconduct
5 CCR 80304	Notice of sexual misconduct
CA Constitution Article 1, Section 1	Inalienable rights
Ed. Code 44008	Effect of termination of probation
Ed. Code 44009	Conviction of specified crimes
Ed. Code 44010	Sex offense; definitions
Ed. Code 44011	Controlled substance offense
Ed. Code 44242.5	Reports and review of alleged misconduct
Ed. Code 44425	Conviction of a sex or narcotic offense
Ed. Code 44660-44665	Evaluation and assessment of performance of certificated employees
Ed. Code 44830.1	Criminal record summary certificated employees
Ed. Code 44929.21	Notice of reelection decision; districts with 250 ADA or more
Ed. Code 44929.23	Districts with less than 250 ADA
Ed. Code 44930-44988	Resignations, dismissals and leaves of absence
Ed. Code 45055	Drawing of warrants for teachers
Ed. Code 48907	Exercise of free expression; time, place and manner rules and regulations
Ed. Code 48950	Speech and other communication
Ed. Code 51530	Advocacy or teaching of communism
Gov. Code 1028	Advocacy of communism

Regulation 4118: Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: 07/01/2000 | **Last Revised Date:** 06/23/2021

Causes for Suspension or Dismissal

A certificated employee with permanent status may be suspended without pay or dismissed only for one or more of the following causes: (Education Code 44932)

1. Immoral conduct including, but not limited to, egregious misconduct that is the basis for a sex offense or controlled substance offense described in Education Code 44010 or 44011 or child abuse and neglect as described in Penal Code 11165.2-11165.6
2. Unprofessional conduct
3. Commission, aiding, or advocating the commission of acts of criminal syndicalism
4. Dishonesty
5. Unsatisfactory performance
6. Evident unfitness for service
7. Physical or mental condition unfitting the employee to instruct or associate with children
8. Persistent violation of or refusal to obey the school laws or reasonable regulations of the state or district
9. Conviction of a felony or of any crime involving moral turpitude
10. Violation of Education Code 51530 or Government Code 1028 prohibiting the advocacy or teaching of communism
11. Alcoholism or other drug abuse that makes the employee unfit to instruct or associate with children

An employee may be suspended or dismissed on grounds of unprofessional conduct consisting of acts or omissions not listed above if the charge specifies instances of behavior deemed to constitute unprofessional conduct. (Education Code 44933)

Suspension/Dismissal of Permanent Employees

When a permanent certificated employee is charged with one or more of the offenses specified in the section "Causes for Suspension or Dismissal" above, the following procedures shall apply:

1. The person preparing a written statement of charges that there is cause to suspend or dismiss an employee shall submit the signed statement to the Governing Board, or a written statement of charges shall be formulated by the Board that cause to suspend or dismiss the permanent employee exists (Education Code 44934, 44934.1)
2. The employee, upon receiving notice of the Board's intent to suspend or dismiss, may request a hearing on the matter. The hearing shall be conducted by the Commission on Professional Competence, except that any case involving only egregious misconduct shall be heard instead by an administrative law judge and, in any other case, the hearing may be conducted by an administrative law judge when both the district and the employee so stipulate. (Education Code 44943, 44944, 44944.05, 44944.1, 44944.3)
3. Except when the employee is charged solely with egregious misconduct, the district may amend the charges less than 90 days before the hearing only upon showing of good cause and upon approval of the administrative law judge. (Education Code 44934)

4. The employee shall be suspended or dismissed when the Commission on Professional Competence or administrative law judge has issued its decision supporting suspension or dismissal or, if the employee did not request a hearing, at the expiration of 30 days after service of the notice of intent to suspend or dismiss. (Education Code 44941, 44943, 44944)

The Superintendent or designee shall notify the Commission on Teacher Credentialing when the employment status of a certificated employee has been changed as a result of alleged misconduct or while an allegation of misconduct is pending. (Education Code 44030.5, 44242.5, 44940; 5 CCR 80303)

Suspension/Dismissal of Probationary Employees

The district may choose not to rehire probationary employees for the following school year without giving a statement of reasons, if proper notice is provided by March 15. (Education Code 44929.21, 44929.23)

During the school year, a probationary employee who is in the first or second year of service may be dismissed only for one or more of the causes listed in Items #1-11 in the section "Causes for Suspension or Dismissal" above or for unsatisfactory performance determined pursuant to Education Code 44660-44665. (Education Code 44948.2, 44948.3)

Whenever a first- or second-year probationary employee is so charged, the following procedures shall apply for dismissing the employee during the school year: (Education Code 44948.3)

1. The Superintendent or designee shall give 30 days' prior written notice of dismissal, not later than March 15 in the case of second-year probationary employees. The notice shall include a statement of the reasons for the dismissal, notice of the opportunity to appeal, and, if the cause is unsatisfactory performance, a copy of the evaluation conducted pursuant to Education Code 44664.
2. Upon receipt of the notice of dismissal, the employee may be dismissed if no request for a hearing is submitted to the Board within 15 days.
3. If a hearing is requested, the district may arrange for the appointment of an administrative law judge to conduct the hearing and to recommend a decision to the Board.

A probationary employee may be suspended without pay for a specified period of time as an alternative to dismissal. (Education Code 44948.3)

Compulsory Leave of Absence

Upon being informed by law enforcement that a certificated employee has been charged with a "mandatory leave of absence offense," the Superintendent or designee shall immediately place the employee on a leave of absence. A mandatory leave of absence offense includes: (Education Code 44830.1, 44940)

1. Any sex offense as defined in Education Code 44010
2. Violation or attempted violation of Penal Code 187 prohibiting murder
3. Any offense involving the unlawful sale, use, or exchange to minors of controlled substances as listed in Health and Safety Code 11054, 11055, and 11056

The Superintendent or designee may place on an immediate compulsory leave of absence a certificated employee who is charged with an "optional leave of absence offense," defined as a controlled substance offense specified in Education Code 44011 and Health and Safety Code 11357-11361, 11363, 11364, and 11370.1, except as it relates to marijuana, mescaline, peyote, or tetrahydrocannabinols. (Education Code 44940)

If an employee is charged with an offense that falls into both the mandatory and optional leave of absence definitions, the offense shall be treated as a mandatory leave of absence offense. (Education Code 44940)

An employee's compulsory leave for a mandatory or optional leave of absence offense may extend for not more than 10 days after the entry of judgment in the criminal proceedings. However, the compulsory leave may be extended if the Board gives notice, within 10 days after the entry of judgment in the proceedings, that the employee will be dismissed within 30 days from the date of service of the notice unless a hearing is demanded. (Education Code 44940, 44940.5)

During the period of compulsory leave, the employee shall be compensated in accordance with Education Code 44940.5.

Upon receipt of telephone or electronic notification from the Department of Justice that a current temporary, substitute, or probationary employee serving before March 15 of the second probationary year has been convicted of a violent or serious felony, the Superintendent or designee shall immediately place the employee on leave without pay. Upon receipt of electronic notification of the conviction from the Department of Justice, such employee shall be automatically terminated and without regard to any other termination procedure. (Education Code 44830.1)

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State References

Description

5 CCR 80303	Reports of change in employment status; alleged misconduct
5 CCR 80304	Notice of sexual misconduct
CA Constitution Article 1, Section 1	Inalienable rights
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Ed. Code 44009	Conviction of specified crimes
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Ed. Code 44929.21	Notice of reelection decision; districts with 250 ADA or more
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Ed. Code 44930-44988	Resignations, dismissals and leaves of absence
Ed. Code 45055	Drawing of warrants for teachers
Ed. Code 48907	Exercise of free expression; time, place and manner rules and regulations
Ed. Code 48950	Speech and other communication
Ed. Code 51530	Advocacy or teaching of communism
Gov. Code 1028	Advocacy of communism
Gov. Code 11505-11506	Hearing
Gov. Code 3543.2	Scope of representation
H&S Code 11054	Schedule I; substances included
H&S Code 11055	Schedule II; substances included
H&S Code 11056	Schedule III; substances included
H&S Code 11357-11361	Marijuana
H&S Code 11363	Peyote

Policy 4119.1: Civil And Legal Rights

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 03/01/2004 | **Last Revised Date:** 09/01/2022 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 09/01/2022

The Governing Board believes that the personal life of an employee is not an appropriate concern of the district, except as it may directly relate to the performance of the employee's duties.

District employees may engage in private, personal activities, including the exercise of their religious, political, cultural, social or other beliefs or activities, during personal time including when employees are not on duty or engaged in the supervision or instruction of students.

The district shall make no inquiry concerning the personal values, attitudes, and beliefs of district employees or their sexual orientation or political or religious affiliations, beliefs, or opinions except when authorized by law. In addition, no district employee shall be required to provide critical appraisals of other individuals with whom the employee has a familial relationship. However, the district reserves the right to access any publicly available information about any employee.

No employee shall be dismissed, suspended, disciplined, reassigned, transferred, or otherwise retaliated against solely for acting to protect a student engaged in conduct authorized under Education Code 48907 or 48950.

When necessary to protect the health, welfare, or safety of students and staff, school officials may search district property under an employee's control.

Whistleblower Protection

An employee shall have the right to disclose to a Board member, a school administrator, a member of the County Board of Education, the County Superintendent of Schools, or the Superintendent of Public Instruction any improper governmental activity by the district or a district employee that violates state or federal law, is economically wasteful, or involves gross misconduct, incompetency, or inefficiency. When the employee has reasonable cause to believe that the information discloses a violation of state or federal statute or a violation of or noncompliance with a state or federal rule or regulation, the employee has the right to disclose such information to a government or law enforcement agency or to refuse to participate in any such activity. (Education Code 44112, 44113; Labor Code 1102.5)

The Superintendent or designee shall prominently display in lettering larger than size 14 point type a list of employees' rights and responsibilities under the whistleblower laws, including the telephone number of the whistleblower hotline maintained by the office of the California Attorney General. (Labor Code 1102.7, 1102.8)

No employee shall use or attempt to use official authority status or influence to intimidate, threaten, coerce, or command, or attempt to intimidate, threaten, coerce, or command, another employee for the purpose of interfering with that employee's right to disclose improper governmental activity. (Education Code 44113)

An employee who has disclosed improper governmental activity and believes that acts or attempted acts of reprisal have subsequently occurred shall file a written complaint in accordance with the district's complaint procedures. After filing a complaint with the district, the employee may also file a copy of the complaint with local law enforcement and/or seek civil law remedies against the supervisor or administrator who retaliated or attempted to retaliate against the employee, in accordance with Education Code 44114.

Protection Against Liability

No employee shall be liable for harm caused by the employee's act or omission when acting within the scope of employment or district responsibilities, the employee's act or omission is in conformity with federal, state, and local laws, district policy, or administrative regulation, and the employee's act or omission is in furtherance of an effort to

control, discipline, expel, or suspend a student or to maintain order or control in the classroom or school. (20 USC 7946)

The protection against liability shall not apply when: (20 USC 7946)

1. The employee acted with willful or criminal misconduct, gross negligence, recklessness, or a conscious, flagrant indifference to rights or safety of the individual harmed.
2. The employee caused harm by operating a motor vehicle or other vehicle requiring license or insurance.
3. The employee was not properly licensed, if required, by state law for such activities.
4. The employee was found by a court to have violated a federal or state civil rights law.
5. The employee was under the influence of alcohol or any drug at the time of the misconduct.
6. The misconduct constituted a crime of violence pursuant to 18 USC 16 or an act of terrorism for which the employee has been convicted in a court.
7. The misconduct involved a sexual offense for which the employee has been convicted in a court.
8. The misconduct occurred during background investigations, or other actions, involved in the employee's hiring.

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State References

CA Constitution Article 1, Section 1
Ed. Code 200-262.4
Ed. Code 44040
Ed. Code 44110-44114
Ed. Code 48907
Ed. Code 48950
Ed. Code 49091.24
Ed. Code 7050-7058
Gov. Code 12650-12656
Gov. Code 12940-12953
Gov. Code 3540.1
Gov. Code 3543.5
Gov. Code 815.3
Gov. Code 820-823
Gov. Code 825.6
Lab. Code 1102.5-1106

Description

Inalienable rights
Prohibition of discrimination - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/ytTLslshoozWGUAAbNL6kKkgxQ==>
Discrimination based on employee's appearance before certain boards or committees
Reporting by school employees of improper governmental activity
Exercise of free expression; time, place and manner rules and regulations
Speech and other communication
Teacher rights to refuse evaluation/survey of personal life
Political activities of school officers and employees
False claims actions
Discrimination prohibited; unlawful practices
Public employment; definitions
Interference with employee's rights prohibited
Intentional torts
Tort claims act
Indemnification of public entity
Whistleblower protections

Federal References

18 USC 16
20 USC 1681-1688
20 USC 7941-7948

Description

Crime of violence; definition
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; discrimination based on sex
Teacher liability protection

Policy 4140: Bargaining Units

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 11/01/2011 | **Last Revised Date:** 09/01/2022 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 09/01/2022

The Governing Board recognizes the right of district employees to form a bargaining unit and to select an employee organization as the exclusive representative to represent the employees in the employees' employment relationship with the district. The Board is committed to negotiating in good faith with recognized employee organizations and respecting the rights of employees and employee organizations.

The district shall not dominate or interfere with the formation or administration of any employee organization or contribute financial or other support to it. (Government Code 3543.5)

Employees shall not be prohibited from wearing union buttons or other items that favor or oppose the formation of a bargaining unit or any matter that is the subject of negotiations.

Formation of Bargaining Units

Certificated and classified employees shall not be included in the same bargaining unit. (Government Code 3545)

A bargaining unit of supervisory employees may be recognized if the bargaining unit includes all supervisory employees and is not represented by an employee organization that represents district employees who are supervised by the supervisory employees. (Government Code 3545)

For this purpose, supervisory employee means any employee, regardless of job description, having authority, in the interest of the district, to hire, transfer, suspend, lay off, recall, promote, discharge, assign, reward, or discipline other employees, or the responsibility to assign work to, direct, or adjust grievance of other employees, or effectively recommend that action, when the exercise of that authority is not of a merely routine or clerical nature, but requires the use of independent judgment. (Government Code 3540.1)

Employees serving in management, senior management, or confidential positions shall not be represented by an exclusive representative. In the employment relationship with the district, such employees may represent themselves or be represented by an employee organization whose membership is composed entirely of employees designated as holding those positions. An employee organization representing management or confidential employees shall not be permitted to meet and negotiate with the district on behalf of the employees. (Government Code 3543.4)

Management employee means any employee who has significant responsibilities for formulating district policies or administering district programs, and whose position is designated as a management position by the Board. (Government Code 3540.1)

Confidential employee means any employee who is required to develop or present management positions with respect to employer-employee relations or whose duties normally require access to confidential information that is used to contribute significantly to the development of management positions. (Government Code 3540.1)

Membership

The district shall not deter or discourage employees or job applicants from becoming or remaining members of an employee organization, authorizing representation by an employee organization, or authorizing dues or fee deductions to an employee organization. In addition, the district shall not impose or threaten to impose reprisals on employees, discriminate or threaten to discriminate against employees, or otherwise interfere with, restrain, or coerce employees because of their membership or nonmembership in an employee organization. (Government Code 3543.5, 3550)

The Superintendent or designee may communicate with district employees regarding their rights under the law. Such communications shall be factual and accurate, and may not promise a benefit, threaten a reprisal, or in any way deter or discourage employees from joining an employee organization or paying dues.

However, before disseminating to multiple employees any mass communication concerning employees' right to join or support an employee organization or to refrain from joining or supporting an employee organization, such as a written document or script for oral or recorded presentation or message, the Superintendent or designee shall meet and confer with the employees' exclusive representative regarding the content of the communication. If the district and exclusive representative do not come to agreement on the content of the mass communication, the Superintendent or designee may disseminate the district's mass communication, provided that at the same time, copies of the exclusive representative's communication, which shall be of reasonable length, are also distributed. (Government Code 3553)

Access to New Employee Orientations

The district shall permit employee organizations access to new employee orientation or onboarding process where newly hired employees are advised, whether in person, online, or through other means or mediums, of their employment status, rights, benefits, duties, responsibilities, or any other employment-related matters. The district shall provide employee organizations at least 10 days' notice in advance of an orientation, except that a shorter notice may be provided if an unforeseeable, urgent need critical to the district's operation prevents the required 10 days' notice. (Government Code 3555.5, 3556)

Following a request to negotiate by either party, the structure, time, and manner of access to new employee orientations shall be determined by mutual agreement of the district and the exclusive representative. If the district and exclusive representative fail to reach an agreement, matters related to access to the new employee orientation shall be subject to compulsory interest arbitration. The district and employee organization may mutually agree to submit any dispute to compulsory interest arbitration at any time. In addition, if any dispute arises during negotiations and is not resolved within 45 days after the first meeting or within 60 days after the initial request to negotiate, whichever is earlier, either party may make a demand for compulsory interest arbitration. When any such dispute arises during the summer when the district's administrative office is closed, the timeline shall commence on the first day the administrative office reopens. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding on the parties. (Government Code 3556, 3557)

The date, time, and place of a new employee orientation shall not be disclosed to anyone other than employees, the exclusive representative, or a vendor that is contracted to provide a service for purposes of the orientation. (Government Code 3556)

Until June 30, 2025, in addition to above provisions regarding new employee orientations, the district shall ensure the following: (Government Code 3556)

1. When an inperson new employee orientation has not been conducted within 30 days of hiring any new employee who is working in person, the Superintendent or designee shall permit the exclusive representative to schedule an inperson meeting which newly hired employees shall have an opportunity to attend, at the employee's worksite and during employment hours. Each newly hired employee within the bargaining unit shall be provided at least 30 minutes of paid time to attend the meeting.

Upon the request of an exclusive representative scheduling such an inperson meeting, the Superintendent or designee shall provide an appropriate on-site meeting space within seven days of receiving the exclusive representative's request.

2. When, by reason of a state or local public health order limiting the size of gatherings, the district is prohibited from organizing a new employee orientation, an exclusive representative may schedule multiple meetings to ensure that newly hired employees have an opportunity to attend without exceeding the maximum allowable number of people.

Access to Employee Contact Information

The Superintendent or designee shall provide an exclusive representative with the name, job title, department, work location, telephone numbers (work, home, and personal cell phone), personal email address(es) on file with the district, and home address of any newly hired employee in the bargaining unit, within 30 days of hire or by the first pay period of the month following hire, unless the exclusive representative has agreed to a different interval for the provision of the information. In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall provide the exclusive representative the same information in regard to all employees in the bargaining unit at least every 120 days, unless more frequent

or detailed lists are required by agreement with the exclusive representative. (Government Code 3558, 6254.3)

However, the Superintendent or designee shall not disclose the home address and any phone numbers on file for employees performing law enforcement-related functions, nor disclose the home address, home or personal cell phone number(s), or personal email address(es) of any employee who is a participant in the Safe at Home address confidentiality program pursuant to Government Code 6207 or of any employee who provides a written request that the information not be disclosed to the exclusive representative. Following receipt of a written request, the district shall remove the employee's home address, home and personal cell phone numbers, and personal email address from any mailing list maintained by the district unless the list is only used by the district to contact the employee. (Government Code 3558, 6207, 6254.3)

Within 20 calendar days after an exclusive representative notifies the Superintendent or designee that a list of employees provided by the district is inaccurate or incomplete, the Superintendent or designee shall take steps to correct the list and provide a new list of employees to the exclusive representative. (Government Code 3558)

At least, at the beginning of each school year, the Superintendent or designee shall review the list of district employees to ensure that the list is complete and contains accurate information.

Communications with Employees

Employee organizations may have access at reasonable times to areas in which employees work and may use district facilities at reasonable times for the purpose of meetings. Subject to reasonable regulation, employee organizations may also use institutional bulletin boards, mailboxes, and other means of communication to communicate with employees. (Government Code 3543.1)

Access to district means of communication shall be limited in cases where such access would be disruptive to district operations.

Membership Dues or Other Payments to an Employee Organization

When drawing an order for the salary or wage payment of a bargaining unit employee of an employee organization, the district shall deduct any amount which has been requested by the employee in a revocable written authorization for the purpose of paying dues or other payments for any service, program, or committee provided or sponsored by the employee organization. (Education Code 45060, 45168)

An employee organization that certifies that it has and will maintain individual employee authorizations shall handle and process employee written authorizations for payroll deductions. When an employee organization provides such a certification to the district, the district shall rely on information from the employee organization regarding the amounts of such payroll deductions and from which employees. The employee organization shall not be required to submit to the district a copy of the written authorization in order for the payroll deductions to be effective. However, when there is a dispute about the existence or terms of the written authorization, a copy of the employee's written authorization shall be submitted to the district. The employee organization shall indemnify the district for any employee claims regarding payroll deductions made by the district in reliance on notification from the employee organization. (Education Code 45060, 45168)

When an employee organization which has declined to certify that it will handle and process employee written authorizations makes a request for payroll deductions, the district shall request a copy of the employee's written authorization before making the payroll deductions. (Education Code 45060, 45168)

A written authorization shall remain in effect until expressly revoked in writing by the employee and pursuant to the terms of the written authorization. Employee requests to cancel or change authorizations for payroll deductions for employee organizations shall be directed to the employee organization rather than the district. The employee organization shall be responsible for processing these requests. The district shall rely on the information provided by the employee organization regarding whether deductions for an employee organization were properly canceled or changed. The employee organization shall be required to indemnify the district for any claims made by an employee for deductions made by the district in reliance on information from the employee organization. (Education Code 45060, 45168)

for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References

8 CCR 33015-33490	Recognition of exclusive representative; proceedings
8 CCR 33700-33710	Severance of established unit
8 CCR 34020	Petition to rescind organizational security arrangement
8 CCR 34055	Reinstatement of organizational security arrangement
Ed. Code 45060-45061.5	Deduction of fees from salary or wage payment; certificated employees
Ed. Code 45100.5	Senior classified management positions
Ed. Code 45104.5	Abolishment of senior classified management positions
Ed. Code 45108.5	Definition of senior classified management employees
Ed. Code 45108.7	Waiver of provisions of 45108.5
Ed. Code 45168	Deduction of fees from salary or wage payment; classified employees
Ed. Code 45220-45320	Merit system; classified employees
Gov. Code 3540-3549.3	Educational Employment Relations Act
Gov. Code 3540.1	Public employment; definitions
Gov. Code 3543.4	Management position; representation
Gov. Code 3545	Appropriateness of unit; basis
Gov. Code 3550-3552	Prohibition on public employers deterring or discouraging union membership
Gov. Code 3555-3559	Public employee communication, information and orientation
Gov. Code 53260-53264	Employment contracts
Gov. Code 6205-6210	Confidentiality of addresses for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking
Gov. Code 6254.3	Disclosure of employee contact information to employee organization
Gov. Code 6503.5	Joint powers agencies

Description

Federal References

8 CFR 33015-33490	Recognition of exclusive representative; proceedings
8 CFR 33700-33710	Severance of established unit
8 CFR 34020	Petition to rescind organizational security arrangement
8 CFR 34055	Reinstatement of organizational security arrangement

Description

Management Resources References

Court Decision	County of Los Angeles v. Service Employees International Union, Local 721, (2013) 56 Cal. 4th 905
Court Decision	Friedrichs v. California Teachers Association, et al., (2016) 136 S.Ct. 1083
Court Decision	Janus v. American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Council 31, (2018) 138 S.Ct. 2448
Public Employment Relations Board Ruling	East Whittier School District, (2004) PERB Dec. No. 1727
Public Employment Relations Board Ruling	City of Sacramento, (2019) PERB Dec. No. 2702m
Website	CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/UdykszdmpETuDsIshXk6R5akQ==
Website	California Federation of Teachers - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/6TJInbikoQhGwsWiH4ztXQ==

Description

Regulation 4161.2: Personal Leaves

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 11/01/2012 | **Last Revised Date:** 09/01/2022 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 09/01/2022

Personal leaves granted to district employees shall be used as permitted in this administrative regulation, other Board-approved policy or district regulation, or applicable collective bargaining agreement.

For the purpose of any personal leave offered pursuant to state law, a registered domestic partner shall have the same rights, protections, and benefits as a spouse and any protections provided to a spouse's child shall also apply to a child of a registered domestic partner. (Family Code 297.5)

Whenever possible, employees shall request personal leaves in advance and prepare suitable instructions, including lesson plans as applicable, for a substitute employee.

Bereavement

Employees are entitled to a leave of up to three days, or five days if out-of-state travel is required, upon the death of any member of the employee's immediate family. No deduction shall be made from the employee's salary, nor shall such leave be deducted from any other leave to which the employee is entitled. (Education Code 44985, 45194)

Members of an employee's immediate family include: (Education Code 44985, 45194)

1. The mother, mother-in-law, father, father-in-law, grandmother, grandfather, or grandchild of the employee or of the employee's spouse
2. The employee's spouse, son, son-in-law, daughter, daughter-in-law, brother, or sister
3. Any relative living in the employee's immediate household

At the employee's request, bereavement leave may be extended under personal necessity leave provisions as provided in the section "Personal Necessity" below. (Education Code 44981, 45207)

Personal Necessity

Employees may use a maximum of seven days of accrued personal illness/injury leave (sick leave) during each school year for reasons of personal necessity. (Education Code 44981, 45207)

Acceptable reasons for the use of personal necessity leave include:

1. Death of a member of the employee's immediate family when the number of days of absence exceeds the limits set by bereavement leave provisions (Education Code 44981, 45207)
2. An accident involving the employee or the employee's property, or the person or property of a member of the employee's immediate family (Education Code 44981, 45207)
3. Illness, preventive care, or other need of a member of the employee's family, as defined in Labor Code 245.5 (Education Code 44981; Labor Code 246.5)
4. A classified employee's appearance in any court or before any administrative tribunal as a litigant, party, or witness under subpoena or other order (Education Code 45207)
5. Fire, flood, or other immediate danger to the home of the employee
6. Personal business of a serious nature which the employee cannot disregard

Leave for personal necessity may be allowed for other reasons at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee. However, personal necessity leave shall not be granted for purposes of personal convenience, for the extension of a holiday or vacation, or for matters which can be taken care of outside of working hours. The Superintendent or

designee shall have final discretion as to whether a request reflects personal necessity.

Advance permission shall not be required of an employee in any case involving the death of a member of the employee's immediate family, an accident involving the employee's person or property or the person or property of a member of the employee's immediate family, or the illness, preventive care, or other need of a member of the employee's family. (Education Code 44981, 45207)

For any leave that is planned, or for which the need is foreseeable, an employee shall notify the Superintendent or designee in advance. In all other circumstances, the employee shall notify the Superintendent or designee of the need for the leave as soon as practicable.

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

Leave to Perform Legal Duties

An employee may take time off work in order to: (Labor Code 230)

1. Serve on an inquest jury or trial jury
2. Comply with a subpoena or other court order to appear as a witness

Notices, summons, and subpoenas for court appearances shall be submitted to the district office when requesting leave.

A classified employee called for jury duty shall be granted leave with pay up to the amount of the difference between the employee's regular earnings and any amount received for jury fees. (Education Code 44037)

A certificated employee who is called for jury duty also shall be granted leave with pay up to the difference between the employee's regular earnings and any jury fees received. (Education Code 44036)

An employee shall be granted leave with pay to appear in court as a witness other than a litigant or to respond to an official order from another governmental jurisdiction for reasons not brought about through the connivance or misconduct of the employee. Such an employee shall receive the difference between the employee's regular earnings and any witness fees received. (Education Code 44036)

Leaves for Crime Victims for Judicial Proceedings

An employee who is a victim of a crime or an immediate family member, registered domestic partner, or child of a registered domestic partner of such victim may be absent from work in order to attend related judicial proceedings, if the crime is any of the following: (Labor Code 230.2)

1. A violent felony as defined in Penal Code 667.5(c)
2. A serious felony as defined in Penal Code 1192.7(c)
3. A felony provision of law proscribing theft or embezzlement

For these purposes, the employee may use vacation, personal leave, personal illness/injury leave, unpaid leave, or compensatory time off that is otherwise available to the employee. (Labor Code 230.2)

Prior to taking time off, an employee shall give the Superintendent or designee a copy of the notice of each scheduled proceeding that is provided by the responsible agency, unless advance notice is not feasible. When advance notice is not feasible or an unscheduled absence occurs, the employee shall, within a reasonable time after the absence, provide documentation evidencing the judicial proceeding from the court or government agency setting

the hearing, the district attorney or prosecuting attorney's office, or the victim/witness office that is advocating on behalf of the victim. (Labor Code 230.2)

The district shall keep confidential any records pertaining to the employee's absence from work by reason of this leave. (Labor Code 230.2)

Leaves for Victims of Crime or Abuse

An employee who is a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, or a crime that caused physical injury or mental injury with a threat of physical injury or an employee whose immediate family member, as defined, is deceased as the direct result of a crime may use vacation, sick leave, personal leave, or compensatory time off that is otherwise available to the employee to attend to the following activities: (Labor Code 230, 230.1, 246.5)

1. Obtain or attempt to obtain any relief, including, but not limited to, a temporary restraining order, restraining order, or other injunctive relief to help ensure the health, safety, or welfare of the employee or the employee's child
2. Seek medical attention for injuries caused by crime or abuse
3. Obtain services from a domestic violence shelter, program, rape crisis center, or victim services organization or agency as a result of the crime or abuse
4. Obtain psychological counseling or mental health services related to an experience of crime or abuse
5. Participate in safety planning and take other actions to increase safety from future crime or abuse, including temporary or permanent relocation

Prior to taking time off, an employee shall give reasonable notice to the Superintendent or designee, unless advance notice is not feasible. When an unscheduled absence occurs, the employee shall provide, within a reasonable period of time, certification of the absence in the form of any of the following: (Labor Code 230, 230.1)

1. A police report indicating that the employee was a victim
2. A court order protecting or separating the employee from the perpetrator of the crime or abuse, or other evidence from the court or prosecuting attorney that the employee has appeared in court
3. Documentation from a domestic violence or sexual assault counselor as defined in Evidence Code 1037.1 or 1035.2, licensed medical professional or health care provider, victim advocate, or counselor that the employee was undergoing treatment or receiving services for physical or mental injuries or abuse resulting in victimization from the crime or abuse
4. Any other form of documentation that reasonably verifies that the crime or abuse occurred, including, but not limited to, a written statement signed by the employee or by an individual acting on the employee's behalf certifying that the absence is for a purpose authorized under Labor Code 230 or 230.1

The district shall maintain the confidentiality of such an employee to the extent authorized by law. (Labor Code 230, 230.1)

The Superintendent or designee shall inform employees of the rights provided employees pursuant to Labor Code 230 and 230.1 using a form developed by the Labor Commissioner or a substantially similar form developed by the district. Such information shall be provided to new employees upon hire and to other employees upon request. (Labor Code 230.1)

Personal Leave for Child-Related Activities

Any employee who is a parent/guardian of one or more children of an age to attend any of grades K-12 or a program offered by a licensed child care provider may use up to 40 hours of personal leave, vacation, or compensatory time off each school year in order to: (Labor Code 230.8)

1. Find, enroll, or reenroll a child in a school or with a licensed child care provider or to participate in activities of the school or child care provider, provided the employee gives reasonable advance notice of the absence. Time off for this purpose shall not exceed eight hours in any calendar month.
2. Address a school or child care emergency, provided the employee gives notice. An emergency exists when the child cannot remain in school or with a child care provider due to one of the following circumstances:
 - a. A request by the school or child care provider that the child be picked up
 - b. An attendance policy, excluding planned holidays, that prohibits the child from attending or requires that the child be picked up from the school or child care provider
 - c. Behavioral or discipline problems
 - d. Closure or unexpected unavailability of the school or child care provider, excluding planned holidays
 - e. A natural disaster, including, but not limited to, fire, earthquake, or flood

For purposes of this leave, parent/guardian includes a parent, guardian, stepparent, foster parent, grandparent, or person who stands in loco parentis to a child. (Labor Code 230.8)

In lieu of using vacation, personal leave, or compensatory time off, eligible employees may take unpaid leave for this purpose.

If two or more parents/guardians of a child are employed at the same work site, this leave shall be allowed for the parent/guardian who first gives notice to the district. Simultaneous absence by another parent/guardian of the child may be granted by the Superintendent or designee. (Labor Code 230.8)

Upon request by the Superintendent or designee, the employee shall provide documentation from the school or licensed child care provider that the employee engaged in permitted child-related activities on a specific date and at a particular time. (Labor Code 230.8)

Service on Education Boards and Committees

Upon request, a certificated employee shall be granted up to 20 school days of paid leave per school year for service performed within the state on any education board, commission, committee, or group authorized by Education Code 44987.3 provided that all of the following conditions are met: (Education Code 44987.3)

1. The service is performed within the state.
2. The board, commission, organization, or group informs the district in writing of the service.
3. The board, commission, organization, or group agrees, prior to the service, to reimburse the district, upon the district's request, for compensation paid to the employee's substitute and for actual related administrative costs.

Employee Organization Activities

Upon request, any certificated or classified employee shall be granted a leave of absence without loss of compensation, to serve as an elected officer of a district employee organization or any statewide or national employee organization with which the employee organization is affiliated. Such leave shall be in addition to any other leave to which the employee may be entitled by other laws or a memorandum of understanding or collective bargaining agreement. (Education Code 44987, 45210)

The leave shall include, but is not limited to, absence for purposes of attending periodic, stated, special, or regular meetings of the body of the organization on which the employee serves as an officer. (Education Code 44987, 45210)

Upon request of an employee organization in the district or its state or national affiliate, a reasonable number of

unelected classified employees shall be granted a leave of absence without loss of compensation for the purpose of attending important organizational activities authorized by the employee organization. The employee organization shall provide reasonable notification to the Superintendent or designee when requesting a leave of absence for employees for this purpose. (Education Code 45210)

When leave is granted for any of the above purposes, the employee organization shall reimburse the district within 10 days after receiving the district's certification of payment of compensation to the employee. (Education Code 44987, 45210)

Religious Leave

The Superintendent or designee may grant an employee up to three days of leave per year for religious purposes, provided that the leave is requested in advance and that it does not cause additional district expenditures, the neglect of assigned duties, or any other unreasonable hardship on the district.

The Superintendent or designee shall deduct the cost of hiring a substitute, when required, from the wages of the employee who takes religious leave.

No employee shall be discriminated against for using this leave or any additional days of unpaid leave granted for religious observances at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee.

Spouse on Leave from Military Deployment

An employee who works an average of 20 hours or more per week and whose spouse is a member of the United States Armed Forces, National Guard, or reserves may take up to 10 days of unpaid leave during a period that the employee's spouse is on leave from deployment during a military conflict, as defined in Military and Veterans Code 395.10. (Military and Veterans Code 395.10)

Within two business days of receiving official notice that the employee's spouse will be on leave from deployment, the employee shall provide the Superintendent or designee with notice of the intention to take the leave. The employee shall submit written documentation certifying that the employee's spouse will be on leave from deployment during the time that the leave is requested. (Military and Veterans Code 395.10)

Leave for Emergency Duty

An employee may take time off to perform emergency duty as a volunteer firefighter, a reserve peace officer, or emergency rescue personnel. (Labor Code 230.3)

Any employee who performs duty as a volunteer firefighter, reserve peace officer, or emergency rescue personnel shall be permitted to take temporary leaves of absence, not to exceed an aggregate total of 14 days per calendar year, for the purpose of engaging in fire, law enforcement, or emergency rescue training. (Labor Code 230.4)

Civil Air Patrol Leave

An employee may take up to 10 days of unpaid leave per calendar year, beyond any leave otherwise available to the employee, to respond to an emergency operational mission of the California Civil Air Patrol, provided that the employee has been employed by the district for at least a 90-day period immediately preceding the leave. Such leaves shall not exceed three days for a single mission, unless an extension is granted by the governmental entity authorizing the mission and is approved by the Superintendent or designee. (Labor Code 1501, 1503)

The employee shall give the district as much advance notice as possible of the intended dates of the leave. The Superintendent or designee may require certification from the proper Civil Air Patrol authority to verify the eligibility of the employee for the leave and may deny the leave if the employee fails to provide the required certification. (Labor Code 1503)

for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References

CA Constitution Article 1, Section 8

Ed. Code 44036-44037

Ed. Code 44963

Ed. Code 44981

Ed. Code 44985

Ed. Code 44987

Ed. Code 44987.3

Ed. Code 45190

Ed. Code 45194

Ed. Code 45198

Ed. Code 45207

Ed. Code 45210

Ed. Code 45240-45320

Evid. Code 1035.2

Evid. Code 1037.1

Fam. Code 297-297.5

Gov. Code 12945.1-12945.2

Gov. Code 3543.1

Lab. Code 1500-1507

Lab. Code 230-230.2

Lab. Code 230.3

Lab. Code 230.4

Lab. Code 230.8

Lab. Code 233

Lab. Code 234

Lab. Code 246.5

M&V Code 395.10

Pen. Code 1192.7

Pen. Code 667.5

Federal References

29 USC 2601-2654

42 USC 2000d-2000d-7

Management Resources References

Court Decision

Public Employment Relations Board Decision

Website

Board Agenda Packet - March 15, 2023

Description

Religious discrimination -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/aVyer3HNWhenL24lj43Z8w==>

Leaves of absence for judicial and official appearances

Power to grant leaves of absence; certificated

Leave of absence for personal necessity

Leave of absence due to death in immediate family; certificated

Service as officer of employee organization; certificated

Leave of absence to serve on certain boards, commissions, etc.

Leaves of absence and vacations; classified

Bereavement leave of absence; classified

Effect of provisions authorizing leaves of absence

Personal necessity; classified

Service as officer of employee organization; classified

Merit system

Sex assault counselor; definition

Domestic violence counselor; definition

Rights, protections, benefits under the law; registered domestic partners

California Family Rights Act

Rights of employee organizations

Civil Air Patrol leave

Leaves for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or specified felonies

Leave for emergency personnel

Leave for volunteer firefighters

Time off to visit child's school

Illness of child, parent, spouse or domestic partner

Absence control policy

Paid sick days; purposes for use

Leave when spouse on leave from military deployment

Plea bargaining limitation

Prior prison terms; enhancement of prison terms

Description

Family Care and Medical Leave Act

Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964

Description

Rankin v. Commission on Professional Competence, (1988) 24 Cal.3d 167

Berkeley Council of Classified Employees v. Berkeley Unified School District, (2008) PERB Decision No. 1954

CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/UdykszdmPETuDslshXk6R5akQ==>

Regulation 4161.5: Military Leave

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 03/01/2004 | **Last Revised Date:** 09/01/2022 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 09/01/2022

Military leave shall be granted in accordance with applicable state and federal law to employees performing military duties on a voluntary or involuntary basis in a uniformed service, including active duty, active duty for training, initial active duty for training, inactive duty training, full-time National Guard duty, examination to determine fitness for duty, and performance of funeral honors duty. (Education Code 44800; Military and Veterans Code 395, 395.01, 395.02, 395.05, 395.1, 395.2, 395.9; 38 USC 4301, 4303, 4316)

Any district employee who needs to be absent from the district service to fulfill military service shall provide advance written or verbal notice to the Superintendent or designee, unless the giving of such notice is precluded by military necessity or is otherwise impossible or unreasonable. (38 USC 4312; 20 CFR 1002.85, 1002.86)

Salary/Compensation

The district shall pay an employee's salary or compensation for the first 30 days of any one absence for military leave or during one fiscal year, under any of the following conditions:

1. **Active Military Training or Exercises:** The employee is granted a temporary military leave of absence to engage in ordered military duty for purposes of active military training, encampment, naval cruises, special exercises, or like activity as a member of the reserve corps or force of the United States Armed Forces, National Guard, or Naval Militia, provided that: (Military and Veterans Code 389, 395, 395.01)
 - a. The employee has been employed by the district for at least one year immediately prior to the day the military leave begins.
 - b. The ordered duty does not exceed 180 days, including time involved in going to and returning from such duty.
2. **Active Military Duty:** The employee is on military leave, other than a temporary military leave, to engage in active military duty as a member of the reserve corps or force of the United States Armed Forces, the National Guard, or the Naval Militia, provided that the employee has been employed by the district for at least one year immediately prior to the day the military leave begins. (Military and Veterans Code 389, 395.02)
3. **War or Other Emergency:** The employee, however long employed by the district, is a member of the National Guard who is engaged in military or naval duty during a state of extreme emergency as declared by the Governor, or during such time as the National Guard may be on active duty in situations described in Military and Veterans Code 146, including travel time to and from such duty. (Military and Veterans Code 395.05)
4. **Inactive Duty Training:** The employee is a member of the reserve corps or force of the United States Armed Forces, National Guard, or Naval Militia who is engaged in temporary inactive duty training, provided that the employee has been employed by the district for at least one year immediately prior to the day the military leave begins and the ordered duty does not exceed 180 days, including time involved in going to and returning from such duty.

In determining the length of district employment when necessary to determine eligibility for compensation for military leave, all recognized military service performed during and prior to district employment shall be included.

For classified employees, 30 days' compensation shall be one month's salary. For certificated employees, 30 days' compensation shall be one-tenth of the employee's annual salary. (Education Code 45059)

During the period of military leave, an employee may request to use any vacation or similar paid leave accrued before the commencement of the military leave in order to continue receiving compensation for the employee's employment with the district. The district shall not require the employee to use such leave. (38 USC 4316; 20 CFR 1002.153)

Benefits

An employee may elect to continue health plan coverage during the military leave. The maximum period of coverage for the employee and any dependents shall be either 24 months from the beginning of the leave or until the day after the employee fails to apply for or return to employment, whichever is less. (38 USC 4317; 20 CFR 1002.164)

An employee on military leave may be required to pay the employee cost, if any, of any funded benefit to the extent that other employees on leave are so required. (38 USC 4316)

An employee absent for 30 days or fewer shall not be required to pay more than the employee share for such coverage. An employee absent for 31 days or more may be required to pay not more than 102 percent of the full premium under the plan. (38 USC 4317; 20 CFR 1002.166)

Any employee called into active military duty as a member of the California National Guard or a United States Military Reserve organization shall receive, for up to 180 days, the difference between the amount of the employee's military pay and the amount the employee would have received from the district and all benefits that the employee would have received had the employee not been called to active military duty, unless the benefits are prohibited or limited by vendor contracts. (Education Code 44018)

Vacation and Sick Leave Accrual

An employee on temporary military leave under the conditions described in Item #1 in the section entitled "Salary/Compensation" above, shall continue to accrue the same vacation, sick leave, and holiday privileges to which the employee would otherwise be entitled if not absent. (Military and Veterans Code 395)

An employee on military leave who is serving in active duty in time of war, national emergency, or United Nations military or police operation shall not accrue sick leave or vacation leave during the period of such leave. (Military and Veterans Code 395.1)

However, an employee who is a National Guard member on active duty as described in Item #3 in the section entitled "Salary/Compensation" above, shall not suffer any loss or diminution of vacation or holiday privileges because of the employee's leave of absence. (Military and Veterans Code 395.05)

Pension Plan Service Credit

Pension plan service credit and vesting shall continue during an employee's military leave as though no break in service had occurred. Payment of employer and employee contributions shall be made in accordance with law for members of the State Teachers' Retirement System or Public Employees' Retirement System. (Education Code 22850-22856; Government Code 20990-21013)

Employment Status

Absence for military leave shall not affect the classification of any employee. In the case of a probationary employee, the period of such absence shall not count as part of service required to obtain permanent status, but shall not be construed as a break in the continuity of service for any purpose. (Education Code 44800; Military and Veterans Code 395; 20 CFR 1002.149)

Reinstatement Rights

At the conclusion of the military duty, an employee shall be promptly reinstated in the position held at the beginning of the leave, at the salary to which the employee would otherwise have been entitled, except under the conditions noted below in this section. (Education Code 44800; Military and Veterans Code 395, 395.2; 38 USC 4304, 4313; 20 CFR 1002.180-1002.181)

Any employee who performs active military duty in time of war, national emergency, or United Nations military or police operation has a right to return to the position held prior to the military service, during terminal leave prior to the employee's discharge, separation, or release from the armed forces, or within six months of the employee's release, separation, honorable discharge, or placement on inactive duty. Reinstatement rights shall not be extended

to any such employee who fails to return within 12 months after the first date upon which the employee could terminate or could cause to have terminated active service. (Education Code 44800; Military and Veterans Code 395.1)

When an employee has been on military leave for reasons other than war or national emergency, the time frame for seeking reinstatement shall depend on the length of military service as follows: (38 USC 4312; 20 CFR 1002.115, 1002.118)

1. For a leave of 30 days or fewer, the employee shall report for duty no later than the beginning of the first full work day following the completion of the military service plus a period of eight hours of rest following a period for safe transportation to the employee's residence.
2. For a leave of 31-180 days, the employee shall submit a written or verbal application for reinstatement not later than 14 days after the completion of military service.
3. For a leave of more than 180 days, the employee shall submit a written or verbal application for reinstatement within 90 days after the completion of military service.

Where an employee's reporting or application for reinstatement within the periods specified in Items #1 and #2 above is impossible or unreasonable through no fault of the employee, the report or application shall be made as soon as possible after the expiration of the period. In the case of Items #2 and #3 where an application is required, the employee's application may be made orally or in writing and need not follow any particular format. (38 USC 4312; 20 CFR 1002.115, 1002.117, 1002.118)

An employee who is hospitalized for, or convalescing from, an illness or injury incurred in or aggravated during the performance of military service shall report for duty or submit an application for reinstatement at the end of the period that is necessary to recover from such illness or injury, but no more than two years after the completion of military service unless circumstances beyond the employee's control make reporting within the two-year period impossible or unreasonable. (38 USC 4312; 20 CFR 1002.116)

Upon receiving an application for reinstatement, the Superintendent or designee shall reinstate the employee as soon as practicable under the circumstances of the case, but within a time period not to exceed two weeks, absent unusual circumstances. (20 CFR 1002.181)

If the employee's previous position has been abolished, the district shall reinstate the employee in a position of like seniority, status, and pay, if such position exists, or to a comparable vacant position for which the employee is qualified. (Military and Veterans Code 395, 395.1; 38 USC 4313; 20 CFR 1002.192)

An employee who fails to report or apply for reinstatement within the appropriate period does not automatically forfeit the entitlement to reinstatement but shall be subject to the district's rules and/or practices governing unexcused absences. (38 USC 4312)

The Superintendent or designee may elect not to reinstate an employee following military leave if any of the following conditions exists:

1. The district's circumstances have so changed as to make such re-employment impossible or unreasonable, such as a reduction in force that would have included the employee. (38 USC 4312; 20 CFR 1002.139)
2. The accommodation, training, or effort described in 38 USC 4313(a)(3), (a)(4), or (b)(2)(B) would impose an undue hardship on the district as defined in 20 CFR 1002.5 or 1002.198. (38 USC 4312; 20 CFR 1002.139)
3. The employee's position was for a brief, nonrecurrent period and there was no reasonable expectation that such employment will continue indefinitely or for a significant period. (38 USC 4312; 20 CFR 1002.139)
4. The employee's cumulative length of absence and length of all previous military leave while employed with the district exceeds five years, excluding those training and service obligations specified in 38 USC 4312(c). (38 USC 4312; 20 CFR 1002.99-1002.103)
5. The employee was separated from military service with a disqualifying discharge or under other than honorable conditions. (Military and Veterans Code 395.1; 20 USC 4304, 4312; 20 CFR 1002.134-1002.138)

Notices

The Superintendent or designee shall provide employees a notice of the rights, benefits, and obligations of employees granted military leave and of the district under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), 38 USC 4301-4334. (38 USC 4334)

This requirement may be met by posting the notice where the district customarily places notices for employees. (38 USC 4334)

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References

	Description
Ed. Code 22850-22856	Pension benefits; STRS members on military leave
Ed. Code 44018	Compensation for employees on active military duty
Ed. Code 44800	Effect of active military service on status of employees
Ed. Code 45059	Employee ordered to active military/naval duty; computation of salary
Gov. Code 18540	Definition of armed forces
Gov. Code 18540.3	Recognized military service
Gov. Code 20990-21013	Pension benefits; PERS members on military leave
M&V Code 146	Events justifying calling of militia into active service
M&V Code 389	Definitions; temporary military leave
M&V Code 394	Nondiscrimination based on military service
M&V Code 395-395.9	Military leave

Federal References

	Description
20 CFR 1002.1-1002.314	Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994
38 USC 4301-4334	Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994

Management Resources References

	Description
Attorney General Opinion	18 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 178 (1951)
Attorney General Opinion	63 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 924 (1978)
Attorney General Opinion	69 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 290 (1986)
Attorney General Opinion	77 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 56 (1994)
Court Decision	Bowers v. San Buenaventura (1977) 75 Cal. App.3d 65
Court Decision	Wright v. City of Santa Clara (1989) 213 Cal. App.3d 1503
U.S. Department of Labor Publication	A Non-Technical Resource Guide to the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), rev. April 2005
Website	CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/UdykszdmPETuDsishXk6R5akQ==
Website	National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/YYN378LPYzj3jvdJKbslshUUQ==
Website	U.S. Department of Labor, USERRA - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/PNGGXVyMj8Zx0NMplus6qWUVA==
Website	National School Boards Association - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/PGLybcP29yufJSot5FEGJg==

Policy 4216: Probationary/Permanent Status

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 06/01/1996 | **Last Revised Date:** 09/01/2022 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 09/01/2022

The Governing Board desires to employ and retain highly qualified classified personnel to support the district's educational program and operations. Newly hired classified employees shall serve a probationary period during which the Board shall determine their suitability for long-term district employment.

A probationary employee who has been employed by the district for six months or 130 days of paid service, whichever is longer, shall be classified as a permanent employee of the district. (Education Code 45113, 45301)

However, in order to receive permanent classified service status, a full-time district police officer or public safety dispatcher who operates a dispatch center certified by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training shall serve in a probationary status for not less than one year from the date of appointment. (Education Code 45113, 45301)

Probationary employees shall receive written performance evaluations by their supervisor during the probationary period. These evaluations shall indicate whether the evaluator is satisfied or not satisfied with the employee's ability, performance, and compatibility with the job.

The district may, without cause, dismiss a new employee during the probationary period.

Permanent employees promoted to a higher classification shall be considered probationary in their new position until they have satisfactorily completed the probationary period.

A permanent employee who accepts a promotion and fails to complete the probationary period for that promotional position shall be employed in the classification from which the employee was promoted. (Education Code 45113, 45301)

This policy shall be made available to classified employees and the public. (Education Code 45113)

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References

Description

Ed. Code 45113

Notification of charges; classified employees

Ed. Code 45240-45320

Merit system

Management Resources References

Description

Website

CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/UdykszdmPETuDslshXk6R5akQ==>

Website

California School Employees Association - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/NOB1plusNOcLNRMHnggHE1slshjg==>

Cross References

Description

3515.3

District Police/Security Department

3515.3

District Police/Security Department

4112.9

Employee Notifications

4112.9-E(1)

Employee Notifications

4161.11

Industrial Accident/Illness Leave

4212.9

Employee Notifications

Policy 4218: Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 07/01/2019 | **Last Revised Date:** 09/01/2022 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 09/01/2022

The Governing Board expects all employees to perform their jobs satisfactorily and to exhibit professional and appropriate conduct. A classified employee may be disciplined for unprofessional conduct or unsatisfactory performance in accordance with law or any applicable collective bargaining agreement, Board policy, or administrative regulation.

Disciplinary actions shall be based on the particular facts and circumstances involved and the severity of the employee's conduct or performance. An employee's private exercise of personal beliefs and activities, including religious, political, cultural, social, or other beliefs or activities, or lack thereof, shall not be grounds for disciplinary action against the employee, provided that the beliefs or activities do not involve coercion of students or any other violation of law, Board policy, or administrative regulation.

In addition, an employee shall not be suspended, disciplined, reassigned, transferred, dismissed, or otherwise retaliated against solely for acting to protect a student engaged in exercising any free speech or press right authorized by, or for refusing to infringe upon a student's conduct protected pursuant to, Education Code 48907 or 48950.

Disciplinary actions may include, but are not limited to, verbal and written warnings, involuntary reassignment, demotion, suspension without pay, reduction of pay step in class, compulsory leave, and dismissal.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that disciplinary actions are taken in a consistent, nondiscriminatory manner and are appropriately documented.

A probationary classified employee may be dismissed without cause at any time prior to the expiration of the probationary period.

Permanent classified employees shall be subject to disciplinary action only for cause as specified in the accompanying administrative regulation. (Education Code 45113)

Procedures for Serious Disciplinary Proceedings

The Superintendent or designee shall develop disciplinary procedures for use when dismissal, suspension, demotion, involuntary reassignment, or other serious disciplinary action is contemplated against an employee. The procedures for such discipline shall include an opportunity for an employee for whom any such disciplinary action is recommended to meet with, or respond in writing to, a designated district official ("Skelly officer") who will determine whether the recommended discipline should proceed further or be modified or withdrawn.

After meeting with the employee or considering the employee's written response, if the Skelly officer determines that the recommended discipline should proceed, the Superintendent or designee shall send the employee a notice of the recommended disciplinary action, a statement of charges, and the results of the Skelly hearing. The notice shall include a statement advising the employee of the right to request a Board hearing on the matter.

If the employee fails to request a hearing within the time specified in the notice, the employee is deemed to have waived the right to do so, and the Board may order the recommended disciplinary action into effect immediately.

If a timely request is submitted, a hearing shall be conducted by the Board. (Education Code 45113, 45312)

The hearing shall be held at the earliest convenient date, taking into consideration the established schedule of the Board and the availability of legal counsel and witnesses. The employee shall be notified of the time and place of the hearing.

The hearing shall be held in closed session, unless the employee requests that the matter be heard in an open session meeting. (Government Code 54957)

The employee shall be entitled to appear personally, produce evidence, and be represented by legal counsel.

The Board may use the services of its legal counsel in ruling upon procedural questions, objections to evidence, and issues of law. The Board may review and consider the records of any prior personnel action proceedings against the employee in which a disciplinary action was ultimately sustained and any records contained in the employee's personnel files and introduced into evidence at the hearing. The Board shall not be bound by rules of evidence used in California courts. Informality in any such hearing shall not invalidate any order or decision made by the Board.

At any time before a matter is submitted to the Board for decision, the Superintendent or designee may, with the consent of the Board, serve on the employee and file with the Board an amended or supplemental recommendation of disciplinary action. If the amended or supplemental recommendation includes new causes or allegations, the employee shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to prepare a defense. Any new causes or allegations shall be deemed controverted and any objections to the amended or supplemental causes or allegations may be made orally at the hearing and shall be noted on the record.

Following the hearing or, if the employee has not requested a hearing, after reviewing the Superintendent or designee's recommendation for disciplinary action, the Board shall affirm, modify, or reject the recommended disciplinary action. The decision of the Board shall be in writing and shall contain findings of fact and the disciplinary action approved, if any. The decision of the Board shall be final.

Within 10 working days of the Board's final decision, a copy of the decision shall be delivered to the employee and/or designated representative personally or by registered mail.

Except for an allegation of egregious misconduct in which a minor is involved, the Board may delegate the authority to determine whether sufficient cause exists for disciplinary action to an impartial third-party hearing officer. When a matter is heard by a third-party hearing officer, the Board shall review the determination and adopt or reject the recommended decision. (Education Code 45113)

When any matter involves an allegation of egregious misconduct as defined in Education Code 44932 and involves a witness who is a minor, the matter shall be referred to an administrative law judge to determine whether sufficient cause exists for disciplinary action against the employee. In such cases, the ruling of the administrative law judge shall be binding on the district and the employee. (Education Code 45113)

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References

Description

CA Constitution Article 1, Section 1	Inalienable rights
Ed. Code 35161	Board delegation of any powers or duties
Ed. Code 44009	Conviction of specified crimes
Ed. Code 44010	Sex offense; definitions
Ed. Code 44011	Controlled substance offense
Ed. Code 44940	Compulsory leave of absence for certificated persons
Ed. Code 44940.5	Procedures when employees are placed on compulsory leave of absence
Ed. Code 45101	Definitions; disciplinary action and cause
Ed. Code 45109	Fixing of duties
Ed. Code 45113	Notification of charges; classified employees
Ed. Code 45123	Employment after conviction of controlled substance offense
Ed. Code 45302	Demotion and removal from permanent classified service
Ed. Code 45303	Additional cause for suspension or dismissal of employee charge with mandatory or optional leave of absence offense
Ed. Code 45304	Compulsory leave of absence for classified persons

Regulation 4218: Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 06/01/1994 | **Last Revised Date:** 09/01/2022 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 09/01/2022

Causes for Disciplinary Action

A permanent classified employee may be subject to suspension, demotion, involuntary reassignment, or dismissal for one or more of the following causes:

1. Immoral conduct, including, but not limited to, egregious misconduct that is the basis for a sex offense as defined in Education Code 44010, a controlled substance offense as defined in Education Code 44011, or child abuse and neglect as described in Penal Code 11165.2-11165.6
2. Conduct that constitutes a violent or serious felony as defined in Penal Code 667.5(c) or 1192.7(c)
3. Unlawful discrimination, including harassment, against any student or other employee
4. Violation of or refusal to obey state or federal law or regulation, Board policy, or district or school procedure
5. Falsification of any information supplied to the district, including, but not limited to, information supplied on application forms, employment records, or any other school district records
6. Unsatisfactory performance
7. Unprofessional conduct
8. Dishonesty
9. Neglect of duty or absence without leave
10. Insubordination
11. Use of alcohol or a controlled substance while on duty or in such close time proximity thereto as to affect the employee's performance
12. Destruction or misuse of district property
13. Failure to fulfill any ongoing condition of employment including, but not limited to, maintenance of any license, certificate, or other similar requirement specified in the employee's class specification or otherwise necessary for the employee to perform the duties of the position
14. A physical or mental condition which precludes the employee from the proper performance of duties and responsibilities as determined by competent medical authority, except as otherwise provided by a contract or by law
15. Retaliation against any person who, in good faith, reports, discloses, divulges, or otherwise brings to the attention of any appropriate authority any information relative to an actual or suspected violation of state or federal law occurring on or directly related to the job
16. Violation of Education Code 45303 or Government Code 1028 prohibiting the advocacy or teaching of communism
17. Any other misconduct which is of such nature that it causes discredit or injury to the district or the employee's position

No disciplinary action shall be taken for any cause which arose before the employee became permanent, nor for any cause which arose more than two years before the date of the filing of the notice of cause unless this cause was concealed or not disclosed by the employee when it could be reasonably assumed that the employee would have disclosed the facts to the district. (Education Code 45113)

Initiation and Notification of Charges

The Superintendent or designee shall provide notice to the employee of a recommendation for discipline, which includes the charges and materials upon which the recommendation is based. The notification shall identify an impartial district official ("Skelly officer") with whom the employee may meet at a specified time and place or to whom the employee may provide a written response to the recommendation of discipline. After meeting with the employee or considering any response from the employee, the Skelly officer shall recommend to the Superintendent or designee whether to proceed with the recommendation for discipline.

The Superintendent or designee shall file any final recommendation for a disciplinary action in writing with the Governing Board. A copy of the recommendation shall be served upon the employee either personally or by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, at the employee's last known address.

The notice shall, in ordinary and concise language, inform the employee of the specific charge(s) or cause(s) for the disciplinary action, the specific acts and omissions upon which the action is based, and, if applicable, the district rule or regulation that the employee has allegedly violated. In addition, the notice shall include the employee's right to a hearing on those charges, the time within which the hearing may be requested which shall be not less than five days after service of the notice to the employee, and a card or paper which the employee may sign and file to deny the charges and request a hearing. (Education Code 45113, 45116)

Request for Board Hearing

Within the time specified in the notice of the recommendation of disciplinary action, the employee may request a hearing on the charges by signing and filing the card or paper included with the notice. (Education Code 45113)

Any other written document signed and appropriately filed within the specified time limit by the employee shall constitute a sufficient notice of the request for a hearing. The request shall be delivered to the office of the Superintendent or designee during normal work hours of that office. If mailed to the office of the Superintendent or designee, it must be received or postmarked no later than the time limit specified by the district. In cases where an order of suspension without pay has been issued in conjunction with a recommendation of dismissal, any request for a hearing on the dismissal shall also constitute a request to hear the suspension order, and the necessity of the suspension order shall be an issue in the hearing.

Employment Status Pending a Hearing

A classified employee against whom a recommendation of disciplinary action has been issued shall remain on active duty status pending any hearing on the charges, unless the Superintendent or designee determines that the employee's continuance in active duty would present an unreasonable risk of harm to students, staff, or property. The Superintendent or designee may, in writing, order the employee immediately suspended from duty without pay and shall state the reasons that the suspension is deemed necessary. The suspension order shall be served upon the employee either personally or by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, immediately after issuance.

Compulsory Leave of Absence

Upon being informed by law enforcement that a classified employee has been charged with a "mandatory leave of absence offense," the Superintendent or designee shall immediately place the employee on a leave of absence. A mandatory leave of absence offense includes:

1. Any sex offense as defined in Education Code 44010
2. Violation or attempted violation of Penal Code 187 prohibiting murder or attempted murder
3. Any offense involving the unlawful sale, use, or exchange to minors of controlled substances as listed in Health and Safety Code 11054, 11055, and 11056

The Superintendent or designee may place on an immediate compulsory leave of absence a classified employee who is charged with an "optional leave of absence offense," defined as a controlled substance offense specified in

Education Code 44011 and Health and Safety Code 11357-11361, 11363, 11364, and 11370.1 except as it relates to marijuana, mescaline, peyote, or tetrahydrocannabinols.

An employee's compulsory leave for a mandatory or optional leave of absence offense may extend for not more than 10 days after the entry of judgment in the criminal proceedings. However, the compulsory leave may be extended if the Board gives notice, within 10 days after the entry of judgment in the proceedings, that the employee will be dismissed within 30 days from the date of service of the notice unless the employee demands a hearing on the dismissal.

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References

	Description
CA Constitution Article 1, Section 1	Inalienable rights
Ed. Code 35161	Board delegation of any powers or duties
Ed. Code 44009	Conviction of specified crimes
Ed. Code 44010	Sex offense; definitions
Ed. Code 44011	Controlled substance offense
Ed. Code 44940	Compulsory leave of absence for certificated persons
Ed. Code 44940.5	Procedures when employees are placed on compulsory leave of absence
Ed. Code 45101	Definitions; disciplinary action and cause
Ed. Code 45109	Fixing of duties
Ed. Code 45113	Notification of charges; classified employees
Ed. Code 45123	Employment after conviction of controlled substance offense
Ed. Code 45302	Demotion and removal from permanent classified service
Ed. Code 45303	Additional cause for suspension or dismissal of employee charge with mandatory or optional leave of absence offense
Ed. Code 45304	Compulsory leave of absence for classified persons
Veh. Code 1808.8	School bus drivers; dismissal for safety-related cause

Federal References

	Description
42 USC 12101-12213	Americans with Disabilities Act
U.S. Constitution	Amendment 1, Free exercise, free speech, and establishment clauses

Management Resources References

	Description
Court Decision	Kennedy v. Bremerton (2022) 142 S.Ct. 2407
Court Decision	California School Employees v. Livingston Union School District (2007) 149 Cal. App. 4th 391
Court Decision	CSEA v. Foothill Community College District (1975) 52 Cal. App. 3rd 150
Court Decision	Skelly v. California Personnel Board (1975) 15 Cal.3d 194
Website	Office of the Attorney General - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/kYMplusPKVwKTngiVfOT4AD8Q==
Website	Office of Administrative Hearings - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/hkXUvTmkSbRSTIh3V79tXg==
Website	Department of General Services, About Teacher Dismissal Case Type - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/9nslshuTpTNHO70H14jlrLeA==
Website	CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/UdykszdmPETuDsIshXk6R5akQ==

Policy 4218.1: Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action (Merit System)

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 07/01/2019 | **Last Revised Date:** 09/01/2022 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 09/01/2022

The Governing Board expects all employees to perform their jobs satisfactorily and exhibit professional and appropriate conduct. A classified employee may be disciplined for unprofessional conduct or unsatisfactory performance in accordance with law, any applicable collective bargaining agreement, and the rules of the personnel commission.

Disciplinary actions shall be based on the particular facts and circumstances involved and the severity of the employee's conduct or performance. An employee's private exercise of personal beliefs and activities, including religious, political, cultural, social, or other beliefs or activities, or lack thereof, shall not be grounds for disciplinary action against the employee, provided that the beliefs or activities do not involve coercion of students or any other violation of law, Board policy, or administrative regulation.

In addition, an employee shall not be suspended, disciplined, reassigned, transferred, dismissed, or otherwise retaliated against solely for acting to protect a student engaged in exercising any free speech or press right authorized by, or for refusing to infringe upon a student's conduct protected pursuant to, Education Code 48907 or 48950.

Disciplinary actions may include, but are not limited to, verbal and written warnings, involuntary reassignment, demotion, suspension without pay, reduction of pay step in class, compulsory leave, and dismissal.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that disciplinary actions are taken in a consistent, nondiscriminatory manner and are appropriately documented.

A probationary classified employee may be dismissed without cause at any time prior to the expiration of the probationary period.

A permanent classified employee shall be subject to suspension, demotion, or dismissal only for one or more of the causes designated by rule of the personnel commission. (Education Code 45302, 45304)

When such serious disciplinary action is being contemplated against an employee, the district shall adhere to disciplinary procedures developed by the personnel commission. Due process shall be afforded to the employee, including proper notice, an opportunity for the employee to meet with a designated district official ("Skelly officer") or to respond in writing to the charges, and an opportunity to appeal the district's decision with the personnel commission in accordance with Education Code 45305-45307. If the matter is addressed in a hearing before the personnel commission, the decision of the personnel commission shall be final.

However, if the matter involves an allegation of egregious misconduct as defined in Education Code 44932 and involves a witness who is a minor, the matter shall be referred to an administrative law judge to determine whether sufficient cause exists for disciplinary action against the employee. The ruling of the administrative law judge shall be binding on the district and the employee. (Education Code 45312)

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References

Description

CA Constitution Article 1, Section 1

Inalienable rights

Civ. Code 1286.2

Grounds for vacating decision of arbitrator - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/l83sAV1PToNrlj4NXUbb8Q==>

Ed. Code 11500-11506

Programs to encourage parent involvement - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/wKyoGhsy1ENTUaG49NVwoA==>

Ed. Code 35161

Board delegation of any powers or duties

Policy 6158: Independent Study

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 03/01/2005 | **Last Revised Date:** 09/01/2022 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 09/01/2022

The Governing Board authorizes independent study as an optional alternative instructional strategy for students whose needs may be best met through study outside of the regular classroom setting. Independent study shall offer a means of individualizing the educational plan to serve students who desire a more challenging educational experience, whose health or other personal circumstances make classroom attendance difficult, who are unable to access course(s) due to scheduling problems, and/or who need to make up credits or fill gaps in their learning. As necessary to meet student needs, independent study may be offered for short- or long-term placements, on a full-time or part-time basis, and/or in conjunction with part- or full-time classroom study.

The Board shall hold a public hearing when considering the scope of its existing or prospective use of independent study as an instructional strategy, its purposes in authorizing independent study, and factors bearing specifically on the maximum realistic lengths of assignments and acceptable number of missed assignments for specific populations of students or adult education students. (Education Code 51747; 5 CCR 11701)

The Superintendent or designee may provide a variety of independent study opportunities, including, but not limited to, through a program or class within a comprehensive school, an alternative school or program of choice, a charter school, and an online course.

Student participation in independent study shall be voluntary and no student shall be required to participate. (Education Code 51747, 51749.5, 51749.6)

Independent study for each student shall be under the general supervision of a district employee who possesses a valid certification document pursuant to Education Code 44865 or an emergency credential pursuant to Education Code 44300. Students' independent study shall be coordinated, evaluated, and documented, as prescribed by law and reflected in the accompanying administrative regulation. (Education Code 51747.5)

The minimum period of time for any independent study option shall be three consecutive school days. (Education Code 46300)

General Independent Study Requirements

The Superintendent or designee may offer and approve independent study for an individual student upon determining that the student is prepared to meet the district's requirements for participation and is likely to succeed as well as or better than the student would in the regular classroom setting.

The minimum instructional minutes shall be the same for all students at each school including students participating in independent study, except as otherwise permitted by law. (Education Code 46100)

Because excessive leniency in the duration of independent study assignments may result in a student falling behind peers and increase the risk of dropping out of school, independent study assignments shall be completed no more than one week after assigned for all grade levels and types of programs. When necessary based on the specific circumstances of the student's approved program, the Superintendent or designee may allow for a longer period of time between the date an assignment is made and when it is due. However, in no event shall the due date of an assignment be extended beyond the termination date specified in the student's written agreement.

An evaluation shall be conducted to determine whether it is in a student's best interest to remain in independent study whenever the student fails to make satisfactory educational progress and/or misses three assignments. Satisfactory educational progress shall be determined based on all of the following indicators: (Education Code 51747)

1. The student's achievement and engagement in the independent study program, as indicated by the student's performance on applicable student-level measures of student achievement and engagement specified in

Education Code 52060

2. The completion of assignments, assessments, or other indicators that evidence that the student is working on assignments
3. Learning of required concepts, as determined by the supervising teacher
4. Progress towards successful completion of the course of study or individual course, as determined by the supervising teacher

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that students participating in independent study are provided with content aligned to grade level standards at a level of quality and intellectual challenge substantially equivalent to in-person instruction. For high schools, this shall include access to all courses offered by the district for graduation and approved by the University of California (UC) or the California State University (CSU) as creditable under the A-G admissions criteria. (Education Code 51747)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all students participating in independent study for 15 school days or more receive the following throughout the school year: (Education Code 51747)

1. For students in grades transitional kindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1 to 3, opportunities for daily synchronous instruction
2. For students in grades 4-8, opportunities for both daily live interaction and at least weekly synchronous instruction
3. For students in grades 9-12, opportunities for at least weekly synchronous instruction

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that procedures for tiered reengagement strategies are used for all students participating in an independent study program for 15 school days or more who are: (Education Code 51747)

1. Not generating attendance for more than ten percent of required minimum instructional time over four continuous weeks of the district's approved instructional calendar
2. Not participating in synchronous instructional offerings pursuant to Education Code 51747.5 for more than 50 percent of the scheduled times of synchronous instruction in a school month as applicable by grade span
3. In violation of their written agreement

Tiered reengagement strategies procedures used in district independent study programs shall include local programs intended to address chronic absenteeism, as applicable, including but not limited to the following: (Education Code 51747)

1. Verification of current contact information for each enrolled student
2. Notification to parents/guardians of lack of participation within one school day of the recording of a nonattendance day or lack of participation
3. A plan for outreach from the school to determine student needs, including connection with health and social services as necessary
4. A clear standard for requiring a student-parent-educator conference to review a student's written agreement and reconsider the independent study program's impact on the student's achievement and well-being

The Superintendent or designee shall, for students who participate in an independent study program for 15 school days or more, develop a plan to transition students whose families wish to return to in-person instruction from independent study expeditiously, and, in no case, later than five instructional days. (Education Code 51747)

When any student enrolled in classroom-based instruction is participating in independent study due to necessary medical treatment or inpatient treatment for mental health or substance abuse under the care of appropriately licensed professionals, the student shall be exempt from the live interaction and/or synchronous instruction, tiered reengagement strategies, and transition back to in-person instruction requirements specified above. In such cases, evidence from appropriately licensed professionals, of the student's need to participate in independent study, shall be submitted to the Superintendent or designee. (Education Code 51747)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that a written agreement exists for each participating student as prescribed by law. (Education Code 51747, 51749.5)

Upon the request of the parent/guardian of a student, and before signing a written agreement as described below in the section "Master Agreement," the district shall conduct a telephone, videoconference, or in-person student-parent-educator conference or other meeting during which the student, parent/guardian, and, if requested by the parent/guardian an advocate, may ask questions about the educational options, including which curriculum offerings and nonacademic supports will be available to the student in independent study. (Education Code 51747)

Master Agreement

A written agreement shall be developed and implemented for each student participating in independent study for three or more consecutive school days. (Education Code 46300, 51747)

For student participation for 15 school days or more, a signed written agreement shall be obtained before the student begins independent study. For student participation of less than 15 school days, a signed written agreement shall be obtained within ten school days of the first day of the student's enrollment. (Education Code 46300, 51747)

The agreement shall include general student data, including the student's name, address, grade level, birth date, school of enrollment, and program placement.

The independent study agreement for each participating student also shall include, but is not limited to, all of the following: (Education Code 51747; 5 CCR 11700, 11702)

1. The manner, time, frequency, and place for submitting the student's assignments, reporting the student's academic progress, and communicating with a student's parent/guardian regarding the student's academic progress
2. The objectives and methods of study for the student's work and the methods used to evaluate that work
3. The specific resources that will be made available to the student, including materials and personnel, and access to Internet connectivity and devices adequate to participate in the educational program and complete assigned work
4. A statement of the Board's policy detailing the maximum length of time allowed between an assignment and its completion, the level of satisfactory educational progress, and the number of missed assignments which will trigger an evaluation of whether the student should be allowed to continue in independent study
5. The duration of the independent study agreement, including the beginning and ending dates for the student's participation in independent study under the agreement, with a maximum of one school year
6. A statement of the number of course credits or, for the elementary grades, other measures of academic accomplishment appropriate to the agreement, to be earned by the student upon completion
7. A statement detailing the academic and other supports that will be provided to address the needs of students who are not performing at grade level, or need support in other areas, such as English learners, students with disabilities with an individualized education program or a Section 504 plan in order to be consistent with their program or plan, students in foster care or experiencing homelessness, and students requiring mental health supports
8. A statement that independent study is an optional educational alternative in which no student may be required

to participate

9. In the case of a suspended or expelled student who is referred or assigned to any school, class, or program pursuant to Education Code 48915 or 48917, a statement that instruction may be provided through independent study only if the student is offered the alternative of classroom instruction
10. Before the commencement of independent study projected to last for 15 school days or more, or within ten school days of the first day of enrollment for independent study for less than 15 school days, the agreement shall be signed and dated by the student, the student's parent/guardian or caregiver if the student is under 18 years of age, the certificated employee responsible for the general supervision of independent study, and for students with disabilities, the certificated employee designated as having responsibility for the special education programming of the student

Written agreements may be signed using an electronic signature that complies with state and federal standards, as determined by the California Department of Education (CDE). (Education Code 51747)

The parent/guardian's signature on the agreement shall constitute permission for the student to receive instruction through independent study.

Course-Based Independent Study

The district's course-based independent study program for students in grades K-12 shall be subject to the following requirements: (Education Code 51749.5)

1. A signed learning agreement shall be completed and on file for each participating student, pursuant to Education Code 51749.6
2. Courses shall be taught under the general supervision of certificated employees who hold the appropriate subject matter credential and are employed by the district or by another district, charter school, or county office of education with which the district has a memorandum of understanding to provide the instruction
3. Courses shall be annually certified by Board resolution to be of the same rigor and educational quality and to provide intellectual challenge that is substantially equivalent to in-person, classroom-based instruction, and shall be aligned to all relevant local and state content standards. For high schools, this shall include access to all courses offered by the district for graduation and approved by UC or CSU as creditable under the A-G admissions criteria. The certification shall, at a minimum, include the duration, number of equivalent daily instructional minutes for each school day that student is enrolled, number of equivalent total instructional minutes, and number of course credits for each course, consistent with that of equivalent classroom-based courses. The certification shall also include plans to provide opportunities throughout the school year, for all students in transitional kindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1-3 to receive daily synchronous instruction, for all students in grades 4-8, to receive both daily live interaction and at least weekly synchronous instruction, and for all students in grades 9-12 to receive at least weekly synchronous instruction.
4. Students enrolled in independent study courses shall meet the applicable age requirements established pursuant to Education Code 46300.1, 46300.4, 47612, and 47612.1, and the applicable residency and enrollment requirements established pursuant to Education Code 46300.2, 47612, 48204, and 51747.3
5. For each student participating in an independent study course, satisfactory educational progress shall be determined based on the student's achievement and engagement in the independent study program as indicated by the student's performance on applicable student-level measures of student achievement and engagement set forth in Education Code 52060, completion of assignments, assessments, or other indicators that evidence that the student is working on assignments, learning of required concepts, as determined by the supervising teacher, and progress toward successful completion of the course of study or individual course, as determined by the supervising teacher.

If satisfactory educational progress in one or more independent study courses is not being made, the teacher providing instruction shall notify the student and, if the student is under 18 years of age, the student's parent/guardian. The teacher shall conduct an evaluation to determine whether it is in the student's best interest to remain in the course or whether the student should be referred to an alternative program, which may include, but is not limited to, a regular school program. A written record of the evaluation findings shall be treated as a mandatory interim student record maintained for three years from the date of the evaluation. If

the student transfers to another California public school, the record shall be forwarded to that school.

Procedures for tiered reengagement strategies shall be used for all students who are not making satisfactory educational progress in one or more courses or who are in violation of the written learning agreement, as described in the section "Learning Agreement for Course-Based Independent Study" below. These procedures shall include, but are not necessarily limited to, the verification of current contact information for each enrolled student, a plan for outreach from the school to determine student needs, including connection with health and social services as necessary, and a clear standard for requiring a student-parent-educator conference to review a student's written agreement and reconsider the independent study program's impact on the student's achievement and well-being.

6. Examinations shall be administered by a proctor
7. Statewide testing results shall be reported and assigned to the school at which the student is enrolled and shall be included in the aggregate results of the district. Test results also shall be disaggregated for purposes of comparisons with the test results of students enrolled in classroom-based courses.
8. A student shall not be required to enroll in courses included in the course-based independent study program
9. The student-teacher ratio in the courses in this program shall meet the requirements of Education Code 51745.6
10. For each student, the combined equivalent daily instructional minutes for courses in this program and all other courses shall meet applicable minimum instructional day requirements, and the student shall be offered the minimum annual total equivalent instructional minutes pursuant to Education Code 46200-46208
11. Courses required for high school graduation or for admission to UC or CSU shall not be offered exclusively through independent study
12. A student participating in this program shall not be assessed a fee that is prohibited by Education Code 49011
13. A student shall not be prohibited from participating in independent study solely on the basis that the student does not have the materials, equipment, or access to Internet connectivity necessary to participate in the course
14. A student with disabilities, as defined in Education Code 56026, may participate in course-based independent study if the student's individualized education program specifically provides for that participation
15. A temporarily disabled student shall not receive individual instruction pursuant to Education Code 48206.3 through course-based independent study
16. The district shall maintain a plan to transition any student whose family wishes to return to in-person instruction from course-based independent study expeditiously, and, in no case, later than five instructional days

Learning Agreement for Course-Based Independent Study

Before enrolling a student in a course within a course-based independent study program, the Superintendent or designee shall provide the student and, if the student is under age 18 years, the student's parent/guardian with a written learning agreement that includes all of the following: (Education Code 51749.6)

1. A summary of the district's policies and procedures related to course-based independent study pursuant to Education Code 51749.5
2. The duration of the enrolled course(s) and the number of course credits for each enrolled course, consistent with the Board certifications made pursuant to Item #3 of the Course-Based Independent Study section above
3. The duration of the learning agreement, which shall not exceed a school year or span multiple school years
4. The learning objectives and expectations for each course, including, but not limited to, a description of how satisfactory educational progress is measured and when a student evaluation is required to determine whether the student should remain in the course or be referred to an alternative program, which may include, but is not

limited to, a regular school program

5. The specific resources that will be made available to the student, including materials and personnel, and access to Internet connectivity and devices adequate to participate in the educational program and complete assigned work
6. A statement detailing the academic and other supports that will be provided to address the needs of students who are not performing at grade level, or need support in other areas, such as English learners, students with disabilities with an individualized education program or a Section 504 plan in order to be consistent with their program or plan, students in foster care or experiencing homelessness, and students requiring mental health supports
7. A statement that enrollment is an optional educational alternative in which no student may be required to participate. In the case of a suspended or expelled student who is referred or assigned to any school, class, or program pursuant to Education Code 48915 or 48917, a statement that instruction may be provided through course-based independent study only if the student is offered the alternative of classroom instruction.
8. The manner, time, frequency, and place for submitting a student's assignments, for reporting the student's academic progress, and for communicating with a student's parent/guardian regarding a student's academic progress
9. The objectives and methods of study for the student's work, and the methods used to evaluate that work
10. A statement of the adopted policies regarding the maximum length of time allowed between the assignment and the completion of a student's assigned work, the level of satisfactory educational progress, and the number of missed assignments allowed before an evaluation of whether the student should be allowed to continue in course-based independent study
11. A statement of the number of course credits or, for the elementary grades, other measures of academic accomplishment appropriate to the learning agreement, to be earned by the student upon completion.
12. Before the commencement of an independent study course projected to last for 15 school days or more, or within ten school days of the first day of enrollment for an independent study course projected to last less than 15 school days, the learning agreement shall be signed and dated by the student, and by the student's parent/guardian or caregiver if the student is less than 18 years of age, the certificated employee responsible for the general supervision of the independent study course, and as applicable for students with disabilities, the certificated employee designated as having responsibility for the special education programming of the student. For purposes of this paragraph "caregiver" means a person who has met the requirements of Family Code 6550-6552.

Learning agreements may be signed using an electronic signature that complies with state and federal standards, as determined by CDE. (Education Code 51749.6)

A signed learning agreement from a parent/guardian of a student who is less than 18 years of age shall constitute the parent/guardian's permission for the student to receive instruction through course-based independent study. (Education Code 51749.6)

Upon the request of a student's parent/guardian, and before signing a learning agreement as described above, the district shall conduct a telephone, videoconference, or in-person student-parent-educator conference, or other meeting during which the student, parent/guardian, and, if requested by the parent/guardian, an advocate, may ask questions about the educational options, including which curriculum offerings and nonacademic supports will be available to the student in independent study. (Education Code 51749.6)

Student-Parent-Educator Conferences

A student-parent-educator conference shall be held as appropriate including, but not limited to, as a reengagement strategy and/or, if requested by a parent/guardian, prior to enrollment or disenrollment from independent study. (Education Code 51745.5, 51747, 51749.5)

Records

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that records are maintained for audit purposes.

These records shall include, but not be limited to: (Education Code 51748; 5 CCR 11703)

1. A copy of the Board policy, administrative regulation, and other procedures related to independent study
2. A listing of the students, by grade level, program, and school, who have participated in independent study, along with the units of the curriculum attempted and completed by students in grades K-8 and the course credits attempted by and awarded to students in grades 9-12 and adult education
3. A file of all agreements, with representative samples of each student's work products bearing the supervising teacher's signed or initialed and dated notations indicating that the teacher has personally evaluated the work or personally reviewed the evaluations made by another certificated teacher
4. As appropriate to the program in which the students are participating, a daily or hourly attendance register that is separate from classroom attendance records, maintained on a current basis as time values of student work products judged by a certificated teacher, and reviewed by the supervising teacher if they are two different persons
5. Appropriate documentation of compliance with the teacher-student ratios required by Education Code 51745.6 and 51749.5 (Education Code 51745.6 and 51749.5)
6. Appropriate documentation of compliance with the requirements pursuant to Education Code 51747.5 to ensure the coordination, evaluation, and supervision of the independent study of each student by a district employee who possesses a valid certification document pursuant to Education Code 44865 or an emergency credential pursuant to Education Code 44300 (Education Code 51747.5)

The district shall document each student's participation in live interaction and synchronous instruction pursuant to Education Code 51747 on each school day, as applicable, in whole or in part, for which live interaction or synchronous instruction is provided as part of the independent study program. A student who does not participate in scheduled live interaction or synchronous instruction shall be documented as nonparticipatory for that school day. (Education Code 51747.5)

The Superintendent or designee shall also maintain a written or computer-based record such as a grade book or summary document of student engagement, for each class, of all grades, assignments, and assessments for each student for independent study assignments. (Education Code 51747.5)

Signed written and supplemental agreements, assignment records, work samples, and attendance records may be maintained as an electronic file in accordance with Education Code 51747 and 51749.6, as applicable.

Program Evaluation

The Superintendent or designee shall annually report to the Board the number of district students participating in independent study, the average daily attendance generated for apportionment purposes, student performance as measured by standard indicators and in comparison to students in classroom-based instruction, and the number and proportion of independent study students who graduate or successfully complete independent study. Based on the program evaluation, the Board and Superintendent shall determine areas for program improvement as needed.

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References

5 CCR 11700-11705

Ed. Code 17289

Ed. Code 41020

Description

Independent study

Exemption for facilities

Requirement for annual audit

Regulation 6158: Independent Study

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 10/01/2015 | Last Revised Date: 09/01/2022 | Last Reviewed Date: 09/01/2022

Definitions

Live interaction means interaction between the student and classified or certificated staff, and may include peers, provided for the purpose of maintaining school connectedness, including, but not limited to, wellness checks, progress monitoring, provision of services, and instruction. This interaction may take place in-person, or in the form of Internet or telephonic communication. (Education Code 51745.5)

Student-parent-educator conference means a meeting involving, at a minimum, all parties who signed the student's written independent study agreement pursuant to Education Code 51747 or the written learning agreement pursuant to Education Code 51749.6. (Education Code 51745.5)

Synchronous instruction means classroom-style instruction or designated small group or one-on-one instruction delivered in-person, or in the form of Internet or telephonic communications, and involving live two-way communication between the teacher and student. Synchronous instruction shall be provided by a teacher or teachers of record for that student pursuant to Education Code 51747.5 or the certificated employee providing instruction for course-based independent study. (Education Code 51745.5)

Educational Opportunities

Educational opportunities offered through independent study may include, but are not limited to: (Education Code 51745)

1. Special assignments extending the content of regular courses of instruction
2. Individualized study in a particular area of interest or in a subject not currently available in the regular school curriculum
3. Continuing and special study during travel
4. Volunteer community service activities and leadership opportunities that support and strengthen student achievement
5. Individualized study for a student whose health, as determined by the student's parent/guardian, would be put at risk by in-person instruction or for a student who is unable to attend in-person instruction due to a quarantine due to exposure to, or infection with, COVID-19, pursuant to local or state public health guidance

In addition, when requested by a parent/guardian due to an emergency or illness, independent study may be used on a short-term basis to ensure that the student is able to maintain academic progress in the student's regular classes.

No course required for high school graduation shall be offered exclusively through independent study. (Education Code 51745)

Equivalency

The district's independent study option shall be substantially equivalent in quality and quantity to classroom instruction to enable participating students to complete the district's adopted course of study within the customary timeframe. Students in independent study shall have access to the same services and resources that are available to other students in the school and shall have equal rights and privileges. (5 CCR 11700, 11701.5)

Students participating in independent study shall have access to Internet connectivity and devices adequate to participate in the educational program and complete assigned work. (Education Code 51747)

The district shall not provide independent study students and their parents/guardians with funds or items of value that are not provided for other students and their parents/guardians. Providing access to Internet connectivity and district-owned devices adequate to participate in an independent study program and complete assigned work

consistent with Education Code 51747, or to participate in an independent study course, as authorized by Education Code 51749.5, shall not be considered funds or other things of value. (Education Code 46300.6, 51747.3)

Eligibility for Independent Study

To participate in independent study, a student shall be enrolled in a district school. (Education Code 51748)

The Superintendent or designee may approve the participation of a student who demonstrates the motivation, commitment, organizational skills, and academic skills necessary to work independently provided that experienced certificated staff are available to effectively supervise students in independent study. The Superintendent or designee may also approve the participation of a student whose health would be put at risk by in-person instruction.

A student whose academic performance is not at grade level may participate in independent study only if the program is able to provide appropriate support, such as supplemental instruction, tutoring, counseling, ongoing diagnostic assessments, and/or differentiated materials, to enable the student to be successful. For an elementary student, the Superintendent or designee may consider the parent/guardian's level of commitment to assist the student.

A student participating in independent study must be a resident of the county or an adjacent county. Full-time independent study shall not be available to students whose district residency status is based on their parent/guardian's employment within district boundaries pursuant to Education Code 48204. (Education Code 46300.2, 51747.3)

A student with disabilities, as defined in Education Code 56026, may participate in independent study if the student's individualized education program (IEP) specifically provides for such participation. If a parent/guardian of a student with disabilities requests independent study because the student's health would be put at risk by in-person instruction, the student's IEP team shall make an individualized determination as to whether the student can receive a free appropriate public education (FAPE) in an independent study placement. A student's inability to work independently, need for adult support, or need for special education or related services shall not preclude the IEP team from determining that the student can receive FAPE in an independent study placement. (Education Code 51745)

In addition, any student with disabilities who receives services from a nonpublic, nonsectarian school through a virtual program may be permitted to participate in independent study if the student's IEP team determines that FAPE can be provided to the student by means of the virtual program and other conditions of law are satisfied.

A temporarily disabled student shall not receive individual instruction pursuant to Education Code 48206.3 through independent study. (Education Code 51745)

Except for students participating in independent study due to an emergency as described in Education Code 41422 and 46392 and pregnant and parenting students who are the primary caregiver for their child(ren), no more than 10 percent of the students enrolled in a continuation high school or opportunity school or program shall be enrolled in independent study. (Education Code 51745)

Monitoring Student Progress

The independent study administrator and/or supervising teacher shall promptly and directly address any failure by the student to meet the terms of the student's written agreement. The following supportive strategies may be used:

1. A letter to the student and/or parent/guardian
2. A meeting between the student and the teacher and/or counselor
3. A meeting between the student and the independent study administrator, including the parent/guardian if appropriate

4. An increase in the amount of time the student works under direct supervision

When the student has failed to make satisfactory educational progress or missed the number of assignments specified in the written agreement as requiring an evaluation, the Superintendent or designee shall conduct an evaluation to determine whether independent study is in the student's best interest. This evaluation may result in termination of the independent study agreement and the student's return to the regular classroom program or other alternative program. (Education Code 51747, 51749.5; 5 CCR 11701)

A written record of the findings of any such evaluation shall be treated as a mandatory interim student record which shall be maintained for three years from the date of the evaluation, and if the student transfers to another public school in California, the record shall be forwarded to that school. (Education Code 51747, 51749.5)

Responsibilities of Independent Study Administrator

The responsibilities of the independent study administrator include, but are not limited to:

1. Recommending certificated staff to be assigned as independent study teachers at the required teacher-student ratios pursuant to Education Code 51745.6 and supervising staff assigned to independent study functions who are not regularly supervised by another administrator
2. Approving or denying the participation of students requesting independent study
3. Facilitating the completion of written independent study agreements
4. Ensuring a smooth transition for students into and out of the independent study mode of instruction
5. Approving all credits earned through independent study
6. Completing or coordinating the preparation of all records and reports required by law, Board policy, or administrative regulation

Assignment and Responsibilities of Independent Study Teachers

Each student's independent study shall be coordinated, evaluated, and carried out under the general supervision of a district employee who possesses a valid certification document pursuant to Education Code 44865 or emergency credential pursuant to Education Code 44300, registered as required by law, and who consents to the assignment. (Education Code 44865, 51747.5; 5 CCR 11700)

The ratio of student average daily attendance for independent study students age 18 years or younger to full-time equivalent certificated employees responsible for independent study shall not exceed the equivalent ratio for all other education programs in the district, unless a new higher or lower ratio for all other educational programs offered is negotiated in a collective bargaining agreement or the district enters into a memorandum of understanding that indicates an existing collective bargaining agreement contains an alternative ratio. (Education Code 51745.6)

The responsibilities of the supervising teacher shall include, but are not limited to:

1. Completing designated portions of the written independent study agreement and signing the agreement
2. Supervising and approving coursework and assignments
3. Maintaining records of student assignments showing the date the assignment is given and the date the assignment is due
4. Maintaining a daily or hourly attendance register in accordance with Item #4 in the section on "Records" in the accompanying Board policy
5. Providing direct instruction and counsel as necessary for individual student success
6. Regularly meeting with the student to discuss the student's progress

7. Determining the time value of assigned work or work products completed and submitted by the student
8. Assessing student work and assigning grades or other approved measures of achievement
9. Documenting each student's participation in live interaction and/or synchronous instruction pursuant to Education Code 51747 on each school day, as applicable, in whole or in part, for which live interaction or synchronous instruction is provided as part of the independent study program

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that independent study teachers have access to professional development and support comparable to classroom-based teachers.

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References

Description

5 CCR 11700-11705	Independent study
Ed. Code 17289	Exemption for facilities
Ed. Code 41020	Requirement for annual audit
Ed. Code 41422	Emergency conditions and apportionments
Ed. Code 42238	Revenue limits
Ed. Code 42238.05	Local control funding formula; average daily attendance
Ed. Code 44865	Qualifications for independent study teachers
Ed. Code 46100	Length of school day
Ed. Code 46200-46208	Incentives for longer instructional day and year
Ed. Code 46300-46307.1	Methods of computing average daily attendance
Ed. Code 46390-46393	Emergency average daily attendance
Ed. Code 46600	Interdistrict attendance computation
Ed. Code 47612-47612.1	Charter School Operation
Ed. Code 47612.5	Charter schools operations; general requirements
Ed. Code 48204	Residency requirements for school attendance
Ed. Code 48206.3	Home or hospital instruction; students with temporary disabilities
Ed. Code 48220	Classes of children exempted
Ed. Code 48340	Improvement of pupil attendance
Ed. Code 48915	Expulsion; particular circumstances
Ed. Code 48916.1	Educational program requirements for expelled students
Ed. Code 48917	Suspension of expulsion order
Ed. Code 49011	Student fees
Ed. Code 51225.3	High school graduation requirements
Ed. Code 51744-51749.6	Independent study
Ed. Code 52060	Local control and accountability plan
Ed. Code 52523	Adult education as supplement to high school curriculum; criteria
Ed. Code 56026	Individual with exceptional needs
Ed. Code 58500-58512	Alternative schools and programs of choice
Fam. Code 6550-6552	Caregivers

Policy 6164.2: Guidance/Counseling Services

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: 11/01/2007 | **Last Revised Date:** 06/23/2021

The Governing Board recognizes that a structured, coherent, and comprehensive counseling program promotes academic achievement and growth, and serves the diverse needs of district students. The district shall provide an educational counseling program that offers students services and supports within a Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) framework, in accordance with law. Counseling staff shall be available to provide students with individualized reviews of their educational progress toward academic and/or career and vocational goals and, as appropriate, may discuss social, personal, or other issues that may impact student learning and well-being.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all persons employed to provide direct school counseling, school psychology, school social work services to students, and/or implement equitable school programs and services that support students' academic and social emotional development and college and career readiness shall possess the appropriate credential from the Commission on Teacher Credentialing authorizing their employment in such positions. Responsibilities of such positions shall be clearly defined in a job description.

Responsibilities of school counselors include, but are not limited to:

1. Engaging with, advocating for, and providing all students with direct services, such as individual counseling, group counseling, risk assessment, crisis response, and instructional services, including mental health and behavioral, academic, and postsecondary educational services and indirect services, including but not limited to, positive school climate strategies, teacher and parent consultations, and referrals to public and private community services
2. Planning, implementing, and evaluating school counseling programs
3. Working within a MTSS that uses multiple data sources to monitor and improve student behavior, attendance, engagement, and achievement
4. Developing, coordinating, and supervising comprehensive student support systems in collaboration with teachers, administrators, other pupil personnel services professionals, families, community partners, and community agencies, including county mental health agencies
5. Promoting and maintaining a safe learning environment for all students by providing restorative practices, positive behavior interventions, and support services, and by developing a variety of intervention strategies, and using those strategies, to meet individual, group, and school community needs before, during, and after a crisis
6. Intervening to ameliorate school-related problems, including problems related to chronic absences and retention
7. Using research-based strategies to promote mental wellness, reduce mental health stigma, and to identify characteristics, risk factors, and warning signs of students who develop, or are at risk of developing, mental health and behavioral disorders and who experience, or are at risk of experiencing, mistreatment, including mistreatment related to any form of conflict or bullying
8. Improving school climate and student well-being by addressing the mental and behavioral health needs of students during a period of transition, separation, heightened stress, and critical changes, accessing community programs and services to meet those needs, and providing other appropriate services
9. Enhancing students' social and emotional competence, character, health, civic engagement, cultural literacy, and commitment to lifelong learning and the pursuit of high-quality educational programs
10. Providing counseling services for unduplicated students who are classified as English learners, or foster youth, homeless children, and students eligible for free and reduced-priced meals, including interventions and support services that enhance equity and access to appropriate education systems and public and private services

11. Engaging in continued development as a professional school counselor

Educational And Career Counseling

Beginning in grade 7, parents/guardians shall receive a general notice at least once before career counseling and course selection so that they may participate in the counseling sessions and decisions. (Education Code 221.5)

The educational counseling program shall include academic counseling and postsecondary services, in the following areas (Education Code 49600):

1. Development and implementation, with parent/guardian involvement, of the student's immediate and long-range educational plans
2. Optimizing progress towards achievement of proficiency standards and competencies
3. Completion of the required curriculum in accordance with the student's needs, abilities, interests, and aptitudes
4. Academic planning for access and success in higher education programs, including advisement on courses needed for admission to colleges and universities, standardized admissions tests, and financial aid
5. High-quality career programs at all grade levels in which students are assisted in doing all of the following:
 - a. Planning for the future, including, but not limited to, identifying personal interests, skills, and abilities, career planning, course selection, and career transition
 - b. Becoming aware of personal preferences and interests that influence educational and occupational exploration, career choice, and career success
 - c. Developing work self-efficacy for the ever-changing work environment, the changing needs of the workforce, and the effects of work on quality of life
 - d. Understanding the relationship between academic achievement and career success, and the importance of maximizing career options
 - e. Understanding the value of participating in career technical education pathways, programs, and certifications, including, but not limited to, those related to regional occupational programs and centers, the federal program administered by the United States Department of Labor offering free education and vocational training to students, known as "Job Corps," the California Conservation Corps, work-based learning, industry certifications, college preparation and credit, and employment opportunities
 - f. Understanding the need to develop essential employable skills and work habits
 - g. Understanding entrance requirements to the Armed Forces of the United States, including the benefits of the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) test

The district's educational counseling program also may include, but not be limited to, identification of students who are at risk of not graduating with their peers, development of a list of coursework and experience necessary to assist students to satisfy the curricular requirements for college admission and successfully transition to postsecondary education or employment, and counseling regarding available options for students who fail to meet graduation requirements to continue with their education.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish and maintain a program of guidance, placement, and follow-up for all high school students subject to compulsory continuation education. (Education Code 48431)

As part of the district's educational counseling program, students may be offered mental and behavioral health services under which a student may receive prevention, intervention, short-term counseling services, and mental health related classroom instruction to reduce stigma and increase awareness of counseling support services.

No counselor shall unlawfully discriminate against any student. Guidance counseling regarding school programs and career, vocational, or higher education opportunities shall not be differentiated on the basis of any protected category specified in BP 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities.

In addition, counselors shall affirmatively explore with a student the possibility of careers, or courses leading to careers, that are nontraditional for that student's sex. (Education Code 221.5)

For assessing or counseling students, the district shall not use testing or other materials that permit or require impermissible or unlawful differential treatment of students. (5 CCR 4931)

Colleges and prospective employers, including military recruiters, shall have the same access to students for recruiting purposes. (Education Code 49603; 10 USC 503; 20 USC 7908)

The Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with businesses, government agencies, postsecondary institutions including universities and career technical schools, community organizations, and/or other employers to provide students with actual or simulated work-based learning opportunities through college and/or career fairs.

When planning to hold a college or career fair, the Superintendent or designee shall notify each apprenticeship program in the county. The notification shall include the planned date, time and location of the college or career fair. (Labor Code 3074.2)

Personal or Mental Health Counseling

A school counselor, school psychologist, or school social worker may provide individualized personal, mental health, or family counseling to students in accordance with the specialization(s) authorized by their credential. Such services may include, but are not limited to, support related to the student's social and emotional development, behavior, substance abuse, mental health assessment, depression, or mental illness. As appropriate, students and their parents/guardians shall be informed about community agencies, organizations, or health care providers that offer qualified professional assistance.

Written parent/guardian consent shall be obtained before mental health counseling or treatment services are provided 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.

Any information of a personal nature disclosed to a school counselor by a student age 12 years or older or by the student's parent/guardian is confidential and shall not become part of the student record without the written consent of the person who disclosed the confidential information. The information shall not be revealed, released, discussed, or referred to except under the limited circumstances specified in Education Code 49602. (Education Code 49602)

A counselor shall consult with the Superintendent or designee and, as appropriate, with the district's legal counsel whenever unsure of how to respond to a student's personal problem or when questions arise regarding the possible release of confidential information regarding a student.

Crisis Counseling

The Board recognizes the need for a prompt and effective response when students are confronted with a traumatic incident. School counselors shall assist in the development of the comprehensive school safety plan, emergency and disaster preparedness plan, and other prevention and intervention practices designed to assist students and parents/guardians before, during, and after a crisis.

Early identification and intervention plans shall be developed to help identify those students who may be at risk for violence so that support may be provided before they engage in violent or disruptive behavior.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall identify crisis counseling resources to train district staff in effective threat assessment, appropriate response techniques, and/or methods to directly help students cope with a crisis if it occurs.

Teacher-Based Advisory Program

The Board recognizes that a supportive, ongoing relationship with a caring adult can provide a student with valuable advice, enhance student-teacher relationships, and build the student's feelings of connectedness with the school. The Board authorizes the development of a teacher-based advisory program in which teachers advise students in such areas as academic planning, character development, conflict resolution, and self-esteem. Any teacher participating in this program shall be under the supervision of a credentialed school counselor as appropriate, receive related information and training, and be subject to this Board policy and law, including requirements pertaining to student confidentiality and nondiscrimination.

Regulation 6178: Career Technical Education

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 03/01/2008 | **Last Revised Date:** 09/01/2022 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 09/01/2022

Federal Grants for Career Technical Education (Perkins)

The district shall submit to the California Department of Education an application for a basic grant of the federal Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act. The application shall address the components specified in 20 USC 2354 and any additional requirements specified in the state plan developed pursuant to 20 USC 2342. (20 USC 2354)

The district shall conduct a needs assessment in accordance with 20 USC 2354, which shall be updated at least once every two years. The needs assessment shall be conducted in consultation with representatives of district career technical education (CTE) programs, postsecondary CTE programs, state or local workforce development boards and businesses, parents/guardians, students, and other specified stakeholders. (20 USC 2354)

To meet the needs identified in the needs assessment, the Superintendent or designee shall develop, coordinate, implement, or improve CTE programs that are of sufficient size, scope, and quality to be effective and that fulfill the following purposes: (20 USC 2355)

1. Provide career exploration and career development activities through an organized, systematic framework designed to aid students, including students in the middle grades, in making informed plans and decisions about future education and career opportunities and programs of study. Such activities shall occur before students enroll and while they are participating in a CTE program, and may include:
 - a. Introductory courses or activities focused on career exploration and career awareness, including non-traditional fields
 - b. Readily available career and labor market information, including information on occupational supply and demand, educational requirements, other information on careers aligned to economic priorities, and employment sectors
 - c. Programs and activities related to the development of student graduation and career plans
 - d. Career guidance and academic counselors who provide information on postsecondary education and career options
 - e. Any other activity that advances knowledge of career opportunities and assists students in making informed decisions about future education and employment goals, including nontraditional fields
 - f. Activities that provide students with strong experience in, and comprehensive understanding of, all aspects of an industry
2. Provide the skills necessary to pursue careers in high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand industry sectors or occupations
3. Integrate academic skills into CTE programs and programs of study to support participating students in meeting state academic standards
4. Provide professional development for teachers, school leaders, administrators, specialized instructional support personnel, guidance counselors, and/or paraprofessionals, which may include the types of activities listed in 20 USC 2355
5. Plan and carry out elements that support the implementation of CTE programs and programs of study and that result in increased student achievement. Such elements may include curriculum aligned with program requirements, sustainable relationships among community stakeholders, opportunities for students to participate in accelerated learning programs, equipment and instructional materials aligned with business and industry needs, and other activities specified in 20 USC 2355.

6. Develop and implement evaluations of the activities funded by the grant

The district's program shall provide activities to prepare special populations for high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand industry sectors or occupations that will lead to self-sufficiency. Special populations shall be provided with equal access to CTE programs and shall not be unlawfully discriminated against. Special populations include, but are not limited to, students with disabilities, students from economically disadvantaged families, pregnant and parenting students, out-of-work individuals, English learners, homeless students, foster youth, children of military families, and students preparing for nontraditional fields. Nontraditional fields include occupations or fields of work, including careers in computer science, technology, and other emerging high-skill occupations, for which individuals from one gender constitute less than 25 percent of the individuals employed in each such occupation or field of work. (20 USC 2302, 2354, 2373)

Upon written request from a nonprofit private school within the geographical area served by the district, the Superintendent or designee shall consult with private school representatives in a timely and meaningful manner and may provide for the participation of private school secondary students in the district's programs and activities funded pursuant to 20 USC 2301-2414. To the extent practicable, the Superintendent or designee shall also, upon request, permit participation of CTE teachers, administrators, and other personnel from private schools in the district's inservice and preservice professional development programs funded through such grants. (20 USC 2397)

Linked Learning Programs

The district shall offer one or more comprehensive, multi-year linked learning programs in grades 9-12 that are organized around a broad theme, interest area, or industry sector including, but not limited to, the industry sectors identified in model standards adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to Education Code 51226. The program shall provide all participating students with curriculum choices that prepare them for career entry and a full range of postsecondary options, including two-year and four-year colleges, apprenticeships, and formal employment training.

At a minimum, the district's linked learning program shall include:

1. An integrated core curriculum that meets the eligibility requirements for admission to the University of California (UC) and the California State University (CSU) and is delivered through project-based learning and other engaging instructional strategies that bring real-world context and relevance to the curriculum where broad themes, interest areas, and CTE are emphasized
2. An integrated technical core of a sequence of at least four related courses that may reflect CTE standards-based courses and that provide students with career skills, are aligned to academic principles, and fulfill academic core requirements described in Item #1 above to the extent possible
3. A series of work-based learning opportunities that begin with mentoring and job shadowing and evolve into intensive internships, school-based enterprises, or virtual apprenticeships
4. Support services, including supplemental instruction in reading and mathematics, that help students master the advanced academic and technical content that is necessary for success in college and career

Partnership Academies

The district shall operate one or more partnership academies as a school-within-a-school focused on a broad career theme. The program shall be available to students in grades 10-12, at least half of whom shall be students who are at risk of dropping out of school as indicated by three or more of the following criteria: (Education Code 54690-54691)

1. Past record of irregular attendance, with absence from school 20 percent or more of the school year
2. Past record of underachievement in which the student is at least one-third of a year behind the coursework for the respective grade level, or as demonstrated by credits achieved
3. Past record of low motivation or disinterest in the regular school program

4. Economic disadvantage
5. Scores below basic or far below basic on the mathematics or English language arts test of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress
6. A grade point average of 2.2 or below or the equivalent of a C minus

Ninth-grade teachers and counselors shall identify students eligible to participate in a partnership academy. Participating students shall be selected by academy staff from among those who have expressed an interest in the academy and whose parents/guardians have approved the student's participation. (Education Code 54695)

The district's program shall provide: (Education Code 54692)

1. During each regular school term, instruction in at least three academic subjects that:
 - a. Prepares students for a regular high school diploma
 - b. Where possible and appropriate, prepares students to meet subject requirements for admission to UC and CSU
 - c. Contributes to an understanding of the occupational field of the academy
2. CTE or science, technology, engineering, and mathematics courses offered at each grade level at the academy that are part of an occupational course sequence that targets comprehensive skills and meets the criteria specified in Education Code 54692
3. Classes that are block scheduled in a cluster whenever possible to provide flexibility to academy teachers and which may vary in number during grade 12
4. A mentor from the business community for students during grade 11
5. An employer-based internship or work experience that occurs during the summer following grade 11 or during grade 12
6. Additional motivational activities with private sector involvement to encourage academic and occupational preparation

Attendance in academy classes shall be limited to students enrolled in the academy. (Education Code 54692)

The Superintendent or designee shall establish an advisory committee consisting of individuals involved in academy operations, including district and school administrators, lead teachers, and representatives of the private sector. (Education Code 54692)

Apprenticeship Programs

The district shall offer high school and/or adult education students a program of orientation to apprenticeships that acquaints students with a broad range of career options, provides information regarding available apprenticeship programs, and provides classroom instructional job training which guides students to a registered apprenticeable occupation.

The district's program shall:

1. Introduce students to what they need to know in order to apply, test, and interview for acceptance into an apprenticeship program
2. Demonstrate the need for proficiency in reading and comprehension, mathematics, science, and technology
3. Emphasize the necessity to have the ability to communicate in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and numeration skills
4. Identify the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to enter and successfully complete an apprenticeship

program

5. Provide an orientation to a specific craft or trade or to an industry

The district may enter into an agreement with a local business, labor or management apprenticeship committee, and/or joint labor-management apprenticeship committee that has been approved by the Department of Industrial Relations' Division of Apprenticeship Standards to sponsor an apprenticeship program in order to develop and deliver related and supplemental instruction to students participating in a registered apprenticeship program. (Education Code 8150-8155; Labor Code 3074, 3075, 3078)

Regional Occupational Center/Program

The district shall operate and/or partner with a regional occupational center or program (ROC/P), established pursuant to Education Code 52335.12, which offers CTE courses, linked learning programs, partnership academies, and/or pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs as appropriate.

Occupational course sequences offered by ROC/P shall provide prerequisite courses needed to enter apprenticeship or postsecondary vocational certificate or degree programs, focus on occupations requiring comprehensive skills leading to high entry-level wages and/or the possibility of significant wage increases after a few years on the job, offer as many courses as possible that meet college admission requirements, and lead to attainment of an occupational skill certificate. (Education Code 52302)

Student Organizations

The district may provide support, including supplies, materials, activities, and advisor expenses, to student organizations which engage in activities that are integral to the CTE program and provide for the development of student leadership skills. However, no state or federal funds shall be used to pay students' membership dues, food or lodging expenses, out-of-state travel, or the cost of a social activity or assemblage.

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References

	Description
5 CCR 10070-10075	Work experience education
5 CCR 10080-10092	Community classrooms
5 CCR 10100-10111	Cooperative vocational education
5 CCR 11500-11508	Regional occupational centers and programs
5 CCR 11535-11538	Career technical education contracts with private postsecondary schools
5 CCR 11610-11611	Regional adult and vocational education councils
5 CCR 1635	Credit for work experience education
5 CCR 3051.14	Specially designed career technical education for students with disabilities
8 CCR 200-240	Apprenticeships
Ed. Code 1205	Classification of counties - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/afkpApjV7imvOjs09n6O4A==
Ed. Code 17078.70-17078.72	Career technical education facilities - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/SGsBKsvontcoplusWOY91ua3Q==
Ed. Code 33430-33432	Health science and medical technology grants
Ed. Code 35168	Inventory of equipment
Ed. Code 41540-41544	Targeted instructional improvement block grant
Ed. Code 44257.3	CTC recognition of study in linked learning teaching methods

Policy 7110: Facilities Master Plan

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 02/01/1996 | **Last Revised Date:** 09/01/2022 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 09/01/2022

The Governing Board recognizes the importance of long-range planning for school facilities in order to address changes in student enrollment, teacher housing needs, and the district's educational program. The Superintendent or designee shall develop, for Board approval, a master plan for district facilities which describes the district's anticipated short- and long-term facilities needs and priorities.

Plan Development

The district's facilities master plan shall be based on an assessment of the condition and adequacy of existing facilities, a projection of future enrollments, and alignment of facilities with the district's vision for the instructional program.

To solicit broad input into the planning process, the Superintendent or designee may establish a facilities advisory committee consisting of staff, parents/guardians, and business, local government, and other community representatives. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the public is informed of the need for construction and modernization of facilities and of the district's plans for facilities.

At least 45 days prior to completion of any facilities plan that relates to the potential expansion of existing school sites or the necessity to acquire additional school sites, the Superintendent or designee shall notify and provide copies of the plan or any relevant and available information to the planning commission or agency of the city or county with land use jurisdiction within the district. (Government Code 65352.2)

If the city or county commission or agency requests a meeting, the Superintendent or designee shall meet with the commission or agency within 15 days following the notification. Items that the parties may discuss at the meeting include, but are not limited to, methods of coordinating planning with proposed revitalization efforts and recreation and park programs, options for new school sites, methods of maximizing the safety of persons traveling to and from the site, and opportunities for financial assistance. (Government Code 65352.2)

The master plan shall be regularly reviewed and updated as necessary to reflect changes in the educational program, existing facilities, finances, or demographic data.

Plan Components

The facilities master plan shall include:

1. A statement of purpose, including district goals, philosophy, and related policies
2. A description of the planning process
3. Demographics of the community, such as economic trends, migration patterns, employment base, residential base, socioeconomic makeup, historical school enrollments, and inventory of physical resources and needs
4. A description of the educational program, such as grade-level organization, class size, staffing patterns, technology plans, special programs and support services, and other educational specifications
5. Analysis of the safety, adequacy, and equity of existing facilities and potential for expansion, including the adequacy of classrooms, school cafeterias and food preparation areas, physical activity areas, playgrounds, parking areas, and other school grounds
6. Site selection criteria and process
7. Development of a capital planning budget and identification of potential funding sources
8. Policy for reviewing and updating the plan

Planning shall ensure that school facilities meet the following minimum standards: (5 CCR 14001)

1. Are aligned with the district's educational goals and objectives
2. Provide for maximum site enrollment at school facilities
3. Are located on a site that meets California Department of Education standards as specified in 5 CCR 14010
4. Are designed for the environmental comfort and work efficiency of the occupants
5. Are designed to require a practical minimum of maintenance
6. Are designed to meet federal, state, and local statutory requirements for structure, fire, and public safety
7. Are designed and engineered with flexibility to accommodate future need

Plans for the design and construction of new school facilities shall also meet the standards described in 5 CCR 14030, the California Green Building Standards Code, Title 24, Part 11 of the California Code of Regulations ("CALGreen"), the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) pursuant to 42 USC 12101-12213, and any other requirements applicable to the funding source and type of project.

However, plans for residential housing, which includes any building used or intended to be used by the district as a personal residence by a teacher or employee of the district, is not considered to be a "school building" and does not require approval by the Department of General Services regarding earthquake safety and/or the ADA. (Education Code 17283.5; Government Code 4454.5)

To facilitate the efficient use of public resources when planning for new construction or modernization of school facilities, the district may consider designs that facilitate joint use of the facility with a local governmental agency, public postsecondary institution, or nonprofit organization.

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State References	Description
2 CCR 1859-1859.199	Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/nuvesXH7Af1QqDOmGTa3wA==
24 CCR 101	California Building Standards Code
5 CCR 14001	Minimum standards for school facilities
5 CCR 14010	Procedure for site acquisition
5 CCR 14030-14036	Standards, planning, and approval of school facilities
Ed. Code 16011	Long-range comprehensive master plan - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/inBIFyIkCBWVwUslshOCxSAA==
Ed. Code 16322	California Department of Education services - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/Kys0OUslshslshslshRcKslsh1FUOzDoww==
Ed. Code 17017.5	Approval of applications for projects - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/XplusZMetKGleiY7A8UyyjslshSQ==
Ed. Code 17070.10-17079.30	Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/fu4PsUtUAb4qYYOY9breHg==
Ed. Code 17251-17256	CDE powers concerning buildings and building sites - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/NwS3Om8nmJ04Yslsho0jqlt8A==
Ed. Code 17260-17268	Plans and specifications for school facilities - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/K93eKC5SslshBGM5azLopZgjjg==
Ed. Code 17280-17317	Field Act; approval of plans and supervision of construction

Policy 7150: Site Selection And Development

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 02/01/1999 | **Last Revised Date:** 09/01/2022 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 09/01/2022

The Governing Board believes that a school site should serve the district's educational needs in accordance with the district's master plan, as well as show potential for contributing to other community needs.

The Board recognizes the importance of community input in the site selection process. To this end, the Board will solicit community input whenever a school site is to be selected and shall provide public notice and hold public hearings in accordance with law.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a site selection process which complies with law and ensures that the best possible sites are acquired and developed in a cost-effective manner.

Before acquiring property for a new school or an addition to an existing school site, the Board, at a public hearing, shall either evaluate the property using state site selection standards specified in 5 CCR 14010 or, if a district advisory committee was appointed to evaluate the property, receive the committee's report of findings based on those standards. (Education Code 17211, 17251)

Environmental Impact Investigation for the Site Selection Process

The Superintendent or designee shall determine whether any proposed development project is subject to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and shall ensure compliance with this Act, including any web site posting requirements. When evaluating district projects, the CEQA guidelines shall be used.

Environmental review documents, including a draft environmental impact report, environmental impact report, negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration, and public notice of the preparation and availability of such documents, shall be posted on the district's web site. (Public Resources Code 21082.1, 21092, 21092.2)

Agricultural Land

If the proposed site is in an area designated in a city, county, or city and county general plan for agricultural use and zoned for agricultural production, the Board shall determine all of the following: (Education Code 17215.5)

1. That the district has notified and consulted with the city, county, or city and county within which the prospective site is to be located
2. That the Board has evaluated the final site selection based on all factors affecting the public interest and not limited to selection on the basis of the cost of the land
3. That the district shall attempt to minimize any public health and safety issues resulting from the neighboring agricultural uses that may affect students and employees at the site

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State References

Description

14 CCR 15000-15285	Implementation of California Environmental Quality Act of 1970
5 CCR 14001-14036	California Department of Education: school facilities construction
CCP. 1263.710-1263.770	Remediation of hazardous substances on property to be acquired by school district
Ed. Code 17006	Definition of self-certifying district - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/JyroSyXQrb4GnslshgVQuNx5A==

Regulation 7150: Site Selection And Development

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 11/01/2000 | Last Revised Date: 09/01/2022 | Last Reviewed Date: 09/01/2022

As part of the district's site selection process, the Superintendent or designee shall:

1. Meet with appropriate local government recreation and park authorities to review all possible methods of coordinating the planning, design, and construction of new school facilities and school sites or major additions to existing school facilities and recreation and park facilities in the community. (Education Code 35275)
2. Notify the appropriate local planning agency in writing and request its report and recommendations regarding the proposed site or proposed addition's conformity with the adopted general plan. (Government Code 65402; Public Resources Code 21151.2)
3. Have the site investigated by competent personnel with regard to population trends, transportation, water supply, waste disposal facilities, utilities, traffic hazards, surface drainage conditions, and other factors affecting initial and operating costs. This investigation shall include geological and soil engineering studies to preclude locating the school on terrain that has the potential for earthquake or other geologic hazard damage as specified in Government Code 65302. (Education Code 17212-17212.5)
4. Make a written request for information necessary or useful to assess and determine the safety of a proposed school site, or an addition to an existing school site, from a person, corporation, public utility, locally publicly owned utility, or governmental agency regarding pipelines, electric transmission and distribution lines, railroads, and storage tanks in accordance with law. (Education Code 17212.2, 17251)
5. Ensure that the site meets state standards for school site selection as specified in 5 CCR 14010-14012.
6. Ensure compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as required by law, including posting required notices to the district web site. (Public Resources Code 21000-21177)
7. Notify the California Department of Education in writing before acquiring title or leasing the site if the proposed site is within two miles of the air line of an airport runway or proposed runway. (Education Code 17215)
8. Conduct an air quality analysis pursuant to Health and Safety Code 44360 and Education Code 17213 if the proposed site is within 500 feet of the edge of the closest traffic lane of a freeway or other busy traffic corridor and determine that the air quality at the proposed site is such that neither short-term nor long-term exposure poses significant health risks to students. (Education Code 17213)

In the selection and development of projects funded pursuant to the School Facilities Program of 1998 (Proposition 1A) as contained in Education Code 17070.10-17077.10, the Superintendent or designee shall:

1. Determine whether the proposed site is free of toxic contamination by ensuring that a Phase I environmental assessment and/or preliminary endangerment assessment is conducted as required by law (Education Code 17213.1)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the preliminary endangerment assessment is made available for public review and comment in accordance with Education Code 17213.1.

2. Submit an annual summary report of expenditures to the State Allocation Board in accordance with law (Education Code 17076.10)
3. Include in the plans a hard-wired connection to a public switched telephone network or utilization of wireless technology (Education Code 17077.10)
4. Establish a participation goal of at least three percent, per year, of the overall dollar amount expended each year by the district for disabled veteran business enterprises (Education Code 17076.11)

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Bylaw 9100: Organization

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: 09/01/1992 | **Last Revised Date:** 06/23/2021

Each year, the Governing Board shall hold an annual organizational meeting. In any year in which a regular election of district Board members is conducted, the organizational meeting shall be held within 15 days following the second Friday in December after the regular election. During all other years, the meeting may be held on any date in December, but no later than December 20th. (Education Code 35143)

During any year in which a regular election is conducted, the Board, at the regular meeting held immediately prior to the second Friday in December, shall select the day and time of the organizational meeting. For any other year, the day and time of the organizational meeting shall be selected at the last regular meeting held immediately before the annual meeting. On behalf of the Board, the Superintendent shall notify the County Superintendent of Schools of the day and time selected. Within 15 days prior to the date of the annual meeting, the Superintendent shall notify in writing all Board members and members-elect of the date and time selected for the meeting. (Education Code 35143)

At this meeting the Board shall:

1. Elect a president and a clerk and/or vice president from its members
2. Appoint the Superintendent as secretary to the Board
3. Authorize signatures
4. Approve a schedule of regular meetings for the year and a Board governance calendar stating the time when the Board will address important governance matters
5. Designate Board representatives to serve on committees or commissions of the district, other public agencies, or organizations with which the district partners or collaborates
6. Review and/or consider resources that define and clarify the Board's governance and leadership roles and responsibilities including, but not limited to, governance standards, meeting protocols, Board rules and bylaws, and other Board development materials

Election of Officers

The Board shall each year elect its entire slate of officers.

The election of Board officers shall be conducted during an open session of the annual organizational meeting.
