



2024-2025

# ANNUAL NOTIFICATION

of the Rights and Responsibilities of Parents/Guardians and Students

The San Marcos Unified School District ("District") is required to annually notify parents/guardians and students of their rights and responsibilities, pursuant to California Education Code 48980.

An acknowledgment of receipt of this notice must be signed by the parent/guardian and returned to the school as required by Education Code 48982.

## **KEY TO ACRONYMS**

AR Administrative Regulations

BP Board Policy

BPC California Business and Professions Code

CC California Civil Code

CCR California Code of Regulations

CDE California Department of Education

CFR Code of Federal Regulations

CIF California Interscholastic Federation

COE County Office of Education EC California Education Code

FERPA Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

FPM Federal Monitoring Program GC California Government Code

HSC California Health and Safety Code
IEP Individualized Education Program

LC California Labor Code

LCAP Local Control and Accountability Plan

OCR Office for Civil Rights
PC California Penal Code

SMUSD San Marcos Unified School District

USC United States Code

VC California Vehicle Code

WIC California Welfare and Institutions Code

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## ACADEMIC PROGRAM

#### ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAM FEES

**Reference:** EC 48980, 52242

**BP/AR:** 6141.5 – Advanced Placement

Advanced placement (AP) courses provide rigorous academic coursework opportunities for high school students. The successful completion of AP courses and the subsequent AP examinations, which are conducted by the College Board and for which college credit is awarded, provide a cost-effective means for high school students to obtain college-level coursework experience.

Any economically disadvantaged student who is enrolled in an AP course may fill out a waiver at their school site to cover the costs of AP examination fees.

## **CALIFORNIA HEALTHY YOUTH ACT**

**Reference:** EC 48980, 51938

**BP/AR**: 6142.1 – Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction

The California Healthy Youth Act requires schools to offer integrated, comprehensive, medically accurate, and unbiased sexual health and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) prevention education at least once in middle school and once in high school. It is intended to ensure that students in grades 7-12 are provided with the knowledge and skills necessary to protect them from risks presented by sexually transmitted infections, unintended pregnancy, sexual harassment, sexual assault, sexual abuse, and human trafficking and to have healthy, positive, and safe relationships and behaviors. It also promotes students' understanding of sexuality as a normal part of human development and their development of healthy attitudes and behaviors concerning adolescent growth and development, body image, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, relationships, marriage, and family.

Parents have the right to:

- 1. Inspect the written and audiovisual educational materials used in the comprehensive sexual health and HIV prevention education.
- 2. Request in writing that their child not receive comprehensive sexual health or HIV prevention education, or participate in research on student health behaviors and risks. When a parent does not permit their child to receive such education, the child may not be subject to disciplinary action, academic penalty, or other sanction.
- 3. Request a copy of EC 51930-51939, the California Healthy Youth Act.
- 4. Be informed whether comprehensive sexual health or HIV prevention education will be taught by district personnel or outside consultants. When District chooses to use outside consultants or to hold an assembly with guest speakers to teach comprehensive sexual health or HIV prevention education, be informed of:
  - a. The date of the instruction
  - b. The name of the organization or affiliation of each guest speaker
  - c. The right to receive a copy of EC 51933, 51934, and 51938
- 5. Receive notice by mail or another commonly used method of notification no fewer than 14 days before the instruction is delivered if arrangements for the instruction are made after the beginning of the school year.

#### CALIFORNIA PROFICIENCY PROGRAM

Reference: 5 CCR 11523; EC 48412

**BP/AR**: 6146.2 – Certificate of Proficiency/High School Equivalency

The California Proficiency Program (CPP) utilizes the GED and HiSET subtests for language arts and mathematics to measure proficiency. Eligible students may take the CPP, which is offered in English and Spanish, with paperpencil at a testing center or take it on a computer at a testing center or at home, online, with live proctoring.

HiSET is the first test in the CCP. Upon successfully passing each of the three subtests, eligible students will be awarded a California Certificate of Proficiency, which holds the same legal equivalent as a California-issued high school diploma. After passing the CPP, the student may choose to remain in high school or exit with parent permission to begin attending higher education or start their career.

Once an individual has taken the CPP, passed both language arts and mathematics subtests, and exited high school, they may choose to take the remaining High School Equivalency (HSE) subtests for science and social studies to earn their California HSE Certificate, opening even more doors than the Certificate of Proficiency alone. The CPP is referred to as a program because it acts as a stepping stone for individuals that may choose to earn their HSE Certificate.

A person is eligible to take a CCP test if they are currently enrolled in high school and either:

- 16 years of age or older, or
- They have completed one year of enrollment in grade 10, or
- They will have completed one year of enrollment in grade 10 at the end of the semester during which the next exam is administered.

For more information, visit the CDE website at <a href="https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/cp.asp">https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/cp.asp</a>.

## **COLLEGE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

**Reference:** EC 48980, 51229

**BP/AR**: 6143 – Courses of Study

For students who wish to continue their education after high school, the State of California offers community colleges, California State Universities (CSU), and Universities of California (UC).

California community colleges are required to admit any California resident or nonresident possessing a high school diploma or the equivalent, or anyone over the age of 18 without a high school diploma or the equivalent who is capable of profiting from the instruction offered.

To qualify for admission into a UC/CSU school, a student must, at minimum, complete 15 college-preparatory courses (referred to as the "A-G" courses) with a letter grade of "C" or better. Students may also meet the A-G requirement by completing college courses or earning certain scores on various acceptable exams. Applicants must have graduated from high school and have received a high school diploma. Some schools have higher standards or additional admission criteria, such as a minimum grade point average (GPA). Students may also transfer to a CSU or UC after attending community college.

For more information, please refer to the following websites.

- <a href="https://hs-articulation.ucop.edu/agcourselist">https://hs-articulation.ucop.edu/agcourselist</a> allows search of high school courses that have been certified by the UC as satisfying the requirements for admission to the UC/CSU.
- <u>www.ccco.edu</u> offers links to all the community colleges in California.
- <u>www.assist.org</u> provides course transfer information for students planning to transfer from a California Community College to a CSU or UC.
- <a href="https://www2.calstate.edu/">https://www2.calstate.edu/</a> offers assistance to students and their families on the CSU system, including the ability to apply online, and links to all CSU campuses.
- <u>www.universityofcalifornia.edu</u> offers information regarding admissions, online application, and links to all UC campuses.

Students will have the opportunity to meet with their assigned school counselor to get help with choosing courses that will meet college admission requirements and/or enroll in career technical education (CTE) courses. A CTE program of study involves a multiyear sequence of courses that integrates core academic knowledge with technical and occupational knowledge to provide students with a pathway to postsecondary education and careers. For more information about CTE visit: www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct.

#### **COURSE PROSPECTUS**

**Reference:** EC 49063, 49091.14 **BP/AR:** 5125 – Student Records

At least once every year each school site compiles a prospectus (or course catalog) that provides the curriculum, including titles, descriptions, and instructional aims of every course offered by its schools. To review the prospectus or to obtain a copy of it, contact your students school site. The school may charge for the prospectus an amount not to exceed the cost of duplication.

## COURSE SELECTION AND CAREER COUNSELING

Reference: EC 221.5

**BP/AR**: 6164.2 – Guidance/Counseling Services

A school counselor, teacher, instructor, administrator, or aide shall not offer vocational or school program guidance to a student or, in counseling a student, differentiate career, vocational, or higher education opportunities, on the basis of the student's sex. Any school personnel acting in a career counseling or course selection capacity to a student shall explore with the student the possibility of careers, or courses leading to careers, that are nontraditional for that student's sex. Parents of students in grades 7-12 are encouraged to participate in such counseling sessions and decisions. Contact your students school site for details.

#### EXEMPTION FROM HARMFUL OR DESTRUCTIVE USE OF ANIMALS

Reference: EC 32255 et seq.

**BP/AR**: 5145.8 – Refusal to Harm or Destroy Animals

Any student with a moral objection to dissecting or otherwise harming or destroying an animal, or any part thereof, shall notify the teacher of the objection. Objections shall be substantiated by a note from the student's parent. An opt-out form is provided within this notice.

When a student chooses to refrain from participation in an educational project involving the harmful or destructive use of animals, the teacher may work with the student to develop an agree upon an alternate project, if such project is possible, so that the student may still obtain the knowledge, information, or experience required for the course. The alternative project shall require a comparable time and effort invested by the student – it shall not be more difficult than the original education project as a means to penalize the student. Students choosing an alternative educational project shall pass all exams for the course in order to receive credit; however, if the test requires the harmful or destructive use of animals, the student may, similarly, request an alternative test. No student shall be discriminated against based upon their decision to exercise these rights.

## **EXEMPTION FROM HEALTH INSTRUCTION**

Reference: EC 51240

**BP/AR:** 6142.8 – Comprehensive Health Education

The District is required to teach certain health-related topics. If any part of a school's instruction in health conflicts with the religious training, beliefs, or personal and moral convictions of the student's family, the student's parent may submit a written request to the principal or designee to excuse the student from that part of the instruction. An optout form is provided within this notice.

## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Reference: EC 48980, 51225.3

**BP/AR**: 6146.1 – High School Graduation Requirements; 6178 – Career Technical Education

Students should, upon graduation, have opportunities that prepare them for postsecondary education and career success. To that end, requirements have been designed to promote choices, whether career or academic, to give every student a springboard to a successful life. To obtain a diploma of graduation, students must complete the course of study prescribed by the School District at the high school where they are enrolled.

The District offers career technical education (CTE) courses that are aligned to the CTE model curriculum standards and framework adopted by the State Board of Education in order to allow students an alternative means to meet one of the statewide course requirements. All CTE opportunities are offered without regard to any actual or perceived characteristic protected from discrimination by law, and the District shall ensure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in the District's CTE program.

For more information about high school graduation requirements, including a list of CTE courses offered by the District, and how each requirement satisfies or does not satisfy the subject matter requirements for admission into the CSU or UC schools, BP 6146.1 – <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/Policy/PolicyListing.aspx?S=36031363">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/Policy/PolicyListing.aspx?S=36031363</a>, CTE - <a href="https://www.smusd.org/departments/career\_technical\_education\_cte">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/Policy/PolicyListing.aspx?S=36031363</a>, CTE - <a href="https://www.smusd.org/departments/career\_technical\_education\_cte">https://www.smusd.org/departments/career\_technical\_education\_cte</a> or check the UC Doorways website.

#### PARTICIPATION IN STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS

**Reference:** 5 CCR 852; EC 60615

**BP/AR**: 6162.51 – State Academic Achievement Tests

The California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) is a system that includes a number of assessments that are administered each spring to students in specified grade levels. These tests were created specifically to gauge each student's performance and progress in English language arts, mathematics, and science. The assessments measure the skills called for by the standards, including the ability to write clearly, think critically and solve problems. CAASPP tests are given statewide and therefore provide an opportunity to measure the skills of all students against the same academic standards.

The CAASPP system consists of the following assessments:

- The Smarter Balanced summative assessments for English language arts and mathematics in grades 3-8 and 11.
- The California Science Tests (CAST) in grades 5, 8, and once in grades 10-12.
- The California Alternate Assessments (CAA) in English language arts, mathematics, and science, administered to students with significant cognitive disabilities who are unable to take the Smarter Balanced summative assessments and the CAST.

Parents may annually submit to the school a written request to excuse their child from any or all parts of the CAASPP assessments for the school year, and such a request shall be granted by the Superintendent or designee. If a parent submits an exemption request after testing has begun, any test(s) completed before the request is submitted will be scored and the results reported to the parent and included in the student's records.

#### STUDENT FINANCIAL AID FOR COLLEGE

Reference: EC 51225.8

**BP/AR**: 6143 – Course of Study

Filing financial aid applications is the first step toward college success and helps eligible students qualify for federal, state, and campus-based aid as well as some private scholarships. Under state law, schools are to ensure that students, prior to entering 12th grade, receive information on how to properly complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the California Dream Act Application (CADAA) to help determine a student's eligibility for financial aid. This information will be provided in a timely manner as financial aid is awarded in order of submission according to deadlines, on a first-come, first-served basis. The information will include, but is not limited to, the following:

- 1. Types of documentation and personal information required
- 2. Explanation of definitions used in the application
- 3. Eligibility requirements for student financial aid
- 4. Application timelines and submission deadlines
- 5. Importance of submitting applications early

SMUSD will ensure that each 12th grade student completes and submits a FAFSA or CADAA to the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC). The parent or student if 18 years of age or older may opt out of the requirement by filling out and submitting an opt-out form. If the District determines that a student is unable to comply with the requirement, the District will exempt the parent or student and complete and submit an opt-out form on the student's behalf. Students should only complete one of the applications based on their citizenship and residency status. All personal information, including immigration status, of students and their families will be protected according to state and federal privacy laws and regulations.

## TRANSFER OF COURSEWORK AND CREDITS; EXEMPTIONS

**Reference:** EC 49069.5, 51225.1, 51225.2, 51225.31

**<u>BP/AR</u>**: 6146.1 – High School Graduation Requirements; 6173 – Education for Homeless Children; 6173.1 – Education for Foster Youth; 6173.2 – Education of Children of Military Families; 6173.3 – Education for Juvenile Court School Students; 6175 – Migrant Education Program

For the purpose of this notification an "eligible student" is a foster youth, student experiencing homelessness, former juvenile court school student, child of a military family, migrant student, or newcomer student.

## Coursework and Credits

Eligible students transferring out of a school shall receive an official transcript which reflects full and partial credits and grades earned by the student, including:

- 1. A determination of the days of enrollment and/or seat time, if applicable, for all full and partial credits earned based on any measure of full or partial coursework being satisfactorily completed
- 2. Separate listings for credits and grades earned at each school attended so it is clear where credits and grades were earned
- 3. A complete record of the student's seat time, including both period attendance and days of enrollment.

If the new school has knowledge that the transcript from the transferring school may not include certain credits or grades, the new school shall contact the prior school within two business days to request that the full or partial credits be issued. The prior school shall then issue appropriate credits and provide all academic and other records to the new school within two business days of the request.

Schools shall accept and issue full credit for any coursework that an eligible student has satisfactorily completed while attending another public school, a juvenile court school, a charter school, a school in a country other than the United States, or a nonpublic, nonsectarian school. Schools shall not require an eligible student to retake any course that the student has already satisfactorily completed or to retake the portion of a course that the student partially completed unless the school, in consultation with the student's education rights holder, finds that the student is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate from high school. When partial credit is awarded in a particular course, the eligible student shall be enrolled in the same or equivalent course, if applicable, so that the student may continue and complete the entire course.

An eligible student shall not be prevented from retaking or taking a course to meet the eligibility requirements for admission to the California State University or the University of California.

## Exemption from Board-adopted Coursework

In order to graduate from high school, all students must complete the graduation course requirements that are specified in EC 51225.3 ("statewide course requirements"), as well as any other course requirements adopted by the Board ("Board-adopted coursework"). An eligible student who transfers into the District or between schools any time after completing the second year of high school, or newcomer student who is in the third or fourth year of high school shall be exempted from any Board-adopted coursework that are in addition to statewide course requirements, unless it has been determined that the student is reasonably able to complete the additional requirements in time to graduate by the end of the fourth year of high school. If not exempted, the student shall be reevaluated for eligibility the following academic year based on the student's course completion status at that time.

Eligible students shall receive notification of the availability of the exemption and whether they qualify for it. If an eligible student was not properly notified of an exemption, declined the exemption, or was not previously exempted, the student or educational rights holder may request the exemption and the student shall be exempt. Any such student who at one time qualified for the exemption may request the exemption even if the student is no longer eligible.

An eligible student also has the right to remain for a fifth year to complete either the statewide course requirements or the District's graduation requirements.

Any complaint that the District has not complied with requirements, as specified in EC 51225.1 and 51225.2, may be filed in accordance with the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures.

Additionally, for a student with a disability, eligibility for an exemption from Board-adopted coursework requires that the student's IEP provides all of the following:

- 1. The student's IEP team has deemed the student eligible to take the state alternate assessment as described in EC 60640(k).
- 2. The student is required to complete state standards aligned coursework to meet the statewide course requirements specified in EC 51225.3.

## ENGLISH LEARNER PROGRAM

#### ADIVSORY COMMITTEES

Reference: 5 CCR 11308; EC 52063, 52174, 52176

**BP/AR**: 6174 – Education for English Learners

## **English Learner Advisory Committee**

A school-level English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC) shall be established when there are more than 20 English learners at the school. Parents of English learners, elected by parents of English learners at the school, shall constitute committee membership in at least the same percentage as English learners represent of the total number of students in the school. The school may designate for this purpose an existing school-level advisory committee provided that it meets these criteria for committee membership.

The ELAC shall be responsible for assisting in the development of a schoolwide needs assessment, recommending ways to make parents aware of the importance of regular school attendance, and advising the principal and school staff in the development of a detailed master plan for English learners for the individual school and submitting the plan to the Governing Board for consideration of inclusion in the School Plan for Student Achievement.

Where applicable, the ELAC shall have the opportunity to elect at least one member to the District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC).

# District English Learner Advisory Committee

When the District has more than 50 English learners, the Superintendent or designee shall establish a District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC), the majority of whose membership shall be composed of parents of English learners who are not employed by the District. Alternatively, the District may use a subcommittee of an existing districtwide advisory committee on which parents of English learners have membership in at least the same percentage as English learners represent of the total number of students in the District.

The DELAC shall advise the Governing Board on at least the following tasks:

- 1. Developing a district master plan for education programs and services for English learners, taking into consideration the school site master plans.
- 2. Conducting a districtwide needs assessment on a school-by-school basis.
- 3. Establishing a district program, goals, and objectives for programs and services for English learners.
- 4. Developing a plan to ensure compliance with applicable teacher and/or teacher aide requirements.
- 5. Reviewing and commenting on the District's reclassification procedures.
- 6. Reviewing and commenting on the required written parental notifications.
- 7. Reviewing and commenting on the development or annual update of the LCAP if the DELAC acts as the ELAC pursuant to EC 52063 and 52062.

In order to assist the advisory committee in carrying out its responsibilities, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that DELAC and ELAC committee members receive appropriate training and materials. This training shall be planned in full consultation with the members.

## **IDENTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENTS**

**Reference:** 5 CCR 11307, 11518.5; EC 52164.1 **BP/AR:** 6174 – Education for English Learners

Upon enrollment in school, each student's primary language shall be determined through the use of a home language survey. Any student who is identified as having a primary language other than English as determined by the home language survey, and who has not previously been identified as an English learner by a California public school or for whom there is no record of results from an administration of an English language proficiency test, shall be assessed for English proficiency using the Initial English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC). The parents of such students shall be notified in writing prior to the administration of the ELPAC.

Administration of the Initial ELPAC, including the use of variations and accommodations in test administration when authorized, shall be conducted in accordance with test publisher instructions and 5 CCR 11518.5-11518.37. Any student with a disability shall take the assessment with the supports and accommodations delineated in the student's IEP or Section 504 plan. If the student is unable to participate in the assessment or a portion of the assessment even with appropriate accommodations, an alternative assessment for English language proficiency shall be administered.

Each year after a student is identified as an English learner and until the student is redesignated as English proficient, the Summative ELPAC shall be administered to the student during a four-month period after January 1 as determined by the CDE.

The following are CDE's parent guides:

- *Understanding the ELPAC* <a href="https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/documents/elpacpgtu.pdf">https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/documents/elpacpgtu.pdf</a>
- *Understanding the Alternate ELPAC* <a href="https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ep/documents/altelpacpgtu.pdf">https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ep/documents/altelpacpgtu.pdf</a>

## LANGUAGE ACQUISITION PROGRAM

**Reference:** 20 USC 6312; 5 CCR 11909, 11310; EC 310

**BP/AR:** 6142.2 – World Language Instruction; 6174 – Education for English Learners

## **Language Acquisition Programs**

Language acquisition programs are educational programs designed to ensure English acquisition as rapidly and as effectively as possible, and that provide instruction to students on the state-adopted academic content standards, including the English language development (ELD) standards. SMUSD offers the following research-based language acquisition programs that lead to grade level proficiency and academic achievement in both English and other languages.

At a minimum, the district shall offer a structured English immersion program which includes designated and integrated English language development. In the structured English immersion program, nearly all of the classroom instruction shall be provided in English, but with the curriculum and presentation designed for students who are learning English. (Education Code 305-306; 5 CCR 11309)

For the purpose of determining the amount of instruction to be conducted in English in the structured English immersion program, "nearly all" means that all classroom instruction shall be conducted in English except for clarification, explanation, and support as needed.

In addition, language acquisition programs offered by the district may include, but are not limited to, the following: (Education Code 305-306)

- 1. A dual-language immersion program that provides integrated language learning and academic instruction for native speakers of English and native speakers of another language, with the goals of high academic achievement, first and second language proficiency, and cross-cultural understanding
- 2. A transitional or developmental program for English learners that provides literacy and academic instruction in English and a student's native language and that enables an English learner to achieve English proficiency and academic mastery of subject matter content and higher order thinking skills, including critical thinking, in order to meet state academic content standards

Whenever a student is identified as an English learner based on the results of the ELPAC, the student's parents/guardians may choose a language acquisition program that best suits their child. To the extent possible, any language acquisition program requested by the parents/guardians of 30 or more students at the school or by the parents/guardians of 20 or more students at any grade level shall be offered by the school. (Education Code 310; 5 CCR 11311)

## Sufficient Resources

To effectively implement a language acquisition program, the District will allocate enough resources to support the success of the program in attaining its articulated goals. Sufficient resources include, but are not limited to certificated teachers with the appropriate authorizations, necessary instructional resources pertinent professional development for the proposed program, and opportunities for parent and community engagement to support the proposed program goals.

#### Staff Qualifications and Training

The district shall provide effective professional development to teachers (including teachers in classroom settings that are not the settings of language instruction educational programs), administrators, and other school or community-based organization personnel to improve the instruction and assessment of English learners and enhance staff's ability to understand and use curricula, assessment, and instructional strategies for English learners. Such professional development shall be of sufficient intensity and duration to produce a positive and lasting impact on teachers' performance in the classroom. (20 USC 6825)

Staff development shall also address the sociocultural needs of English learners and provide opportunities for teachers to engage in supportive, collaborative learning communities.

# **EQUITY AND ACCESS**

## **EDUCATIONAL EQUITY: IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP STATUS**

Reference: EC 234.7

<u>BP/AR</u>: 0410 – Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities; 5145.13 – Response to Immigration Enforcement

All students have the right to a free public education regardless of their immigration status or religious beliefs. Consistent with state and federal laws and the requirements of the California Office of the Attorney General, the San Marcos Unified School District:

- 1. Prohibits unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying in the District's programs and activities on the basis of a student's citizenship or immigration status.
- 2. Resolves and investigates allegations of unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying in accordance with its Uniform Complaint Procedures.
- 3. Prohibits the collection of information or documents regarding the citizenship or immigration status of students or their family members unless required to administer a state or federal program.
- 4. Ensures resources and data collected by the district shall not be used, directly or by others, to compile a list, registry, or database of individuals based on national origin, immigration status, religion, or other category of individual characteristics protected against unlawful discrimination.
- 5. Reports to the Governing Board in a timely manner any requests to gain information or access to a school site by an officer or employee of a law enforcement agency for immigration enforcement purposes.
- 6. Only contacts child protective services if district personnel are unable to arrange for the timely care of the student by the person(s) designated in the emergency contact information maintained by the school or identified on a caregiver's authorization affidavit.

The following "know your rights" information regarding immigration-enforcement actions is provided by the California Attorney General.

## **Know Your Educational Rights**

Your child has the right to a free public education

- All children have a right to equal access to free public education, regardless of their or their parents' immigration status.
- All children in California:
  - Have the right to a free public education.
  - Must be enrolled in school if they are between 6 and 18 years old.
  - Have the right to attend safe, secure, and peaceful schools.
  - Have a right to be in a public school learning environment free from discrimination, harassment, bullying, violence, and intimidation.
  - Have equal opportunity to participate in any program or activity offered by the school without discrimination.

## Information required for school enrollment

- Schools must accept a variety of documents from the student's parent to demonstrate proof of child's age or residency.
- Information about citizenship/immigration status is never needed for school enrollment. A Social Security number is never needed for school enrollment.

#### Confidentiality of personal information

- Federal and state laws protect student education records and personal information. These laws generally require that schools get written consent from parents before releasing student information, unless the release of information is for educational purposes, is already public, or is in response to a court order or subpoena.
- Some schools collect and provide publicly basic student "directory information." If so, the school district must
  provide parents with written notice of the directory information policy and provide the option to refuse release of
  your child's information.

## Family safety plans if you are detained or deported

• You can update your child's emergency contact information, including secondary contacts, to identify a trusted adult guardian who can care for your child if you are detained or deported.

• You can complete a Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit or a Petition for Appointment of Temporary Guardian of the Person to give a trusted adult the authority to make educational and medical decisions for your child.

## Right to file a complaint

Your child has the right to report a hate crime or file a complaint to the school district if they are discriminated
against, harassed, intimidated or bullied because of their actual or perceived nationality, ethnicity, or immigration
status.

## Checklist for Immigrant Students and Families Attending Public Schools

You do not have to share the following information with school officials:

- You do not have to share information, including passports or visas, regarding the immigration status of students, parents, guardians, or other family members.
- You do not have to provide Social Security numbers (SSN) or cards.
  - When completing the "Free and Reduced-Price Meals" form, only provide the last four digits of the SSN of the adult household member who signs the application.
  - If the family meets the income eligibility requirements and no adult household member has a SSN, your child still qualifies. Check the "No SSN" box on forms where applicable, to ensure that applications are complete.
  - If any household member participates in CalFresh, CalWORKs (California Work Opportunity and Responsibility for Kids), or FDPIR (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations), no adult household member needs to provide the last four digits of their SSN to qualify the student for free or reduced-price meals at school.
- When providing information for proof of a student's residency or age, you do not have to use documents that could reveal information related to immigration status.

Take steps to protect student information:

- Ask for the school's written privacy policies regarding student information.
- Review the school's policy for "directory information"—which allows for public release of basic student information—and consider whether to opt out of releasing of that information.

Take steps to prepare for situations where one or more parents or guardians are detained or deported:

- Develop and keep in a safe place a "Family Safety Plan" that includes the following information:
  - Name of a trusted adult to care for your child if no parent or guardian can.
  - Emergency phone numbers and instructions on where to find important documents (birth certificates, passports, Social Security cards, doctor contact information, etc.).

https://www.lirs.org/assets/2474/bna\_beinformed\_safetyplanningtoolkit.pdf (example plan)

• Make sure that your child's school always has current emergency contact information, including alternative contacts if no parent is available.

For more information on resources for responding to immigration enforcement activities at California schools, or to file a complaint, please contact: Bureau of Children's Justice, California Attorney General's Office, P.O. Box 944255, Sacramento, CA 94244-2550, (800) 952-5225, BCJ@doj.ca.gov, https://oag.ca.gov/bcj/complaint.

## MARRIED, PREGNANT, AND PARENTING STUDENTS

**Reference:** 34 CFR 106.40; EC 221.51, 222, 222.5, 46015, 48205, 48980

**BP/AR**: 5146 – Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students

The responsibilities related to marriage, pregnancy, or parenting and related responsibilities may disrupt a student's education, placing them at higher risk of dropping out of school. SMUSD supports married, pregnant, and parenting students to continue their education by providing them with the opportunity to succeed academically while protecting their health and the health of their children in the following ways:

- 1. The District shall not adopt any rule concerning a student's actual or potential parental, family, or marital status that treats students differently on the basis of sex.
- 2. The District shall not exclude or deny any student from an educational program or activity, including any class or extracurricular activity, solely on the basis of the student's pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or related recovery; the District shall treat pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or related recovery in the same manner and under the same policies as any other temporary disabling condition
- 3. The District may require a pregnant or parenting student to obtain the certification of a physician or nurse practitioner that the student is physically and emotionally able to participate, or continue to participate, in the regular education program or activity.

- 4. Pregnant and parenting students shall not be required to participate in a pregnant minor program or alternative education program; students who voluntarily participate in an alternative education program shall be given educational programs, activities, and courses equal to those they would have been in if participating in the regular education program.
- 5. The District shall provide reasonable accommodations to a lactating student on the school campus to express breast milk, breast-feed an infant child, or address other needs related to breast-feeding. The student shall not be penalized academically and shall be provided with the opportunity to make up any work missed as a result of the student's use of the reasonable accommodations during the school day. Reasonable accommodations include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Access to a private and secure room, other than a restroom, to express breast milk or breast-feed an infant
  - b. Permission to bring onto a school campus a breast pump and any other equipment used to express breast milk.
  - c. Access to a power source for a breast pump or any other equipment used to express breast milk.
  - d. Access to a place to store expressed breast milk safely.
  - e. A reasonable amount of time to accommodate the student's need to express breast milk or breastfeed an infant child.
- 6. A pregnant or parenting student shall be excused from school when the absence is due to the illness or medical appointment of the student's child, including absences to care for a sick child, for which the school shall not require a note from a doctor.
- 7. During the school year in which the birth of the student's infant takes place, a pregnant or parenting student is entitled to eight weeks of parental leave, which the student may take before childbirth if there is a medical necessity and after childbirth to care for and bond with the infant. If deemed medically necessary by the student's physician, parental leave may be extended beyond eight weeks. Specific to parental leave:
  - a. No student shall be required to take all or part of parental leave.
  - b. The District's Supervisor of Attendance shall ensure that absences from school, as a result of parental leave, are excused until the student is able to return to the regular school program or an alternative education program.
  - c. Upon return to school after taking parental leave, a pregnant or parenting student is entitled to opportunities to make up work missed during the leave, including, but not limited to, makeup work plans and reenrollment in courses.
  - d. The pregnant or parenting student may return to the school and the course of study in which the student was enrolled before taking parental leave. A student who chooses not to return to the school in which the student was enrolled before taking the leave is entitled to alternative education options offered by the District.
  - e. When necessary to complete the district-established high school graduation requirements, a pregnant or parenting student may remain enrolled in school for a fifth year of instruction, unless it has been determined that the student is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate by the end of the fourth year of high school.

Any complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of pregnancy or marital or parental status, district noncompliance with the requirements related to parental leave, or district noncompliance with the requirement to provide reasonable accommodations for lactating students shall be addressed through the Uniform Complaint Procedures.

#### NONDISCRIMINATION IN PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Reference: 5 CCR 4900 et seq.; EC 200 et seq.

**BP/AR:** 0410 – Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities

SMUSD is committed to providing equal opportunity for all individuals in its programs and activities. District programs, activities, and practices shall be free from unlawful discrimination, including discrimination against an individual or group based on race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, ethnicity, age, religion, political affiliations, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information; a perception of one or more of such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

All individuals shall be treated equitably in the receipt of district and school services. The District assures that lack of English language skills shall not be a barrier to admission or participation in district programs. When 15 percent

or more of a school's students speak a single primary language other than English, all notices, reports, statements, or records sent to parents by the school shall be translated into that other language; parents may respond in English or the primary language.

District programs and facilities, viewed in their entirety, shall be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and any implementing standards and/or regulations. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district provides appropriate auxiliary aids and services when necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal opportunity to participate in or enjoy the benefits of a service, program, or activity. These aids and services may include, but are not limited to, qualified interpreters or readers, assistive listening devices, assistive technologies or other modifications to increase accessibility to district and school web sites, notetakers, written materials, taped text, and Braille or large-print materials. Individuals with disabilities shall notify the Superintendent or principal if they have a disability that requires special assistance or services. Reasonable notification should be given prior to a school-sponsored function, program, or meeting.

All allegations of unlawful discrimination in district programs and activities shall be investigated and resolved through the Uniform Complaint Procedures.

## NONDISCRIMINATION IN CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

**Reference:** U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition (FNS) Instructions 113-1

**BP/AR**: 3555 – Nutrition Program Compliance

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (*e.g.*, Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

- 1. **Mail:** U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
- 2. **Fax:** (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
- 3. **Email:** Program.Intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

## RIGHTS OF FOSTER YOUTH

Reference: EC 48853.5

**BP/AR:** 6173.1 – Education for Foster Youth

A foster child means any of the following:

- 1. A child who has been removed from their home pursuant to WIC 309.
- 2. A child who is the subject of a petition filed under WIC 300 or 602, whether or not the child has been removed from their home.
- 3. A dependent child of the court of an Indian tribe, consortium of tribes, or tribal organization who is the subject of a petition filed in the tribal court pursuant to the tribal court's jurisdiction in accordance with the tribe's law.
- 4. A child who is the subject of a voluntary placement agreement, as defined in WIC 11400(p).

The following is a brief summary of a foster youth's rights:

1. Right to attend either the "school of origin" or the current school of residence. The school of origin can be the school attended when the student first entered foster care, the school most recently attended, or any school the foster youth attended in the last 15 months. If any dispute arises regarding the request of a foster youth to remain

in the school of origin, the foster youth has the right to remain in the school of origin pending resolution of the dispute.

- 2. Right to immediate enrollment even if the foster youth is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment (*e.g.*, proof of residency, birth certificate, immunization, transcript), does not have clothing normally required by the school (*e.g.*, school uniforms), or has outstanding fees, fines, textbooks, or other monies due to the school last attended.
- 3. Right to have the foster youth's educational rights holder, attorney, and county social worker notified when the foster youth is undergoing any expulsion or other disciplinary proceeding, including a manifestation determination review for a foster youth who is a student with a disability, prior to a change in the foster youth's placement.
- 4. Right of the foster youth not to have grades lowered for any absence from school that is due to a verified court appearance or related court-ordered activity, or to a decision by a court or placement agency to change the student's placement, in which case, the grades must be calculated as of the date the student left school.
- 5. Right to have full and partial credits earned to be issued and accepted.
- 6. Right to priority access to an intersession program. If the foster youth moves during the intersession period, the foster youth's educational rights holder shall determine which intercession program to attend.
- 7. Right to file a complaint through the Uniform Complaint Procedures if there is an allegation that the district has not complied with requirements regarding the education of foster youth.

To review the standardized notice of foster youth rights, visit <a href="https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/pf/fy/fyedrights.asp">https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/pf/fy/fyedrights.asp</a>. For assistance, contact the district's foster youth liaison (Christi Frias, Director Student Services, 760-752-1220, <a href="mailto:christine.frias@smusd.org">christine.frias@smusd.org</a>).

#### RIGHTS OF HOMELESS YOUTH

Reference: 42 USC 11432; EC 48852.5

**BP/AR**: 6173 – Education for Homeless Children

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act for Homeless Children and Youth entitles all homeless school-aged children to the same free and appropriate public education that is provided to non-homeless students. A homeless youth is defined as a child who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and includes children and youth who: are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; may be living in motels, hotels, trailer parkers, or shelters; have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; are living in cars, parks, public spaces abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; or are migratory children who qualify as homeless because of similar living circumstances. To ensure that each school identifies all homeless and unaccompanied youths enrolled at the school, a housing questionnaire is administered at least once a year. The questionnaire can be made available in the primary language of the student's parent or unaccompanied youth upon request.

The following is a brief summary of a homeless youth's rights:

- 1. Right to attend either the "school of origin" or the current school of residence, and not be required to attend a separate school for homeless children or youth. The school of origin can be the school attended when the student had permanent housing, the school most recently attended, or any school the homeless youth attended in the last 15 months. Transportation may be provided.
- 2. Right to immediate enrollment even if the homeless youth is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment (*e.g.*, proof of residency, birth certificate, immunization, transcript), does not have clothing normally required by the school (e.g., school uniforms), or has outstanding fees, fines, textbooks, or other monies due to the school last attended.
- 3. Right to automatically qualify for child nutrition programs.
- 4. Right to have full and partial credits earned to be issued and accepted.
- 5. Right to priority access to an intersession program. If the homeless youth moves during the intersession period, the homeless youth's educational rights holder shall determine which intercession program to attend.
- 6. Right to not be stigmatized by school personnel.
- 7. Right to file a complaint through the Uniform Complaint Procedures if there is an allegation that the district has not complied with requirements regarding the education of homeless youth.

Unaccompanied youth who meet the definition of homeless youth are also eligible for rights and services under the McKinney-Vento Act. An unaccompanied youth is defined as a minor who is not in the physical custody of a parent.

The district's homeless youth liaison is (Christi Frias, Director Student Services) and can be reached at 760-752-1220, <a href="mailto:christine.frias@smusd.org">christine.frias@smusd.org</a>). Notice of the educational rights of homeless youth and resources available to persons experiencing homelessness are posted on the District and school websites.

#### SAFE PLACE TO LEARN ACT

Reference: EC 234.1

**BP/AR**: 5131.2 – Bullying; 5145.3 – Nondiscrimination/Harassment

SMUSD is committed to providing a welcoming, safe, and supportive school environment that allows all students equal access to and opportunities in the district's academic, extracurricular, and other educational support programs, services, and activities. As such, it prohibits unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying, targeted at any student by anyone, based on the student's actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, ethnicity, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. This policy applies to all acts constituting discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying related to school activity or school attendance occurring within a district school, and to acts which occur off campus or outside of school-related or school-sponsored activities but which may have an impact or create a hostile environment at school.

The district also prohibits any form of retaliation against any individual who reports or participates in the reporting of unlawful discrimination, files or participates in the filing of a complaint, or investigates or participates in the investigation of a complaint or report alleging unlawful discrimination. Retaliation complaints are investigated and resolved in the same manner as a discrimination complaint.

Students who feel that they have been subjected to unlawful discrimination described above, or who observe any such incident, are strongly encouraged to immediately contact the UCP compliance officer, principal, or any other staff member. In addition, students and parents may request to meet with the UCP compliance officer to determine how best to accommodate or resolve concerns that may arise from the district's implementation of its nondiscrimination policies. To the extent possible, the district will address any individual student's interests and concerns in private.

Regardless of whether a complainant complies with the writing, timeline, and/or other formal filing requirements, all complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, will be investigated and prompt action taken to stop the discrimination, prevent recurrence, and address any continuing effect on students.

For a list of statewide resources, including community-based organizations, that provide support to youth, and their families, who have been subjected to school-based discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying, please visit the following CDE webpage: <a href="https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss/se/bullyingprev.asp">https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss/se/bullyingprev.asp</a>.

## **SECTION 504**

**Reference:** 34 CFR 104.32

BP/AR: 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is a federal law which prohibits discrimination against persons with a disability. The district provides a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) to all students regardless of the nature or severity of their disability. In addition, qualified students with disabilities are provided an equal opportunity to participate in programs and activities that are integral components of the district's basic education program, including, but not limited to, extracurricular athletics, interscholastic sports, and/or other nonacademic activities.

To qualify for Section 504 protections, the student must have a mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activity. For the purpose of implementing Section 504, the following terms and phrases are defined below:

1. *Physical impairment* means any physiological disorder or condition, cosmetic disfigurement, or anatomical loss affecting one or more body systems, such as neurological, musculoskeletal, special sense organs, respiratory (including speech organs), cardiovascular, reproductive, digestive, genito-urinary, immune, hemic, lymphatic, skin, and endocrine.

- 2. *Mental impairment* means any mental or psychological disorder, such as intellectual disability, organic brain syndrome, emotional or mental illness, and specific learning disability.
- 3. Substantially limits major life activities means limiting a person's ability to perform functions, as compared to most people in the general population, such as caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, seeing, hearing, eating, sleeping, walking, standing, lifting, bending, speaking, breathing, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, writing, communicating, and working. Major life activities also include major bodily functions such as functions of the immune system, special sense organs and skin, normal cell growth, digestive, bowel, bladder, neurological, brain, respiratory, circulatory, cardiovascular, endocrine, hemic, lymphatic, musculoskeletal, and reproductive functions, as well as the operation of an individual organ within a body system.

The district has a responsibility to identify, evaluate, and if eligible, provide students with disabilities the same opportunity to benefit from education programs, services, or activities as provided to their non-disabled peers. Additionally, a parent, teacher, other school employee, student success team, or community agency may refer a student to the principal or Section 504 Coordinator for consideration as a student with a disability under Section 504. If, upon evaluation, a student is determined to be a student with a disability who is eligible for regular or special education and related aids or services, the team will develop a written Section 504 Service Plan specifying the accommodations and supplementary aids and services necessary to ensure that the student receives FAPE.

For additional information about the rights of parents of eligible students, or questions regarding the identification, evaluation, and eligibility of Section 504 protections, please contact (Christi Frias, Director Student Services, 760-752-1220, <a href="mailto:christine.frias@smusd.org">christine.frias@smusd.org</a>).

#### SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Reference: 34 CFR 106.8; 5 CCR 4917; EC 231.5, 48900.2, 48980

**BP/AR**: 5145.7 – Sexual Harassment; 5145.71 – Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures

The Governing Board is committed to maintaining a safe school environment that is free from harassment and discrimination. Sexual harassment of students at school or at school-sponsored or school-related activities is prohibited. Retaliatory behavior or action against any person who reports, files a complaint, or testifies about, or otherwise supports a complainant in alleging sexual harassment is also prohibited. Any student who engages in sexual harassment or sexual violence at school or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity will be subject to disciplinary action. For students in grades 4 through 12, disciplinary action may include suspension and/or expulsion, provided that in imposing such discipline the entire circumstances of the incident(s) will be taken into account. Any employee found to have engaged in sexual harassment or sexual violence toward any student will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, in accordance with law and the applicable collective bargaining agreement.

The following individual has been designated as the District's Title IX Coordinator: (Christi Frias, Director Student Services, 760-752-1220, <a href="mailto:christine.frias@smusd.org">christine.frias@smusd.org</a>). The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the district's efforts to comply with Title IX sexual harassment complaint procedures, as well as to oversee, investigate, and/or resolve sexual harassment complaints processed under the Uniform Complaint Procedures.

#### **Instructional Program**

As a preventative measure, students will receive age-appropriate instruction and information on sexual harassment, including:

- 1. What acts and behavior constitute sexual harassment, including the fact that sexual harassment could occur between people of the same sex and could involve sexual violence.
- 2. A clear message that students do not have to endure sexual harassment under any circumstance.
- 3. Encouragement to report observed instances of sexual harassment even when the victim of the harassment has not complained.
- 4. A clear message that student safety is the district's primary concern, and that any separate rule violation involving an alleged victim or any other person reporting a sexual harassment incident will be addressed separately and will not affect the manner in which the sexual harassment complaint will be received, investigated, or resolved.
- 5. A clear message that, regardless of a complainant's noncompliance with the writing, timeline, or other formal filing requirements, every sexual harassment allegation that involves a student, whether as the complainant, respondent, or victim of the harassment, will be investigated and action will be taken to respond to harassment, prevent recurrence, and address any continuing effect on students.
- 6. Information about the district's procedure for investigating complaints and the person(s) to whom a report of sexual harassment should be made.
- 7. Information about the rights of students and parents to file a civil or criminal complaint, as applicable, including

- the right to file a civil or criminal complaint while the district investigation of a sexual harassment complaint continues.
- 8. A clear message that, when needed, the district will implement supportive measures to ensure a safe school environment for a student who is the complainant or victim of sexual harassment and/or other students during an investigation.

#### **Defining Sexual Harassment**

Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, unwanted requests for sexual favors or other unwanted verbal, visual or physical conduct of a sexual nature made against another person of the same or opposite sex, in the educational setting, under any of the following conditions:

- 1. Submission to the conduct is explicitly or implicitly made a term or condition of a student's academic status or progress.
- 2. Submission to or rejection of the conduct by a student is used as the basis for academic decisions affecting the student.
- 3. The conduct has the purpose or effect of having a negative impact on the student's academic performance or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment.
- 4. Submission to or rejection of the conduct by the student is used as the basis for any decision affecting the student regarding benefits and services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through any district program or activity.

Any prohibited conduct that occurs off campus or outside of school-related or school-sponsored programs or activities will be regarded as sexual harassment in violation of district policy if it has a continuing effect on or creates a hostile school environment for the complainant or victim of the conduct.

For purposes of applying the complaint procedures specified in Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, sexual harassment is defined as any of the following forms of conduct that occurs in an education program or activity in which a district school exercises substantial control over the context and respondent:

- 1. A district employee conditioning the provision of a district aid, benefit, or service on the student's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.
- 2. Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a student equal access to the district's education program or activity.
- 3. Sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking as defined in 20 USC 1092 or 34 USC 12291.

## **Examples of Sexual Harassment**

Examples of types of conduct which are prohibited and which may constitute sexual harassment under state and/or federal law, in accordance with the definitions above, include, but are not limited to:

- 1. Unwelcome leering, sexual flirtations, or propositions
- 2. Unwelcome sexual slurs, epithets, threats, verbal abuse, derogatory comments, or sexually degrading descriptions
- 3. Graphic verbal comments about an individual's body or overly personal conversation
- 4. Sexual jokes, derogatory posters, notes, stories, cartoons, drawings, pictures, obscene gestures, or computergenerated images of a sexual nature
- 5. Spreading sexual rumors
- 6. Teasing or sexual remarks about students enrolled in a predominantly single-sex class
- 7. Massaging, grabbing, fondling, stroking, or brushing the body
- 8. Touching an individual's body or clothes in a sexual way
- 9. Impeding or blocking movements or any physical interference with school activities when directed at an individual on the basis of sex
- 10. Displaying sexually suggestive objects
- 11. Sexual assault, sexual battery, or sexual coercion
- 12. Electronic communications containing comments, words, or images described above

## Reporting and Investigating Allegations of Sexual Harassment

Students who feel that they are being or have been sexually harassed on school grounds or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity by another student, an employee, or a third party or who have experienced off-campus sexual harassment that has a continuing effect on campus are strongly encouraged to report the incident to their teacher, the principal, the district's Title IX Coordinator, or any other available school employee. Any employee who receives a report or observes an incident of sexual harassment must notify the Title IX Coordinator within one school day. The report must be made whether the alleged victim files a formal complaint or requests confidentiality.

Once notified, the Title IX Coordinator will determine whether the complaint or allegation is to be addressed through AR 5145.71 – Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures or BP/AR 1323.3 – Uniform Complaint Procedures.

Because a complaint or allegation that is dismissed or denied under the Title IX complaint procedure may still be subject to consideration under state law, the Title IX Coordinator will ensure that any implementation of AR 5145.71 concurrently meets the requirements of BP/AR 1312.3. The Title IX Coordinator will offer supportive measures to the complainant and respondent, as deemed appropriate under the circumstances. If, upon the conclusion of an investigation, sexual harassment is determined to have occurred, the Title IX Coordinator, or designee in consultation with the Coordinator, will take prompt action to stop the sexual harassment, prevent recurrence, implement remedies, and address any continuing effects.

Records of all reported cases of sexual harassment are maintained in accordance with law and District policies and regulations to enable the District to monitor, address and prevent repetitive harassing behavior in its schools.

To review the full text of the **District's** board policy and administrative regulation on sexual harassment, please go to <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/Policy/PolicyListing.aspx?S=36031363">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/Policy/PolicyListing.aspx?S=36031363</a>. A copy of the written policy on sexual harassment is included in school and District publications and posted in the main administrative offices and other areas where rules, regulations, procedures, and standards of conduct are provided. Additionally, each school site serving students in grades 9 through 12 has the written policy posted in each bathroom and locker room. A copy of the policy, as it pertains to students, is provided as part of any orientation program conducted for new and continuing students. Staff members also receive a copy of the policy at the beginning of the school year or at the time of hire.

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION

Reference: EC 56301

**BP/AR**: 6164.4 – Identification and Evaluation of Individuals for Special Education

The School District is dedicated to identifying, locating, and assessing all students within the District from 3 to 21 years of age who may have disabilities, and providing appropriate support and/or related services to those students determined by an educational evaluation. Additionally, a parent, teachers, and appropriate professionals may refer a student who is believed to have a disabling condition that may require special education programs or services by contacting <a href="mailto:specialed@smusd.org">specialed@smusd.org</a>, 760-752-1223.

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) defines "children with disabilities" to mean children with intellectual disabilities, hearing impairments including deafness, speech or language impairments, visual impairments including blindness, emotional disturbance, orthopedic impairments, autism, traumatic brain injury, other health impairments or specific learning disabilities, and who by reason thereof, need special education and related services.

The District is committed to providing eligible students with disabilities a free and appropriate public education consistent with federal and state laws, including those students enrolled in private schools and those who are experiencing homelessness, are wards of the state, and are highly mobile students with exceptional needs,

Services are provided based on the individual needs of the student. After a team, comprised of educational professionals and the parent(s), determines a students' unique needs and considers a variety of factors, an individual education program (IEP) is created. An IEP is a legal document that describes how the District provides services to a student with exceptional needs.

#### STUDENT FEES

**Reference:** 5 CCR 4622; EC 49013

**<u>BP/AR</u>**: 0460 – Local Control and Accountability Plan; 1312.3 – Uniform Complaint Procedures; 3260 – Fees and Charges

Students shall not be required to pay a fee, deposit, or other charge for participation in an educational activity which constitutes an integral fundamental part of the District's educational program, including curricular and extracurricular activities. The District shall ensure that books, materials, equipment, supplies, and other resources necessary for student participation in the district's educational program are made available to students at no cost.

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

The District, its schools and programs may solicit voluntary donations or participate in fundraising activities. However, no course credit or privileges related to educational activities shall be offered or awarded to a student in exchange for voluntary donations or participation in fundraising activities by or on behalf of the student. The District

also shall not remove or threaten to remove from a student any course credit or privileges related to educational activities, or otherwise discriminate against the student, due to a lack of voluntary donations or participation in fundraising activities by or on behalf of the student.

Any complaints of unlawful imposition of fees, deposits, or other charges will be investigated and resolved through the Uniform Complaint Procedures. If, upon investigation, the District finds merit in the complaint, the Superintendent or designee will recommend, and the Board will adopt, an appropriate remedy to be provided to all affected students and parents in accordance with 5 CCR 4600.

## TITLE IX: SEX EQUITY IN EDUCATION ACT

**Reference:** 34 CFR 106.8; EC 221.61, 221.8

**BP/AR**: 5145.7 – Sexual Harassment; 5145.71 – Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is one of several federal and state anti-discrimination laws that ensure equality in educational programs and activities that receive federal funding. Specifically, Title IX protects students, employees, applicants for admission and employment, and other persons from all forms of sex discrimination, including discrimination based on gender identify or failure to conform to stereotypical notions of masculinity or femininity. All students (as well as other persons) are protected by Title IX – regardless of their sex, gender, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, race, or national origin – in all aspects of the District's educational programs and activities. California law further provides that students may not be discriminated against based on their parental, family, or marital status, and pregnant and parenting students may not be excluded from participating in any educational program, including extracurricular activities, for which they qualify. The essence of Title IX is to ensure that students (as well as other persons) are not excluded, separated, denied benefits to, or otherwise treated differently on the basis of sex unless expressly authorized to do so under state or federal law in areas including, but not limited to: recruitment, admissions, and counseling; financial assistance; athletics; sex-based harassment; treatment of pregnant and parenting students; discipline; single-sex education; and employment.

Under Title IX, students have the right to:

- 1. Fair and equitable treatment that is free from discrimination based on sex.
- 2. Not be required to take and/or denied enrollment in a course based on the student's gender, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation.
- 3. Not be subjected to separate or different rules of behavior, sanctions, or other treatment, such as discriminatory discipline policies and practices, based on sex.
- 4. Be provided with an equitable opportunity to participate in all academic extracurricular activities, including athletics.
- 5. Inquire of the school's athletic director as to the athletic opportunities offered by the school.
- 6. Apply for athletic scholarships.
- 7. Receive equitable treatment and benefits in the provision of all the following: equipment and supplies; scheduling of games and practices; transportation and daily allowances; access to tutoring; coaching; locker rooms; practice and competitive facilities; medical and training facilities and services; and publicity.
- 8. Access to a gender equity coordinator to answer questions regarding gender equity laws.
- 9. Contact the California Department of Education (CDE) and the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) to access information on gender equity laws.
- 10. File a confidential discrimination complaint with the United States Office of Civil Rights (OCR) or CDE if there is belief that discrimination, or unequal treatment, on the basis of sex has occurred.
- 11. Pursue civil remedies as a result of discrimination.
- 12. Be protected against retaliation for filing a discrimination complaint.

The District has designated the following personnel to address questions and complaints regarding its nondiscrimination policies specific to Title IX: (Christi Frias, Director Student Services, 760-752-1220, <a href="mailto:christine.frias@smusd.org">christine.frias@smusd.org</a>). Any complaint alleging noncompliance with Title IX will be investigated and resolved through the Uniform Complaint Procedures. For more information regarding Title IX, please visit <a href="https://www.smusd.org/departments/student services/t">https://www.smusd.org/departments/student services/t</a> i t l e i x. Additional resources can be found at:

United States Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights

Lyndon Baines Johnson Department of Education Building 400 Maryland Avenue, SW

Washington, DC 20202-1100

Telephone: (800) 421-3481

Fax: (202) 453-6012 TDD: (800) 877-8339 Email: OCR@ed.gov

OCR Complaint Form: <a href="https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/complaintintro.html">https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/complaintintro.html</a>

## California Department of Education

Office of Equal Opportunity 1430 N Street, Room 4206 Sacramento, CA 95814 Telephone: (916) 445-9174 Fax: (916) 324-9818

Email: oeoinfo@cde.ca.gov

Complaint Procedures: <a href="https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/eo/complaint.asp">https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/eo/complaint.asp</a>

## California Interscholastic Federation

4658 Duckhorn Drive Sacramento, CA 95834 Telephone: (916) 239-4477 Fax (916) 239-4478

Website on Equity: https://www.cifstate.org/governance/equity/index

## UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Reference: 5 CCR 4600-4670; EC 33315

**BP/AR:** 1312.3 – Uniform Complaint Procedures

SMUSD has the primary responsibility to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations, including those related to unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying against any protected group, and all programs and activities that are subject to the Uniform Complaint Procedures (UCP). The UCP shall be used to investigate and resolve complaints regarding the following programs and activities:

- Accommodations for Pregnant and Parenting Pupils
- Adult Education
- After School Education and Safety
- Agricultural Career Technical Education
- Career Technical and Technical Education and Career Technical and Technical Training Programs
- Child Care and Development Programs
- Compensatory Education
- Consolidated Categorical Aid Programs
- Course Periods without Educational Content
- Discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying against any protected group as identified under EC 200 and 220 and GC 11135, including any actual or perceived characteristic as set forth in PC 422.55, or on the basis of a person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics, in any program or activity conducted by an educational institution, as defined in EC 210.3, that is funded directly by, or that receives or benefits from, any state financial assistance
- Educational and graduation requirements for pupils in foster care, pupils who are homeless, pupils from military families, pupils formerly in Juvenile Court now enrolled in a school district, pupils who are migratory, and pupils participating in a newcomer program
- Every Student Succeeds Act
- Local Control and Accountability Plans (LCAP)
- Migrant Education
- Physical Education Instructional Minutes
- Reasonable Accommodations to a Lactating Pupil
- Regional Occupational Centers and Programs
- School Plans for Student Achievement
- School site Councils
- State Preschool
- State Preschool Health and Safety Issues in LEAs Exempt from Licensing
- Student Fees

• And any other state or federal educational program the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SSPI) or designee deems appropriate.

## Filing a UCP Complaint

A UCP complaint shall be filed no later than one year from the date the alleged violation occurred. For complaints relating to the LCAP, the date of the alleged violation is the date when the reviewing authority approves the LCAP or annual update that was adopted by the District.

A student enrolled in any public school shall not be required to pay a student fee for participation in an educational activity. A student fee complaint may be filed with the principal or the Superintendent or designee.

A student fee or LCAP complaint may be filed anonymously, that is, without an identifying signature, if the complainant provides evidence or information leading to evidence to support an allegation of noncompliance.

Copies of the UCP process are available free of charge. To obtain a copy of the complaint form and review additional UCP-related information, go to https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IpIZ8fSm3U2p85Pd7nu7ziOzl6AB2UR /view.

#### Compliance Officer

Complaints within the scope of the UCP are to be filed with the person responsible for processing complaints: (Tiffany Campbell, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, Educational Services, 255 Pico Avenue, Suite 150, San Marcos, CA 92069, (760) 752-1231, <a href="eva.jenkins@smusd.org">eva.jenkins@smusd.org</a> (subject line: UCP). The compliance officer is knowledgeable about the laws and programs that they are assigned to investigate.

#### Notification

The District's UCP policy and regulations are posted in all schools and offices, including staff lounges and student government meeting rooms. Written notification of the District's UCP is provided annually to students and their parents, employees, district and school advisory committee members, appropriate private school officials, and other interested parties.

The District also posts the standardized notice of the educational rights of foster youth, homeless students, former juvenile court students now enrolled in the District, children of military families, migrant students, and newcomer students, as specified in EC 48853, 48853.5, 49069.5, 51225.1, and 51225.2, and the complaint process on its website.

The District has a notice posted to identify appropriate subjects of state preschool health and safety issues in each California state preschool program classroom in each school notifying parents, guardians, students, and teachers of (1) the health and safety requirements under Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations that apply to California state preschool programs pursuant to HSC 1596.7925, and (2) the location at which to obtain a form to file a complaint.

## **Appeal**

A complainant may appeal the District's investigation report to the CDE by filing a written appeal within 30 calendar days after receiving the District's decision. The appeal must be accompanied by a copy of the originally filed complaint and a copy of the investigation report for that complaint. A complainant may also pursue civil law remedies, including, but not limited to, injunctions, restraining orders, or other remedies or orders that may be available under state or federal discrimination, harassment, intimidation or bullying laws, if applicable.

#### WILLIAMS COMPLAINT

**Reference:** 5 CCR 4600-4687; EC 35186

**BP/AR**: 1312.4 – Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures

There should be sufficient textbooks and instructional materials that are in good and usable condition. That means each student, including an English learner, must have a textbook and/or instructional materials to use in class and to take home.

School facilities must be clean, safe, and maintained in good repair so as not to pose an emergency or urgent threat to the health or safety of students or staff.

There should be no teacher vacancies or misassignments. There should be a teacher assigned to each class and not a series of substitutes or other temporary teachers. The teacher should have the proper credential to teach the class, including the certification required to teach English learners, if present.

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

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

A complaint alleging that any of the above conditions is not being met shall be addressed through the District's Williams uniform complaint procedures as required by law. Although complainants do not need to use the District's the to file a complaint, complaint form may be obtained https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/Policy/PolicyListing.aspx?S=36031363. Because a complaint may be filed anonymously, the complaint form shall allow the complainant to indicate whether a response is requested – only a complainant who identifies themselves is entitled to a response. A complaint shall be filed with the principal or designee.

## **HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

## ACCESS TO STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

*Reference*: EC 49428

BP/AR: 5141.5 - Mental Health

A child's mental health is essential to their social and cognitive development, and to learning healthy social skills and how to cope when there are problems. Mentally healthy children have a positive quality of life and can function well at home, in school, and in their communities. Mental health problems that are not recognized and treated in childhood can lead to severe consequences, including exhibiting serious behavior problems, at higher risk of dropping out of school, and increased risk of engaging in substance abuse, criminal behavior, and other risk-taking behaviors. As such, the District is committed to promoting the well-being of its students by ensuring that, at least twice a year, students and parents are each provided with information on how to initiate access to available student mental health services at school and/or in the community. <a href="https://www.smusd.org/mentalhealth">https://www.smusd.org/mentalhealth</a>.

#### ADMINISTRATION OF PRESCRIBED MEDICATION

**Reference:** EC 48980, 49423, 49423.1, 49480

**BP/AR:** 5141.21 – Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions

The parent of a student on a continuing medication regimen for a nonepisodic condition, shall inform the school nurse or other designated certificated school employee of the medication being taken, the current dosage, and the name of the supervising physician. With the consent of the student's parent, the school nurse may communicate with the physician and may counsel school personnel regarding the possible effects of the drug on the child's physical, intellectual, and social behavior, as well as possible behavioral signs and symptoms of adverse side effects, omission, or overdose.

The school nurse or other designated school employees may assist students who need to take prescribed medication during school hours only upon written request of both the physician/surgeon and the parent. The written request from the physician/surgeon shall include details as to the name of the medication, method, amount, and time schedules by which the medication is to be taken and a written statement from the parent indicating the desire that the District assist the student in matters set forth in the statement of the physician/surgeon.

In order for a student to carry and self-administer prescription auto-injectable epinephrine or inhaled asthma medication at school, the parent must provide a written statement consenting to the self-administration and a written statement from the physician/surgeon or physician assistant detailing the medication, method, amount, and time schedules by which the medication is to be taken, and confirming that the student is able to self-administer auto-injectable epinephrine or inhaled asthma medication. The parent's written statement must provide a release for the school nurse or other designated school personnel to consult with the student's health care provider regarding any questions that may arise with regard to the medication, and releasing the District and school personnel from civil liability if the self-administering student suffers an adverse reaction as a result of self-administering medication. A student may be subject to disciplinary action if the student uses auto-injectable epinephrine or inhaled asthma medication in a manner other than as prescribed.

All written requests shall be provided on an annual basis or when the medication, dosage, frequency of administration, or reason for administration changes. For requests regarding inhaled asthma medication, the District will also accept the written statement from a physician/surgeon who is contracted with a prepaid health plan operating lawfully under

the laws of Mexico that is licensed as a health care service plan in California as long as the statement is provided in both English and Spanish and includes the name and contact information of the physician/surgeon.

#### **CONCUSSION AND HEAD INJURIES**

Reference: EC 49475

A concussion is a kind of brain injury. It can be caused by a bump or hit to the head, or by a blow to another part of the body with the force that shakes the head. Concussions can appear in any sport, and can look differently in each person. Most concussions get better with rest and over 90% of athletes fully recover. However, all concussions should be considered serious. If not recognized and managed the right way, they may result in problems including brain damage and even death.

Most concussions occur without being knocked out. Signs and symptoms of concussion may show up right after the injury or can take hours to appear. Even though a traditional brain scan (e.g., MRI or CT) may be "normal", the brain has still been injured. If an athlete suffers another concussion before completely recovering from the first one, this can lead to prolonged recovery (weeks to months), or even to severe brain swelling (Second Impact Syndrome) with devastating consequences. There is an increasing concern that head impact exposure and recurrent concussions may contribute to long-term neurological problems. One goal of concussion education is to prevent a too early return to play so that serious brain damage can be prevented.

An athlete who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury in an athletic activity shall be immediately removed from the athletic activity for the remainder of the day, and shall not be permitted to return to the athletic activity until the athlete is evaluated by and receives written clearance to return to the athletic activity from a licensed health care provider. If the licensed health care provider determines that the athlete sustained a concussion or a head injury, the athlete shall also complete a graduated return-to-play protocol of no less than seven days in duration under the supervision of a licensed health care provider.

Signs observed by teammates, parents and coaches include:

- Looks dizzy
- Looks spaced out
- Confused about plays
- Forgets plays
- Is unsure of game, score, or opponent
- Moves clumsily or awkwardly
- Answers questions slowly

- Slurred speech
- Shows a change in personality or way of acting
- Can't recall events before or after the injury
- Seizures or "has a fit"
- Any change in typical behavior or personality
- Passes out

Symptoms may include one or more of the following:

- Headaches
- "Pressure in head"
- Nausea or throws up
- Neck pain
- Has trouble standing or walking
- Blurred, double, or fuzzy vision
- Bothered by light or noise
- Feeling sluggish or slowed down

- Feeling foggy or groggy
- Drowsiness
- Change in sleep patterns
- Loss of memory
- "Don't feel right"
- Tired or low energy
- Sadness
- Nervousness or feeling on edge

- Irritability
- More emotional
- Confused
- Concentration or memory problems
- Repeating the same question/ comment

Student-athletes and parents are required to review and sign a Concussion Information Sheet as part of their annual sports packet.

## **CONSENT TO PHYSICAL EXAMINATION**

Reference: 20 USC 1232h; EC 48980, 49451

**BP/AR**: 5141.3 – Health Examinations

Periodic health examinations of students may lead to early detection and treatment of conditions that impact learning. These examinations may also help determine whether the student may qualify for services or accommodations pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or Section 504. However, a parent may annually file with the principal a written statement withholding consent to the physical examination of their child. Any such student shall be exempt from any physical examination but shall be subject to exclusion from attendance when contagious or infectious disease is reasonably suspected.

#### ENTRANCE HEALTH SCREENING

Reference: HSC 124100, 124105

**BP/AR**: 5141.32 – Health Screening for School Entry

State law requires that the parents of each student provide the school within 90 days after entrance to first grade documentary proof that the student has received a health screening examination by a doctor within the prior 18 months. The parent may submit a waiver on a form developed by the California Department of Health Care Services indicating that they do not want or are unable to obtain a health screening. If the waiver indicates that the parent is unable to obtain the services, the reasons should be included in the waiver. Students may be excluded, beginning the 91st day after the student's entrance into the first grade, up to 5 days from school for failing to comply or not providing a waiver. Free health screening is available for eligible students through the <a href="Child Health and Disability Prevention Program">Child Health and Disability Prevention Program</a>.

## **HPV IMMUNIZATION**

Reference: EC 48980.4

**BP/AR**: 5141.31 – Immunizations

Students are advised to adhere to current immunization guidelines, as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Academy of Family Physicians, regarding full human papillomavirus (HPV) immunization before admission or advancement to the 8th grade of any private or public school. HPV vaccination can prevent over 90 percent of cancers caused by HPV. HPV vaccines are very safe, and scientific research shows that the benefits of HPV vaccination far outweigh the potential risks.

#### **IMMUNIZATIONS**

**Reference:** 17 CCR 6040, 6055; EC 48216, 48980, 49403; HSC 120372

**BP/AR**: 5141.31 – Immunizations

To protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases, students must be immunized against certain communicable diseases. Students may not be admitted into any elementary or middle school, preschool, or childcare and development program for the first time nor be admitted or advanced into grade 7 unless they have met the immunization requirements. The parent's guide to "Required Immunizations for School Entry" from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) website can be accessed by clicking on the title (link).

Medical exemptions may only be submitted using the standardized form developed by CDPH. To request such an exemption, parents are to first register for a California Immunization Registry – Medical Exemption (CAIR-ME) account at <a href="https://cair.cdph.ca.gov/exemptions/home">https://cair.cdph.ca.gov/exemptions/home</a> to obtain a medical exemption request number before going to their child's doctor.

If an enrolled student who was previously believed to be in compliance with immunization requirements is subsequently discovered to not be in compliance with requirements for unconditional or conditional admission, the student's parent will receive notice that evidence of proper immunization or an appropriate exemption must be provided within 10 school days. A student not fully immunized may be temporarily excluded from a school or other institution when that child has been exposed to a specified disease and whose documentary proof of immunization status does not show proof of immunization against a communicable disease.

The District will cooperate with state and local public health officials in measures necessary for the prevention and control of communicable diseases in school age children. The District may use any funds, property, or personnel and may permit an authorized health care provider to administer an immunizing agent to any student whose parents have consented in writing. When feasible, the California Immunization Registry – a secure, confidential, statewide computerized immunization information system for California residents – may be accessed to track immunization records, reduce missed opportunities, and help fully immunize students of all ages.

#### MEDICAL OR HOSPITAL SERVICES

**Reference:** EC 48980, 49471, 49472

**BP/AR**: 5143 – Insurance

All students should have health and accident insurance protection to ensure that they receive needed health care services in the event of illness or injury.

## On School Grounds and School-sponsored Activities – EC 49472

The District may provide, or make available, medical or hospital service, or both, through nonprofit membership corporations defraying the cost of medical service and/or hospital service, or through group, blanket or individual policies of accident insurance or through policies of liability insurance from authorized insurers, for injuries to students arising out of accidents on campus during a regular day school or while being transported by the District to and from school or other place of instruction, or while at a school-sponsored activity and while being transported to, from and between such places. No student shall be compelled to accept such service without the student's consent, or if a minor, without the consent of the student's parent. The cost of the insurance or membership may be paid from the funds of the District, or by the insured student or the student's parent.

## Excursions and Field Trips – EC 35331

The District shall provide, or make available, medical and/or hospital service for students injured while participating in any school-sponsored excursion or field trip. The cost incurred by the District may be paid from the funds of the District, or by the insured student or the student's parent.

## **Athletic Activities** – EC 49471

The District does not provide or make available medical and/or hospital services for students injured while participating in athletic activities.

#### **Insurance for Athletes** – EC 32220-32224

Under state law, the District is required to ensure that all members of school athletic teams have accidental injury insurance that covers medical and hospital expenses. This insurance requirement can be met by the District offering insurance or other health benefits that cover medical and hospital expenses. Some students may qualify to enroll in no-cost or low-cost local, state, or federally sponsored health programs. Information about these programs may be obtained by calling:

- California Healthy Families at 1-800-880-5305 or visiting <a href="https://www.benefits.gov/benefit/1596">https://www.benefits.gov/benefit/1596</a>
- Medi-Cal at 1-800-300-1506 or visiting <a href="https://www.coveredca.com/health/medi-cal/children/">https://www.coveredca.com/health/medi-cal/children/</a>
- Student Insurance at 310-826-5688 or email sirep@studentinsuranceusa.com

Members of school athletic teams include members of any extramural athletic team, school bands, orchestras, cheerleaders and their assistants, pom and dance team, team managers and their assistants, and any student selected by the school or student body organization to directly assist in the conduct of the athletic event.

#### ORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT

Reference: EC 49452.8

**BP/AR:** 5141.32 – Health Screening for School Entry

Even though they fall out, baby teeth are very important. Children need healthy baby teeth to eat, talk, smile, and feel good about themselves. Children with cavities may have pain, difficulty eating, stop smiling, and have problems paying attention and learning at school. To help children stay healthy, parents are advised of the following:

- Children need to be taken to the dentist. Dental check-ups can help keep a child's mouth healthy and pain free.
- Healthy foods, like fresh fruits and vegetables, should be chosen for the entire family.
- Teeth need to be brushed at least twice a day with toothpaste that contains fluoride.
- Candy and sweet drinks like punch, juice, or soda should be limited. Sweet drinks and candy contain a lot of
  sugar, which causes cavities and leaves less room for a child to have healthy foods and drinks. Sweet drinks and
  candy can also cause weight problems, which may lead to other diseases, such as diabetes. Give a child healthy
  choices like water, milk, and fruit instead.

Having a healthy mouth helps children do well in school. So, to make sure children are ready for school, state law requires children to have an oral health assessment or dental check-up in their first year in public school – whether in kindergarten or first grade. The assessment must be performed by a licensed dentist or other licensed or registered dental health professional no earlier than 12 months before the date of a child's initial enrollment in school and no

later than May 31 of the school year. The dentist will complete the Oral Health Assessment form, which then must be submitted to the school as proof that the assessment has been done. The school shall maintain the privacy of all students' health information. A student's identity shall not be associated with any report produced as a result of this requirement.

A parent who is unable to obtain the oral health assessment must complete a Waiver of Oral Health Assessment Requirement form and submit that to the school. A form is provided within this notice.

To help find a dentist, call the Medi-Cal Telephone Service Center at 1-800-322-6384 or visit Medi-Cal Dental (https://dental.dhcs.ca.gov/) to find a dentist that accepts Medi-Cal. To enroll a child in Medi-Cal, parents can apply by mail, go in person to the local Social Services office, or online at Apply for Medi-Cal (https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/pages/applyformedi-cal.aspx).

#### PRESCRIPTION OPIOIDS

Reference: EC 49476

Prescription opioids can be used to help relieve moderate-to-severe pain and are often prescribed following a surgery or injury, or for certain health conditions. These medications can be an important part of treatment but also come with serious risks, such as risks of addiction and overdose, especially with prolonged use. An opioid overdose, often marked by slowed breathing, can cause sudden death. The use of prescription opioids can have a number of side effects as well, even when taken as directed:

- Tolerance meaning, the need to take more medication for the same pain relief
- Physical dependence meaning, having symptoms of withdrawal when a medication is stopped
- Increased sensitivity to pain
- Constipation
- Nausea, vomiting, and dry mouth

- Sleepiness and dizziness
- Confusion
- Depression
- Low levels of testosterone that can result in lower sex drive, energy, and strength
- Itching and sweating

#### SCHOOL MEALS

Reference: EC 48980, 49510, 49520

**BP/AR:** 3550 – Food Service/Child Nutrition Program

Adequate nutrition is essential to the development, health and well-being, and learning of all students. A free, nutritionally adequate breakfast and lunch is provided each school day to any student who requests a meal regardless of the student's free or reduced-price meal eligibility. No application or registration is needed.

## SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST

Reference: EC 33479.3

**<u>BP/AR</u>**: 6145.2 – Athletic Competition

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) is not a heart attack. It's an abnormality in the heart's electrical system that abruptly stops the heartbeat. It's caused by an undetected congenital or genetic heart condition. If not properly treated within minutes, SCA is fatal in 92% of cases.

SCA is the #1 killer of student athletes. Up to 72% of SCA are preceded by symptoms, which often go unrecognized, which is why parents and student-athletes thoughtfully completing sports clearance packets and health history forms together is so critical. SCA is also the leading cause of death on school campuses, with 1 in 300 youth having an undetected heart condition that puts them at risk for SCA.

Although SCA happens unexpectedly, some people may have signs or symptoms, such as:

- Fainting (#1 symptom of a potential heart condition)
- Chest pain
- Shortness of breath
- Racing or fluttering of heartbeat (palpitation)
- Dizziness or lightheadedness
- Extreme fatigue (tiredness)

These symptoms can be unclear and confusing in athletes. Often, people confuse these warning signs with physical exhaustion. SCA can be prevented if the underlying causes can be diagnosed and treated.

Coaches have the authority to remove from play a student who exhibits fainting, and potentially for other conditions if they are believed to be cardiac-related. Student-athletes must be evaluated and cleared by a physician, surgeon, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant to return to play. Student-athletes and parents are required to review and sign an SCA Information Sheet as part of their annual sports packet.

#### **TYPE 1 DIABETES**

*Reference*: EC 49452.6

**BP/AR:** 5141.3 – Health Examinations

Type 1 diabetes in children is an autoimmune disease that can be fatal if untreated, and the guidance provided in this information sheet is intended to raise awareness about this disease.

## **Description**

Type 1 diabetes usually develops in children and young adults but can occur at any age

- According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), cases of type 1 diabetes in youth increased nationally from 187,000 in 2018 to 244,000 in 2019, representing an increase of 25 per 10,000 youths to 35 per 10,000 youths, respectively.
- The peak age of diagnosis of type 1 diabetes is 13-14 years, but diagnosis can also occur much earlier or later in life.

## Type 1 diabetes affects insulin production

- As a normal function, the body turns the carbohydrates in food into glucose (blood sugar), the basic fuel for the body's cells.
- The pancreas makes insulin, a hormone that moves glucose from the blood into the cells.
- In type 1 diabetes, the body's pancreas stops making insulin, and blood glucose levels rise.
- Over time, glucose can reach dangerously high levels in the blood, which is called hyperglycemia.
- Untreated hyperglycemia can result in diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA), which is a life-threatening complication of diabetes.

## Risk Factors Associated with Type 1 Diabetes

It is recommended that students displaying warning signs associated with type 1 diabetes, which are described below, should be screened (tested) for the disease by their health care provider.

#### Risk Factors

Researchers do not completely understand why some people develop type 1 diabetes and others do not; however, having a family history of type 1 diabetes can increase the likelihood of developing type 1 diabetes. Other factors may play a role in developing type 1 diabetes, including environmental triggers such as viruses. Type 1 diabetes is not caused by diet or lifestyle choices.

## Warning Signs and Symptoms Associated with Type 1 Diabetes and Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA)

Warning signs and symptoms of type 1 diabetes in children develop quickly, in a few weeks or months, and can be severe. If your child displays the warning signs below, contact your child's primary health care provider or pediatrician for a consultation to determine if screening your child for type 1 diabetes is appropriate:

- Increased thirst
- Increased urination, including bed-wetting after toilet training
- Increased hunger, even after eating
- Unexplained weight loss
- Feeling very tired
- Blurred vision
- Very dry skin
- Slow healing of sores or cuts
- Moodiness, restlessness, irritability, or behavior changes

DKA is a complication of untreated type 1 diabetes. DKA is a medical emergency. Symptoms include:

- Fruity breath
- Dry/flushed skin
- Nausea

- Vomiting
- Stomach pains
- Trouble breathing
- Confusion

## Types of Diabetes Screening Tests That Are Available

- Glycated hemoglobin (A1C) test. A blood test measures the average blood sugar level over two to three months. An A1C level of 6.5 percent or higher on two separate tests indicates diabetes.
- Random (non-fasting) blood sugar test. A blood sample is taken any time without fasting. A random blood sugar level of 200 milligrams per deciliter (mg/dL) or higher suggests diabetes.
- Fasting blood sugar test. A blood sample is taken after an overnight fast. A level of 126 mg/dL or higher on two separate tests indicates diabetes.
- Oral glucose tolerance test. A test measuring the fasting blood sugar level after an overnight fast with periodic testing for the next several hours after drinking a sugary liquid. A reading of more than 200 mg/dL after two hours indicates diabetes.

## Type 1 Diabetes Treatments

There are no known ways to prevent type 1 diabetes. Once type 1 diabetes develops, medication is the only treatment. If a child is diagnosed with type 1 diabetes, their health care provider will be able to help develop a treatment plan. The child's health care provider may refer the child to an endocrinologist, a doctor specializing in the endocrine system and its disorders, such as diabetes.

Contact the school nurse, school administrator, or health care provider if there are any questions.

#### References

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- KidsHealth
- Mayo Clinic
- National Library of Medicine and National Institutes of Health's MedLine

#### **TYPE 2 DIABETES**

Reference: EC 49452.7

**BP/AR:** 5141.3 – Health Examinations

The California Department of Education developed this type 2 diabetes information in collaboration with the California Department of Public Health, American Diabetes Association, California School Nurses Organization, and Children's Hospital of Orange County.

#### Description

*Type 2 diabetes is the most common form of diabetes in adults.* 

- Until a few years ago, type 2 diabetes was rare in children, but it is becoming more common, especially for overweight teens.
- According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), one in three American children born after 2000 will develop type 2 diabetes in his or her lifetime.

Type 2 diabetes affects the way the body is able to use sugar (glucose) for energy.

- The body turns the carbohydrates in food into glucose, the basic fuel for the body's cells.
- The pancreas makes insulin, a hormone that moves glucose from the blood to the cells.
- In type 2 diabetes, the body's cells resist the effects of insulin, and blood glucose levels rise.
- Over time, glucose reaches dangerously high levels in the blood, which is called hyperglycemia.
- Hyperglycemia can lead to health problems like heart disease, blindness, and kidney failure.

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#### Risk Factors Associated with Type 2 Diabetes

It is recommended that students displaying or possibly experiencing the risk factors and warning signs associated with type 2 diabetes be screened (tested) for the disease.

#### Risk Factors

Researchers do not completely understand why some people develop type 2 diabetes and others do not; however, the following risk factors are associated with an increased risk of type 2 diabetes in children:

- **Being overweight.** The single greatest risk factor for type 2 diabetes in children is excess weight. In the U.S., almost one out of every five children are overweight. The chances are more than double that an overweight child will develop diabetes.
- **Family history of diabetes.** Many affected children and youth have at least one parent with diabetes or have a significant family history of the disease.
- **Inactivity.** Being inactive further reduces the body's ability to respond to insulin.
- **Specific racial/ethnic groups.** Native Americans, African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, or Asian/Pacific Islanders are more prone than other ethnic groups to develop type 2 diabetes.
- **Puberty.** Young people in puberty are more likely to develop type 2 diabetes than younger children, probably because of normal rises in hormone levels that can cause insulin resistance during this stage of rapid growth and physical development.

#### Warning Signs and Symptoms Associated with Type 2 Diabetes

Warning signs and symptoms of type 2 diabetes in children develop slowly, and initially there may be no symptoms. However, not everyone with insulin resistance or type 2 diabetes develops these warning signs, and not everyone who has these symptoms necessarily has type 2 diabetes.

- Increased hunger, even after eating
- Unexplained weight loss
- Increased thirst, dry mouth, and frequent urination
- Feeling very tired
- Blurred vision
- Slow healing of sores or cuts
- Dark velvety or ridged patches of skin, especially on the back of the neck or under the arms
- Irregular periods, no periods, and/or excess facial and body hair growth in girls
- High blood pressure or abnormal blood fats levels

## Type 2 Diabetes Prevention Methods and Treatments

Healthy lifestyle choices can help prevent and treat type 2 diabetes. Even with a family history of diabetes, eating healthy foods in the correct amounts and exercising regularly can help children achieve or maintain a normal weight and normal blood glucose levels.

- Eat healthy foods. Make wise food choices. Eat foods low in fat and calories.
- Get more physical activity. Increase physical activity to at least 60 minutes every day.
- **Take medication.** If diet and exercise are not enough to control the disease, it may be necessary to treat type 2 diabetes with medication.

The first step in treating type 2 diabetes is to visit a doctor. A doctor can determine if a child is overweight based on the child's age, weight, and height. A doctor can also request tests of a child's blood glucose to see if the child has diabetes or pre-diabetes (a condition which may lead to type 2 diabetes).

## Types of Diabetes Screening Tests That Are Available

- **Glycated hemoglobin (A1C) test.** A blood test measures the average blood sugar level over two to three months. An A1C level of 6.5 percent or higher on two separate tests indicates diabetes.
- Random (non-fasting) blood sugar test. A blood sample is taken at a random time. A random blood sugar level of 200 milligrams per deciliter (mg/dL) or higher suggests diabetes. This test must be confirmed with a fasting blood glucose test.
- Fasting blood sugar test. A blood sample is taken after an overnight fast. A fasting blood sugar level less than 100 mg/dL is normal. A level of 100 to 125 mg/dL is considered pre-diabetes. A level of 126 mg/dL or higher on two separate tests indicates diabetes.
- Oral glucose tolerance test. A test measuring the fasting blood sugar level after an overnight fast with periodic testing for the next several hours after drinking a sugary liquid. A reading of more than 200 mg/dL after two hours indicates diabetes.

Type 2 diabetes in children is a preventable/treatable disease and this guidance is intended to raise awareness about this disease. Contact the school nurse, school administrator, or health care provider if there are any questions.

#### References

American Diabetes Association Clinical Journal
Helping Children with Diabetes Succeed: A Guide for School Personnel
KidsHealth

# PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

#### INVESTING FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Reference: EC 48980

**BP/AR:** N/A

Receiving a college or university education can lead to many benefits: increased earning potential, increased career opportunities, financial security, better problem-solving skills, and improved health and well-being. To ensure that students can afford going to college and not be weighed down by student loan debt, parents are highly encouraged to start saving for college as soon as they can – even when children are infants. As with any investment, the earlier money is saved, the more time it has to grow. Investment options include, but are not limited to, a 529 college savings plan, an individual retirement account (IRA or Roth IRA), Uniform Gift to Minors Act (UGMA) or Uniform Transfer to Minors Act (UTMA), trusts, or United States savings bonds. Students can also contribute by applying for scholarships and grants, taking Advanced Placement (AP) classes, working a full-time job in the summer or a part-time job during the school year, and opening a savings account.

#### PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Reference: 20 USC 6318; EC 11503, 11504

**BP/AR**: 6020 – Parent Involvement; 6171 – Title I Programs

The Governing Board recognizes that parents/guardians are their children's first and most influential teachers and that sustained parent/guardian involvement in the education of their children contributes greatly to student achievement and a positive school environment. The Superintendent or designee shall work with parents/guardians and family members to jointly develop and agree upon policy and strategies to meaningfully involve parents/guardians and family members in district and school activities at all grade levels; advisory, decision-making, and advocacy roles; and activities to support learning at home.

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

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

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

#### Title I Schools

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

When the district's Title I, Part A allocation exceeds the amount specified in 20 USC 6318, the Board shall reserve at least one percent of the funding to implement parent/guardian and family engagement activities and shall distribute at least 90 percent of those reserved funds to eligible schools, with priority given to high-need schools as defined in 20 USC 6631. The Superintendent or designee shall involve parents/guardians and family members of participating students in decisions regarding how the district's Title I funds will be allotted for parent/guardian and family engagement activities. (20 USC 6318)

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

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

If the district also receives funds under federal Title IV, Part E, to coordinate and enhance family engagement programs, the Superintendent or designee shall inform parents/guardians and organizations of the existence of Title IV. (20 USC 6318)

The district's Board policy and administrative regulation containing parent/guardian and family engagement strategies shall be incorporated into the district's LCAP in accordance with 20 USC 6312. (20 USC 6318)

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

District and school-level parent/guardian and family engagement policies and administrative regulations shall be distributed to parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs and shall be available to the local community. Parents/guardians shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents/guardians can understand. (20 USC 6318)

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

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

Reviewed 11/9/2023

## PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Reference: 20 USC 6312; 34 CFR 200.61

**BP/AR:** 4112.2 – Certification; 4222 – Teacher Aides/Paraprofessionals

Parents of students who attend a school receiving Title I funds may request information regarding the professional qualifications of their students' classroom teachers, including, at a minimum, the following:

- 1. Whether the teacher has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- 2. Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.
- 3. Whether the teacher is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.
- 4. Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

A school that receives Title I funds will also provide to each individual parent information on the level of achievement and academic growth of their child, if applicable and available, on each of the required State academic assessments, and timely notice that their child has been assigned, or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by, a teacher who does not meet applicable State certification or licensure requirements at the grade level and subject area in which the teacher has been assigned.

#### RIGHTS OF PARENTS

**Reference:** EC 51101, 51101.1

**BP/AR**: 5020 – Parent Rights and Responsibilities

Parents have the right and should have the opportunity, as mutually supportive and respectful partners in the education of their children, to be informed by the school, and to participate in the education of their children, as follows:

- 1. Within a reasonable period of time after making the request, to observe their child's classroom(s).
- 2. Within a reasonable time of their request, to meet with their child's teacher(s) and the principal.
- 3. To volunteer their time and resources for the improvement of school facilities and school programs under the supervision of district employees, including, but not limited to, providing assistance in the classroom with the approval, and under the direct supervision, of the teacher.
- 4. To be notified on a timely basis if their child is absent from school without permission.
- 5. To receive the results of their child's performance on standardized tests and statewide tests and information on the performance of their child's school on standardized statewide tests, including the state test for English language proficiency for English learners.
- 6. To request a particular school for their child, and to receive a response from the school district.
- 7. To have a school environment for their child that is safe and supportive of learning.
- 8. To examine the curriculum materials of their child's class(es).
- 9. To be informed of their child's progress in school and of the appropriate school personnel whom they should contact if problems arise with their child.
- 10. To have access to the school records of their child.
- 11. To receive information concerning the academic performance standards, proficiencies, or skills their child is expected to accomplish.
- 12. To be informed in advance about school rules, including disciplinary rules and procedures, attendance policies, dress codes, and procedures for visiting the school.
- 13. To receive information about any psychological testing the school does involving their child and to deny permission to give the test.
- 14. To participate as a member of a parent advisory committee, school site council, or site-based management leadership team.
- 15. To question anything in their child's record that the parent feels is inaccurate or misleading or is an invasion of privacy and to receive a response from the school.
- 16. To be notified, as early in the school year as practicable, if their child is identified as being at risk of retention and of their right to consult with school personnel responsible for a decision to promote or retain their child and to appeal a decision to retain or promote their child.

A parent's lack of English fluency does not prevent a parent from exercising such rights. The District will take all reasonable steps to ensure that all parents who speak a language other than English are properly notified in English and in their home language, pursuant to EC 48985, of the rights and opportunities available to them. Please note that the District is not authorized to allow a parent's participation in the education of their child if it conflicts with a valid restraining order, protective order, or order for custody or visitation issued by a court of competent jurisdiction.

#### SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT CARD

**Reference:** EC 35256, 35258

**BP/AR**: 0510 – School Accountability Report Card

By February 1 of each year, all public schools in California are required to update and publish a school accountability report card (SARC) with the intent to provide the public with important information about each public school and to communicate a school's progress in achieving its goals. The primary purpose is to provide parents with data and information to make meaningful comparisons between public schools, enabling them to make informed decisions on which school to enroll their children. The content of the SARC includes demographic data, school safety and climate for learning information, academic data, school completion rates, class sizes, teacher and staff information, curriculum and instruction descriptions, postsecondary preparation information, and fiscal and expenditure data. Printed copies may be obtained from school offices or may be accessed at

https://www.smusd.org/about us/district overview/accountability report cards

#### STUDENT WELLNESS POLICY

**Reference:** 42 USC 1758b; 7 CFR 210.31; EC 49432

**BP/AR:** 5030 – Student Wellness

Recognizing the link between student health and learning, the District has an established student wellness policy for all its schools to provide a comprehensive program that promotes healthy eating and physical activity for students. The District shall coordinate and align its efforts to support student wellness through health education, physical education and activity, health services, nutrition services, psychological and counseling services, and healthy school environment. Parents, students, food service employees, physical education teachers, school health professionals, Board members, school administrators, and members of the public are encouraged to participate in the development, implementation, and periodic review and update of the policy.

To review the content of the policy and any updates, can be accessed at <a href="http://smusd.org/cns">http://smusd.org/cns</a>. To find out how to be involved with the School Wellness Council, please contact Naomi Shadwell, Executive Director of Child Nutrition Services, <a href="mailto:naomi.shadwell@smusd.org">naomi.shadwell@smusd.org</a>.

## **SAFETY AND WELL-BEING**

#### ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN

**Reference:** 40 CFR 763.84, 763.93 **BP/AR:** 3514 – Environmental Safety

Parents have the right to inspect a complete, updated copy of a management plan for asbestos-containing material in school buildings. The asbestos management plan can be made available for inspection, without cost or restriction, in the district office and school offices during normal business hours. The District may charge a reasonable cost to make copies of the management plan. For further information, contact the Maintenance and Operations Department, 760-290-2640.

## CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND NEGLECT REPORTING

**Reference:** EC 48987; PC 11164 et seq.

**BP/AR:** 5141.4 – Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting

All employees of the District are considered mandated reporters, required by law to report cases of child abuse and neglect to the appropriate law enforcement agency when they have a reasonable suspicion that a child has been a victim of child abuse and/or neglect. Reasonable suspicion means that it is objectively reasonable for a person to entertain a suspicion, based upon facts that could cause a reasonable person in a like position, drawing when appropriate on their training and experience, to suspect child abuse or neglect; it does not require certainty that the child abuse and/or neglect has occurred. The fact that a child is homeless or an unaccompanied minor is not, in and of itself, a sufficient basis for reporting child abuse or neglect.

All complaints must be filed through a formal report, over the telephone, in person, or in writing, with an appropriate local law enforcement agency (*i.e.*, Police or Sheriff's Department, County Probation Department, or County Welfare Department/County Child Protective Services). Both the name of the person filing the complaint and the report itself are confidential and cannot be disclosed except to authorized agencies.

Parents of students also have a right to file a complaint against a school employee or other person that they suspect has engaged in abuse of a child at a school site. Complaints may be filed with the local law enforcement agency; parents may also notify the District of an incident by contacting the Director, Human Resources, 760-752-1242.

## DANGERS OF SYNTHETIC DRUGS

**Reference:** EC 48985.5

**BP/AR**: 5131.6 – Alcohol and Other Drugs

Fentanyl is a major contributor to drug overdoses in California, including among youth. Fentanyl is an extremely potent and dangerous synthetic opioid, like heroin and morphine, and is laboratory engineered to be about 50 times stronger than heroin. This means even small amounts can lead to a fatal overdose. Fentanyl is powerful and difficult to detect.

People who make or sell drugs sometimes add small amounts of fentanyl to other substances in ways that are not noticeable to the user. Fentanyl is now commonly present in counterfeit pills sold on the internet posing as prescription drugs, such as Oxycodone, Xanax, Percocet, Vicodin, and Adderall. Fake prescription pills are easily accessible and often sold on social media and e-commerce platforms, making them available to anyone with a smartphone, including minors. Pills obtained through social media are especially dangerous and the Drug Enforcement Agency reports that 7 out of every 10 pills confiscated contain enough fentanyl to kill.

Fentanyl misuse may result in an intense, short-term high; temporary feelings of euphoria; slowed respiration and reduced blood pressure, nausea, fainting; seizures or death. Methamphetamine misuse may result in agitation; increased heart rate and blood pressure; increased respiration and body temperature; anxiety and paranoia. High doses can cause convulsions, cardiovascular collapse, stroke or death. Overdose may result in stupor, changes in papillary size, cold and clammy skin, cyanosis, coma, and respiratory failure leading to death. The presence of a triad of symptoms such as coma, pinpoint pupils, and respiratory depression are strongly suggestive of opioid poisoning.

With a fentanyl-poisoned drug supply, avoiding drug use is the surest way to prevent an overdose. The only safe medications are ones that come from licensed and accredited medical professionals.

## EMPLOYEE INTERACTION WITH STUDENTS

Reference: EC 44050

<u>BP/AR</u>: 4119.21, 4219.21, 4319.21 – Professional Standards; 4119.24, 4219.24, 4319.24 – Maintaining Appropriate Adult-Student Interactions

Employees, including independent contractors and volunteers, of the District are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards, exhibit professional behavior, follow district policies and regulations, abide by state and federal laws, and exercise good judgment when interacting with students both within and outside the educational setting. To ensure employees fulfill their obligation to ensuring the safety of all students and contribute to a positive school climate, employees shall not to engage in unlawful or inappropriate interactions with students and must avoid boundary-blurring behaviors that undermine trust in the adult-student relationship.

Inappropriate employee conduct includes, but is not limited to:

- 1. Engaging in any conduct that endangers students, staff, or others, including, but not limited to, physical violence, threats of violence, or possession of a firearm or other weapon
- 2. Engaging in harassing or discriminatory behavior towards students, parents/guardians, staff, or community members, or failing or refusing to intervene when an act of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying against a student is observed
- 3. Physically abusing, sexually abusing, neglecting, or otherwise willfully harming or injuring a child
- 4. Engaging in inappropriate socialization or fraternization with a student or soliciting, encouraging, or maintaining an inappropriate written, verbal, or physical relationship with a student
- 5. Possessing or viewing any pornography on school grounds, or possessing or viewing child pornography or other imagery portraying children in a sexualized manner at any time
- 6. Using profane, obscene, or abusive language against students, parents/guardians, staff, or community members
- 7. Willfully disrupting district or school operations by loud or unreasonable noise or other action
- 8. Using tobacco, alcohol, or an illegal or unauthorized substance, or possessing or distributing any controlled substance, while in the workplace, on district property, or at a school-sponsored activity
- 9. Being dishonest with students, parents/guardians, staff, or members of the public, including, but not limited to, falsifying information in employment records or other school records
- 10. Divulging confidential information about students, district employees, or district operations to persons or entities not authorized to receive the information
- 11. Using district equipment or other district resources for the employee's own commercial purposes or for political activities
- 12. Using district equipment or communications devices for personal purposes while on duty, except in an emergency, during scheduled work breaks, or for personal necessity

  Employees shall be notified that computer files and all electronic communications, including, but not limited to, email and voice mail, are not private. To ensure proper use, the Superintendent or designee may monitor employee usage of district technological resources at any time without the employee's consent.
- 13. Causing damage to or engaging in theft of property belonging to students, staff, or the district
- 14. Wearing inappropriate attire

Any reports of employee misconduct shall be promptly investigated. Any employee who is found to have engaged in inappropriate conduct in violation of law or Board policy shall be subject to disciplinary action and, in the case of a certificated employee, may be subject to a report to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing. Immediate intervention shall be implemented when necessary to protect student safety or the integrity of the investigation.

#### FINGERPRINTING PROGRAM

**Reference:** EC 32390, 48980

**BP/AR:** 5142.1 – Identification and Reporting of Missing Children

The District does not offer a voluntary fingerprinting program.

#### MEGAN'S LAW/SEX OFFENDERS

**Reference:** PC 290.45, 626.81

**BP/AR**: 3515.5 – Sex Offender Notification

Whenever the principal has granted permission to a registered sex offender to come into a school building or upon school grounds to volunteer at the school, the principal shall notify the parent of each student at that school, at least 14 days in advance, that a registered sex offender has been granted such permission, the date(s) and times for which permission has been granted, and the parent's right to obtain information regarding the person from a designated law enforcement agency.

The District will respond as directed or advised by a law enforcement agency due to the presence of a registered sex offender on school grounds. Parents requesting information about sex offenders in the community should either contact law enforcement or access the Megan's Law webpage from the California Department of Justice's website <a href="http://meganslaw.ca.gov/">http://meganslaw.ca.gov/</a>. The website also provides information on how to protect children and their families, facts about sex offenders, frequently asked questions, and sex offender registration requirements in California.

#### PESTICIDE PRODUCTS

**Reference:** EC 17611.5, 17612, 48980.3

**BP/AR:** 3514.2 – Integrated Pest Management

The School District uses pesticides that pose the least possible hazard and are effective in a manner that minimizes risks to people, property, and the environment. Such pesticides shall only be used after careful monitoring indicates they are needed according to pre-established guidelines and treatment thresholds. A warning sign at each area of the school site where pesticides will be applied shall be posted visibly to all persons entering the treated area. The sign shall be posted at least 24 hours prior to the application and shall remain posted until 72 hours after the application. When advance posting is not possible due to an emergency condition requiring immediate use of a pesticide to protect the health and safety of students, staff, or other persons or the school site, the warning sign shall be posted immediately upon application and shall remain posted until 72 hours after the application.

A form is provided within this notice to receive notification of individual pesticide applications. Notifications will be provided by the Maintenance and Operations Department 72 hours before the application, except in emergencies, and will include the product name, the active ingredient(s) in the product, and the intended date of application.

Parents seeking access to information on pesticides and pesticide use reduction developed by the Department of Pesticide Regulation pursuant to California Food and Agricultural Code 13184, can do so by going to <a href="https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/schoolipm/">https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/schoolipm/</a>. A copy of the District's integrated pest management plan may be viewed at <a href="https://www.smusd.org/departments/maintenance">https://www.smusd.org/departments/maintenance</a> and operations department/pesticide information.

#### SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS

**Reference:** EC 48986, 49392

**BP/AR:** 0450 – Comprehensive Safety Plan

There have been many news reports of children bringing firearms to school. In many instances, the child obtained the firearm(s) from home. These incidents can be easily prevented by storing firearms in a safe and secure manner, including keeping them locked up when not in use and storing them separately from ammunition.

Parents are responsible for keeping firearms out of the hands of children and should review this notice and evaluate their own personal practices to assure that every member in the family is in compliance with California law.

- With very limited exceptions, California makes a person criminally liable for keeping any firearm, loaded or unloaded, within any premises that are under their custody and control where that person knows or reasonably should know that a child is likely to gain access to the firearm without the permission of the child's parent, and the child obtains access to the firearm and thereby (1) causes death or injury to the child or any other person; (2) carries the firearm off the premises or to a public place, including to any preschool or school grades kindergarten through twelfth grade, or to any school-sponsored event, activity, or performance; or (3) unlawfully brandishes the firearm to others. (*Note:* The criminal penalty may be significantly greater if someone dies or suffers great bodily injury as a result of the child gaining access to the firearm.)
- With very limited exceptions, California also makes it a crime for a person to negligently store or leave any
  firearm, loaded or unloaded, on their premises in a location where the person knows or reasonably should know
  that a child is likely to gain access to it without the permission of the child's parent, unless reasonable action is
  taken to secure the firearm against access by the child, even where a minor never actually accesses the firearm.
- In addition to potential fines and terms of imprisonment, as of January 1, 2020, a gun owner found criminally liable under these California laws faces prohibitions from possessing, controlling, owning, receiving, or purchasing a firearm for 10 years.
- A parent may also be civilly liable for damages resulting from the discharge of a firearm by that person's child or ward.
- The county or city where the parent resides may have additional restrictions regarding the safe storage of firearms.

The easiest and safest way to comply with the law is to keep firearms in a locked container or secured with a locking device that renders the firearm inoperable.

#### **SCHOOL BUS SAFETY**

**Reference:** EC 39831.5

**BP/AR**: 3543 – Transportation Safety and Emergencies

All pupils in prekindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, in public or private school who are transported in a school bus or school pupil activity bus shall receive instruction in school bus emergency procedures and passenger safety. Bus safety regulations, including a list of school bus stops near each pupil's home, general rules of conduct at school bus loading zones, red light crossing instructions, school bus danger zone, and walking to and from school bus stops, can be found online at <a href="https://www.smusd.org/departments/transportation">https://www.smusd.org/departments/transportation</a>.

All pupils in prekindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1 to 8, inclusive, who receive home-to-school transportation shall receive safety instruction that includes, but is not limited to, proper loading and unloading procedures, including escorting by the driver, how to safely cross the street, highway, or private road, instruction on the use of passenger restraint systems, as described in paragraph (3), proper passenger conduct, bus evacuation, and location of emergency equipment. Instruction also may include responsibilities of passengers seated next to an emergency exit. As part of the instruction, pupils shall evacuate the school bus through emergency exit doors.

Instruction on the use of passenger restraint systems, when a passenger restraint system is installed, shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following: proper fastening and release of the passenger restraint system; acceptable placement of passenger restraint systems on pupils; times at which the passenger restraint systems should be fastened and released; and acceptable placement of the passenger restraint systems when not in use.

## **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**

#### ABSENCE DUE TO CONFIDENTIAL MEDICAL SERVICES

Reference: EC 46010.1

**BP/AR:** 5113 – Absences and Excuses

Students in grades 7-12 may be excused from school for the purpose of obtaining confidential medical services without the consent of the student's parent. When excusing students for confidential medical services or verifying such appointments, staff will not ask the purpose of the appointments but may contact a medical office to confirm the

time of the appointment. In accordance with a November 2004 opinion issued by the California Attorney General, staff may not notify a parent when a student leaves school to obtain confidential medical services.

#### ABSENCE DUE TO RELIGIOUS EXERCISES OR INSTRUCTION

Reference: EC 46014, 48980

**BP/AR:** 5113 – Absences and Excuses

With the written consent of the parent, a student may be excused from school in order to participate in religious exercises or to receive moral and religious instruction at the student's place of worship or at other suitable places away from school property designated by a religious group, church, or denomination. Such absence shall not be deemed absence in computing average daily attendance if the student attends at least the minimum school day and is not excused from school for this purpose on more than four days per school month.

#### ADDRESSING ABSENCES

**Reference:** EC 48260 et seq., 48320 et seq., 51101

**BP/AR**: 5113.1 – Chronic Absence and Truancy

California law requires full-time attendance and punctuality of every student between 6 and 18 years of age. Schools are required to enforce the law and parents are responsible to compel the attendance of their children at school. As such, absences can be minimized by scheduling medical, dental, and other appointments after school or when school is not in session; vacations should be planned when school is not in session.

The School Attendance Review Board (SARB) is a multidisciplinary panel composed of school personnel, agency partners and community-based organizations that works to address attendance and/or behavior problems. Specifically, the panel may include, but is not limited to a parent, District staff, representatives from child welfare and attendance personnel, school guidance personnel, county office of education, county probation department, county welfare department, law enforcement agencies, community-based youth service centers, school/county health care personnel, school/county/community mental health personnel, county district attorney's office, and county public defender's office. The intent of SARB is to resolve school-related issues through the use of available school and community resources. Failure to meet with SARB or follow its directives can result in a referral to the District Attorney's Office for truancy mediation and/or prosecution.

#### Truancy

A student is considered *truant* after three absences or three tardies of more than 30 minutes each time or any combination thereof and the absences or tardies are unexcused. After a student has been reported as a truant three or more times in a school year and the District has made a conscientious effort to meet with the family, the student is considered a *habitual truant*. A student who is absent from school without a valid excuse for 10% or more of the schooldays in one school year, from the date of enrollment to the current date, is considered a *chronic truant*. Unexcused absences are all absences that are not described in EC 48205 and AR 5113 – Absences and Excuses.

Parents of students who are identified as truant will receive truancy notifications that may result in a referral to the School Attendance Review Team (SART) and SARB if attendance does not improve. Additionally, the school attendance supervisor, administrator or designee, a peace officer, or probation officer may arrest or assume temporary custody during school hours, of any minor who is found away from their home and who is absent from school without valid excuse within the county, city or school.

#### Chronic Absenteeism

A student is considered a chronic absentee when they are absent on 10% or more of the school days in one school year, from the date of enrollment to the current date. Chronic absenteeism includes all absences – excused and unexcused – and is an important measure because excessive absences negatively impact academic achievement and student engagement.

The school will make every effort to work with students who are identified as chronic absentees to improve attendance. The SART/SARB and other multidisciplinary teams may be convened to offer assistance, suggestions, and ongoing support for students that have a history of poor or irregular attendance.

#### **EXCLUSION FROM SCHOOL**

**Reference:** EC 48213, 51101

**BP/AR**: 5112.2 – Exclusions from Attendance

A student may be excluded from school without prior notice to the parent for any of the following reasons:

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

The Superintendent or designee shall send a notice as soon as reasonably possible after the exclusion. Upon exclusion of the student, a parent may meet with the Superintendent or designee to discuss the exclusion. If the parent disagrees with the decision of the Superintendent or designee, the parent may appeal the decision to the Governing Board. The parent will have an opportunity to inspect all documents upon which the District is basing its decision, to challenge any evidence and question any witness presented by the District, to present oral and documentary evidence on the student's behalf, and to have one or more representatives present at the meeting.

#### EXCUSED ABSENCES

**Reference:** EC 48205, 48980

**BP/AR:** 5113 – Absences and Excuses

In order for an absence to be excused, the reason for such absence must meet the criteria specified under EC 48205, as provided below. A student shall not have a grade reduced or lose academic credit for any excused absence if missed assignments and tests that can reasonably be provided are satisfactorily completed within a reasonable period of time.

EC 48205. (a) Notwithstanding Section 48200, a pupil shall be excused from school when the absence is:

- (1) Due to the pupil's illness, including an absence for the benefit of the pupil's mental or behavioral health.
- (2) Due to quarantine under the direction of a county or city health officer.
- (3) For the purpose of having medical, dental, optometrical, or chiropractic services rendered.
- (4) For the purpose of attending the funeral services or grieving the death of either a member of the pupil's immediate family, or of a person that is determined by the pupil's parent or guardian to be in such close association with the pupil as to be considered the pupil's immediate family, so long as the absence is not more than five days per incident.
- (5) For the purpose of jury duty in the manner provided for by law.
- (6) Due to the illness or medical appointment during school hours of a child of whom the pupil is the custodial parent, including absences to care for a sick child, for which the school shall not require a note from a doctor.
- (7) For justifiable personal reasons, including, but not limited to, an attendance or appearance in court, attendance at a funeral service, observance of a holiday or ceremony of the pupil's religion, attendance at a religious retreat, attendance at an employment conference, or attendance at an educational conference on the legislative or judicial process offered by a nonprofit organization, when the pupil's absence is requested in writing by the parent or guardian and approved by the principal or a designated representative pursuant to uniform standards established by the governing board of the school district.
- (8) For the purpose of serving as a member of a precinct board for an election pursuant to Section 12302 of the Elections Code.
- (9) For the purpose of spending time with a member of the pupil's immediate family who is an active duty member of the uniformed services, as defined in Section 49701, and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from, deployment to a combat zone or combat support position. Absences granted pursuant to this paragraph shall be granted for a period of time to be determined at the discretion of the superintendent of the school district.
- (10) For the purpose of attending the pupil's naturalization ceremony to become a United States citizen.
- (11) For the purpose of participating in a cultural ceremony or event.
- (12) (A) For the purpose of a middle school or high school pupil engaging in a civic or political event, as provided in subparagraph (B), provided that the pupil notifies the school ahead of the absence.
- (B) (i) A middle school or high school pupil who is absent pursuant to subparagraph (A) is required to be excused for only one school day-long absence per school year.
- (ii) A middle school or high school pupil who is absent pursuant to subparagraph (A) may be permitted additional excused absences in the discretion of a school administrator, as described in subdivision (c) of Section 48260.

- (13) (A) For any of the purposes described in clauses (i) to (iii), inclusive, if an immediate family member of the pupil, or a person that is determined by the pupil's parent or guardian to be in such close association with the pupil as to be considered the pupil's immediate family, has died, so long as the absence is not more than three days per incident.
- (i) To access services from a victim services organization or agency.
- (ii) To access grief support services.
- (iii) To participate in safety planning or to take other actions to increase the safety of the pupil or an immediate family member of the pupil, or a person that is determined by the pupil's parent or guardian to be in such close association with the pupil as to be considered the pupil's immediate family, including, but not limited to, temporary or permanent relocation.
- (B) Any absences beyond three days for the reasons described in subparagraph (A) shall be subject to the discretion of the school administrator, or their designee, pursuant to Section 48260.
- (14) Authorized at the discretion of a school administrator, as described in subdivision (c) of Section 48260.
- (b) A pupil absent from school under this section shall be allowed to complete all assignments and tests missed during the absence that can be reasonably provided and, upon satisfactory completion within a reasonable period of time, shall be given full credit therefor. The teacher of the class from which a pupil is absent shall determine which tests and assignments shall be reasonably equivalent to, but not necessarily identical to, the tests and assignments that the pupil missed during the absence.
- (c) For purposes of this section, attendance at religious retreats shall not exceed one school day per semester.
- (d) Absences pursuant to this section are deemed to be absences in computing average daily attendance and shall not generate state apportionment payments.
- (e) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:
- (1) A "civic or political event" includes, but is not limited to, voting, poll working, strikes, public commenting, candidate speeches, political or civic forums, and town halls.
- (2) "Cultural" means relating to the practices, habits, beliefs, and traditions of a certain group of people.
- (3) "Immediate family" means the parent or guardian, brother or sister, grandparent, or any other relative living in the household of the pupil.
- (4) "Victim services organization or agency" has the same meaning as defined in paragraph (7) of subdivision (g) of Section 230.1 of the Labor Code.

#### **SCHOOL CALENDAR**

*Reference*: EC 48980

**BP/AR:** 6111 – School Calendar

To assist parents with the planning for their student's childcare needs, medical appointments, and other activities, the school calendar includes minimum days and student-free staff development days. The calendar is posted on the District's website at <a href="https://www.smusd.org/cms/one.aspx?portalId=157433&pageId=480928">https://www.smusd.org/cms/one.aspx?portalId=157433&pageId=480928</a>. If any additional minimum days or student-free staff development days are scheduled during the school year, parents of all students affected by the change shall be notified as soon as possible.

#### STUDENTS WITH TEMPORARY DISABILITIES

**Reference:** EC 48206.3, 48207, 48208, 48980 **BP/AR:** 6183 – Home and Hospital Instruction

Temporary disability means a physical, mental, or emotional disability incurred while a student is enrolled in a regular or an alternative education program, and after which the student can reasonably be expected to return without special intervention. Temporary disability is not a disability for which a student is identified as an individual with exceptional needs.

A student with a temporary disability which makes school attendance impossible or inadvisable shall be entitled to receive individual instruction at home or in a hospital or other residential health facility ("qualifying hospital"), excluding state hospitals. It is the responsibility of the parent to notify site administrator and request for individual instruction (also referred to as "home and hospital instruction"). When notified that a student has a temporary disability, the District shall determine within five working days whether the student is eligible to receive individual instruction. If determined that individual instruction is appropriate, the instruction shall begin within five working days from the date the determination was made. Students who cannot attend regular school for less than 15 days may, alternatively, participate in the short-term independent study program.

If a student with a temporary disability is in a qualifying hospital that is located outside the school district in which the student's parent resides, it is the parent's responsibility to notify the school district in which the qualifying hospital is located of the student's presence. The location of the qualifying hospital is considered the student's place of residence during their stay there; therefore, the student shall receive individual instruction by the school district in which they are temporarily residing unless the District has entered into an agreement with the other district to provide the individual instruction.

Every effort shall be made for students to continue with the courses that are necessary for the student to maintain their academic status, but in some cases, this will not be possible due to various constraints. High school students who are not able to complete courses in progress at the time they are receiving individualized instruction may need to complete the course in either summer school or through some other venue. In some cases, a student's high school graduation may be delayed due to the restrictions of this program. District staff may not be able to replicate certain highly specialized courses or a given course in the individualized instruction setting. For example, Honors or Advanced Placement classes, world languages, PE, laboratory sciences, higher-level mathematics classes, and some electives cannot be replicated.

The District may continue to enroll a student with a temporary disability who is receiving individual instruction in a qualifying hospital to facilitate the timely reentry of the student in their prior school after the hospitalization has ended, or to provide a partial week of instruction at school or at home to a student who is no longer confined to the hospital setting. The total days of instruction may not exceed the maximum of five days in the combined setting, and attendance may not be duplicated. The supervisor of attendance will ensure that absences from the regular school program are excused until the student is able to return to that program.

## SCHOOL ENROLLMENT AND OPTIONS

#### DISTRICT OF CHOICE

<u>Reference</u>: EC 48300 et seq., 48980 <u>BP/AR</u>: 5117 – Interdistrict Attendance

A student may transfer to a school district that participates in the District of Choice (DOC) program. The DOC shall determine the number of transfer students it is willing to accept and will admit students until it is at maximum capacity through an unbiased process that does not inquire into, evaluate, or consider students on their athletic performance, physical condition, proficiency in English, any personal characteristic (*i.e.*, race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, etc.), or family income. However, a DOC may use existing entrance criteria for specialized schools or programs as long as the criteria are uniformly applied to all applicants.

If there are more requests than there are spaces available, approval for transfer shall be determined by a random drawing held in public at a regularly scheduled board meeting of the DOC after granting priority enrollment in the following order:

- 1. Siblings of students already in attendance in the DOC
- 2. Students eligible for free or reduced-price meals
- 3. Children of military personnel

An application requesting transfer must be submitted to the DOC before January 1 of the school year preceding the school year for which the student is requesting the transfer – a modified application process is available for children of relocated military personnel. By February 15, applicants shall be notified in writing whether the application has been provisionally accepted or rejected or of the student's position on any waiting list. Vacancies may be filled from the waiting list until May 1. Once the transfer is approved, a student attending a DOC complies with residency requirements for school attendance. The transfer is applicable for one school year and shall be renewed automatically unless the governing board of the DOC elects to withdraw participation from the program.

Districts electing to participate in the DOC program are required to register with the California Department of Education; a list of participating districts for the current school year can be found at <a href="https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/eo/dc/">https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/eo/dc/</a>. For additional information regarding the application process, timelines, selection process, and reasons for denial of a request, please visit the website of the participating district.

#### INDEPENDENT STUDY

**Reference:** 5 CCR 11700 et seq.; EC 48980, 51744 et seq.

**BP/AR**: 6158 – Independent Study

The District recognizes that there are situations where students' special interests, abilities, or individual needs are not being met in the traditional instructional setting. Independent study offers a means of individualizing the educational plan to serve students who, for example:

- 1. Desire a more challenging educational experience;
- 2. Have health or other personal circumstances that make classroom attendance difficult;
- 3. Are unable to access course(s) due to scheduling problems; and/or
- 4. Need to make up credits or fill gaps in their learning.

Additionally, when requested by a parent due to an emergency or illness of not more than 14 days, 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. The minimum period of time for any independent study option shall be three consecutive school days.

The District's independent study is available to all students enrolled in TK-12 and is 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 also have access to the same services and resources that are available to other students in the school and shall have equal rights and privileges.

Participation in independent study must always be the choice of the parent; the District may not require or otherwise obligate a student's participation in the program. If a student has an IEP or Section 504 Plan, enrollment in independent study is a placement decision and is only allowed if the student's IEP or Section 504 Plan specifically provides for that participation; an IEP or 504 meeting is required prior to any change of placement. Parents and students who are interested in the independent study program should contact the principal at their school site.

#### INTERDISTRICT PERMIT TRANSFER

**Reference:** EC 46600 et seq., 48980

**BP/AR:** 5117 – Interdistrict Attendance

A parent who wishes to enroll their child in a school that is in another school district must obtain an interdistrict permit that is approved by both the district of residence and the district of enrollment. Neither district is obligated to provide transportation for students who attend school through an interdistrict permit unless providing transportation or transportation assistance is required by law.

#### Reasons to Request a Permit

The School District may approve incoming or outgoing interdistrict permit requests for the following reasons:

- 1. To meet the child care needs of the student, only as long as the student's child care provider remains within district boundaries
- 2. To meet the student's special mental or physical health needs as certified by a physician, school psychologist, or other appropriate school personnel
- 3. When the student has a sibling attending school in the receiving district, to avoid splitting the family's attendance
- 4. To allow the student to complete a school year when the student's parents/guardians have moved out of the district during that year
- 5. To allow the student to remain with a class graduating that year from an elementary, middle, or senior high school
- 6. To allow a high school senior to attend the same school attended as a junior, even if the student's family moved out of the district during the junior year
- 7. When the parent/guardian provides written evidence that the family will be moving into the district in the immediate future and would like the student to start the school year in the district
- 8. When the student will be living out of the district for one year or less
- 9. When recommended by the school attendance review board or by county child welfare, probation, or social service agency staff in documented cases of serious home or community problems which make it inadvisable for the student to attend the school of residence
- 10. When there is valid interest in a particular educational program not offered in the district of residence
- 11. To provide a change in school environment for reasons of personal and social adjustment

#### **Special Considerations**

A district of residence cannot prohibit the transfer of a student who is a child of an active military duty parent to a district of proposed enrollment if that district approves the application for transfer.

If the district of residence has only one school offering the grade level of the victim of an act of bullying and therefore has no options for an intradistrict offer, the victim of an act of bullying may apply for an interdistrict transfer and the district of residence will not prohibit the transfer if the district of proposed enrollment approves the application for transfer. A student who has been determined by personnel of either district to have been the victim of an act of bullying shall, at the request of the parent, be given priority for interdistrict attendance. A student shall be determined to be a "victim of an act of bullying" only if all of the following apply:

- 1. The act of bullying meets the definition described in EC 48900(r) see the notification on "Grounds for Suspension or Expulsion".
- 2. The bullying was committed by another student in the District.
- 3. A written complaint regarding the bullying was filed with the school, the District, or a local law enforcement agency.
- 4. An investigation was conducted per District policy, that meets the requirements under EC 234.1.

Upon request by the parent, a receiving district shall provide transportation assistance to a student who is both eligible for free or reduced-price meals and either a victim of an act of bullying or a child of an active duty military parent.

#### **Application Procedures**

Parents who wish to enroll their student in a school district other the school district can submit the Interdistrict Permit Application by visiting <a href="https://www.smusd.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=157433&pageId=76530057">https://www.smusd.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=157433&pageId=76530057</a>. Applications for transfer in the current school year are accepted year-round, and applications for a transfer in the next school year are available in the spring.

For current year requests (applications submitted 15 calendar days before the start of the school year for which the transfer is sought), the District will make its final decision within 30 calendar days from the date a request was received. For all future year requests (applications submitted up until 15 calendar days before the start of the school year for which the transfer is sought), the District has until 14 calendar days into the new school year to determine whether to approve or deny a request. The decision to approve or deny a request shall be provided to the parent in writing. If the application is denied, the reasons for denial shall be stated, including the parent's right to appeal the District's decision to the San Diego County Office of Education within 30 calendar days from the date of denial.

#### Reapplication and Revocation

If the request for transfer is granted, the student shall be allowed to continue to attend the school in which they are enrolled, unless reapplication standards are otherwise specified in the interdistrict attendance agreement between the two districts. An interdistrict permit may be revoked if the student does not demonstrate satisfactory attendance, behavior, and/or academic achievement; however, a permit cannot be rescinded or revoked after June 30 following the student's completion of grade 10 or any student in grade 11 or 12.

#### **Additional Resources**

For additional information regarding the interdistrict permit request procedures and timelines, including a copy of the District's board policy and the documentary evidence that must be submitted with any application, please visit: <a href="https://www.smusd.org/departments/student\_services">https://www.smusd.org/departments/student\_services</a>. You may also contact the Student Services Department, 760-752-1220.

#### INTRADISTRICT TRANSFERS

Reference: 20 USC 7912; 5 CCR 11992; EC 35160.5, 46600, 48980

**BP/AR:** 5116.1 – Intradistrict Open Enrollment

Students residing within the attendance boundaries of the School District are assigned to their school of residence based on established school boundaries. However, the District provides enrollment options that meet the diverse needs and interests of its students and parents. Below are descriptions of the different types of transfers available within the District. Please note that intradistrict transfers may affect eligibility in CIF sports.

Admission to a particular school shall not be influenced by a student's academic or athletic performance except where academic standards are required for admission to specialized schools or programs. Such standards shall be uniformly applied to all students. Additionally, a student granted intradistrict enrollment shall not be required to reapply for readmission but may be subject to displacement due to excessive enrollment. Any complaints regarding the selection

process should be submitted in writing to the Student Services Department, 255 Pico Avenue, Suite 250, San Marcos, CA 92069.

## Open Enrollment [EC 35160.5(b)]

The parents of any student who resides within the attendance boundaries of the School District may apply to enroll their child in any district school, regardless of the location of their residence within the District. No student currently residing within a school's attendance area shall be displaced by another student transferring from outside the attendance area. The District is not obligated to provide transportation for students who attend school outside their school of residence unless providing transportation or transportation assistance is required by law.

Applications to request for an intradistrict transfer for the following school year can be obtained through the district website <a href="https://www.smusd.org/departments/student\_services/school\_transfer\_permits">https://www.smusd.org/departments/student\_services/school\_transfer\_permits</a> and must be submitted within the open enrollment window. Only one application may be submitted per student.

Except for the enrollment priorities listed below, when there are more applications received than there is space available, a random drawing shall be held to determine which students shall be admitted. A waitlist shall be established to indicate the order in which applicants may be accepted if openings become available; no late applicants shall be added to the waitlist.

Applicants shall receive written notification indicating if their applications have been approved, denied, or placed on a waiting list. If the application is denied, the reasons for denial shall be stated.

## Victim of an Act of Bullying [EC 46600(d)]

Intradistrict transfer requests for a victim of an act of bullying shall be approved unless the requested district school is at maximum capacity, in which case, a request for a different school within the District shall be accepted. However, if the District does not have another school offering the grade level of the student, the District shall not prohibit the student's interdistrict transfer if the school district of proposed enrollment approves the application for transfer. Please see the notification on "Interdistrict Permit Transfer" for more information regarding the application process.

For purposes of the right of the victim of an act of bullying to transfer to another school within or outside of the District, a student shall be determined to be a "victim of an act of bullying" only if all of the following apply:

- 1. The act of bullying meets the definition described in EC 48900(r) see the notification on "Grounds for Suspension or Expulsion".
- 2. The bullying was committed by another student in the District.
- 3. A written complaint regarding the bullying was filed with the school, the District, or a local law enforcement agency.
- 4. An investigation was conducted per District policy, that meets the requirements under EC 234.1.

## Victim of a Violent Criminal Offense [20 USC 7912]

A student who is determined to be a victim of a violent criminal offense, while in or on the grounds of a school that the student attends, has the right to transfer to another district school. The District has 14 calendar days to make the determination and offer the student an option to transfer. In making the offer, the Superintendent or designee shall consider the needs and preferences of the affected student and the student's parent. Once the parent accepts the offer, the transfer shall be completed as soon as practicable.

In making the determination that a student has been a victim of a violent criminal offense, the Superintendent or designee will consider the specific circumstances of the incident and consult with local law enforcement as appropriate. Examples of violent criminal offenses include, but are not limited to, attempted murder, battery with serious bodily injury, assault with a deadly weapon, rape, sexual battery, robbery, extortion, or hate crimes.

#### Persistently Dangerous School [20 USC 7912; 5 CCR 1192]

Within 10 calendar days of receiving notification from CDE that a school has been designated as "persistently dangerous," parents of students attending the school shall be provided with notice of the school's designation and the option to transfer their students to another school. A list of other schools to which a student may transfer, and applicable timelines and procedures for requesting the transfer shall be provided at least 14 calendar days before the start of the school year.

Parents who desire to transfer their child out of a "persistently dangerous" school shall provide a written request and rank-order their preferences from among all schools identified in the notification as eligible to receive transfer students. The District shall consider the needs and preferences of students and parents before making an assignment but is not obligated to accept the parent's preference if the assignment is not feasible due to space constraints or other considerations.

If parents decline the assigned school, the student may remain in their current school. For students whose parents accept the offer, the transfer shall be made as quickly as possible. The transfer shall remain in effect as long as the student's school of origin is identified as "persistently dangerous." The District may choose to make the transfer permanent based on the educational needs of the student, parent preferences, and other factors affecting the student's ability to succeed if returned to the school of origin.

#### **Intradistrict Permit Transfer**

The District recognizes that there may be valid reasons for students and parents to request attendance at another district school during the school year, such as:

- 1. To attend the school where the parent is employed.
- 2. To allow the student to remain at the current school of attendance when the student's parents have moved into the attendance boundaries of another district school.
- 3. To unite siblings when one child is already in attendance at the requested school.
- 4. To meet the student's mental or physical health needs.
- 5. To provide a change in school environment for reasons of personal and social adjustment.

Applications to request an intradistrict permit to transfer to another district school can be obtained through the district website <a href="https://www.smusd.org/departments/student\_services/school\_transfer\_permits">https://www.smusd.org/departments/student\_services/school\_transfer\_permits</a>. Applicants shall receive written notification indicating if their applications have been approved, denied, or placed on a waiting list (if there is no available space at the time). If the application is denied, the reasons for denial shall be stated.

## MEETING RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

**Reference:** EC 48200 et seq., 48980 **BP/AR:** 5111.1 – District Residency

A student shall be deemed to have complied with the residency requirements of the School District if the student meets any of the following criteria:

- 1. The student's parent resides within district boundaries.
- 2. The student is placed within district boundaries in a regularly established licensed children's institution, a licensed foster home, or a family home pursuant to a court-ordered commitment or placement.
- 3. The student is admitted through an interdistrict attendance option.
- 4. The student is an emancipated minor residing within district boundaries.
- 5. The student lives with a caregiving adult within district boundaries and the caregiving adult submits an affidavit to that effect.
- 6. The student resides in a state hospital located within district boundaries.
- 7. The student is confined to a hospital or other residential health facility within district boundaries for treatment of a temporary disability.
- 8. The student's parent resides outside district boundaries but is employed within district boundaries and lives with the student at the place of employment for a minimum of three days during the school week.
- 9. The student's parent, while on active military duty pursuant to an official military order, is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation within the state.
- 10. The student's parent was a resident of California who departed the state against their will due to a transfer by a government agency that had custody of the parent, a lawful order from a court or government agency authorizing the parent's removal, or removal or departure pursuant to the federal Immigration and Nationality Act, and the student lived in California immediately before moving out of state as a result of the parent's departure.
- 11. The student is a homeless or foster child who remains in their school of origin.
- 12. The student is a migratory child or a child of a military family who continues to attend their school of origin.

A student also complies with residency requirements if the student's parent, while on active military duty pursuant to an official military order, is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation within California. The school must accept enrollment applications by electronic means, and the parent must provide proof of residence within 10 days after the published arrival date provided on official documentation.

When establishing a student's residency for enrollment purposes, the District will not inquire into the citizenship or immigration status of the student or the student's family members. If the school reasonably believes that a parent has provided false or unreliable evidence of residency, the District may make reasonable efforts to determine that the student meets residency requirements. However, a student's enrollment may be denied when the submitted documentation is insufficient to establish district residency; in which case, the parent shall be notified in writing of the specific reasons for the denial and of the opportunity to appeal the District's decision. Please visit <a href="https://www.smusd.org/enrollment/residency\_verification\_current\_students\_only\_or\_contact the Director of Students\_only\_or\_contact the Director of Students\_only\_or\_contact\_only\_or\_c

Services, 760-752-1220 for a list of reasonable evidence that the District will accept to verify that a student meets residency requirements for school attendance.

#### NOTICE OF ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS

*Reference*: EC 58501

**BP/AR**: 6181 – Alternative Schools/Programs of Choice

California state law authorizes all school districts to provide for alternative schools. Section 58500 of the Education Code defines alternative school as a school or separate class group within a school which is operated in a manner designed to:

- (a) Maximize the opportunity for students to develop the positive values of self-reliance, initiative, kindness, spontaneity, resourcefulness, courage, creativity, responsibility, and joy.
- (b) Recognize that the best learning takes place when the student learns because of the student's desire to learn.
- (c) Maintain a learning situation maximizing student self-motivation and encouraging the student in the student's own time to follow the student's own interests. These interests may be conceived by the student totally and independently or may result in whole or in part from a presentation by the student's teachers of choices of learning projects.
- (d) Maximize the opportunity for teachers, parents and students to cooperatively develop the learning process and its subject matter. This opportunity shall be a continuous, permanent process.
- (e) Maximize the opportunity for the students, teachers, and parents to continuously react to the changing world, including but not limited to the community in which the school is located.

In the event any parent, student, or teacher is interested in further information concerning alternative schools, the county superintendent of schools, the administrative office of this district, and the principal's office in each school site have copies of the law available for your information. This law particularly authorizes interested persons to request the governing board of the district to establish alternative school programs in each district.

#### PARENT EMPLOYMENT-RELATED TRANSFER

**Reference:** EC 48204, 48980

**BP/AR:** 5111.1 – District Residency

The School District considers a student whose parent is physically employed within its attendance boundaries for a minimum of 10 hours during school week to have complied with residency requirements for school attendance. Once a student is deemed to have complied with residency requirements in this manner, the student may continue to attend school in the District through the highest grade level offered without having to reapply each school year as long as the parent continues to be physically employed within the attendance boundaries for a minimum of 10 hours during the school week. The District will not deny admission of a student on the basis of race, ethnicity, sex, family income, academic achievement, or any other arbitrary consideration; however, the District may prohibit the transfer of a student if the District determines that the additional cost of education the student would exceed the amount of additional state aide received as a result of the transfer, or if either the District or the district of residence determines that the transfer would negatively impact its court-ordered or voluntary desegregation plan.

Contact the Student Services Department (760) 752-1220 to obtain information on the type of documentation required to verify residency through parent employment.

#### **SPECIAL PROGRAM OPTIONS**

Reference: EC 48980

**BP/AR**: Dependent on the program option

Dual-Immersion (Twin Oaks Elementary) - <a href="https://twinoakselementary.smusd.org/dual\_immersion\_program">https://twinoakselementary.smusd.org/dual\_immersion\_program</a>

Career Technical Education – <a href="https://www.smusd.org/departments/career-technical-education-te-https://www.smusd.org/departments/career-technical-education-te-https://www.smusd.org/departments/career-technical-education-te-https://www.smusd.org/departments/career-technical-education-te-https://www.smusd.org/departments/career-technical-education-te-https://www.smusd.org/departments/career-technical-education-te-https://www.smusd.org/departments/career-technical-education-te-https://www.smusd.org/departments/career-technical-education-te-https://www.smusd.org/departments/career-technical-education-te-https://www.smusd.org/departments/career-te-chnical-education-te-https://www.smusd.org/departments/career-te-chnical-education-te-https://www.smusd.org/departments/career-te-chnical-education-te-https://www.smusd.org/departments/career-te-chnical-education-te-https://www.smusd.org/departments/career-te-chnical-education-te-https://www.smusd.org/departments/career-te-chnical-education-te-https://www.smusd.org/departments/career-te-chnical-education-te-https://www.smusd.org/departments/career-te-https://w

#### STUDENT BEHAVIOR

#### ASSIGNMENTS AND TESTS DURING SUSPENSION

Reference: EC 47606.2, 48913, 48913.5, 48980

**BP/AR:** 5144 – Discipline; 5144.1 – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

The teacher of any class from which a student is suspended may require the suspended student to complete any assignments and tests missed during the suspension. However, a teacher must provide a student that has been suspended from school for two or more days the homework that the student would otherwise have been assigned if the student or the student's parent or other person holding educational rights makes a request to the teacher. Whenever a homework assignment that is requested and turned into the teacher either upon the student's return to school from suspension or by the deadline prescribed by the teacher, whichever is later, is not graded before the end of the academic term, that assignment cannot be included in the calculation of the student's overall grade in class.

#### **DISCIPLINE RULES**

**Reference:** 5 CCR 300; EC 35291, 44807, 48980

**BP/AR**: 5144 – Discipline; 5144.1 – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

The School District is committed to providing a safe, supportive, and positive school environment which is conducive to student learning and achievement and desires to prepare students for responsible citizenship by fostering self-discipline and personal responsibility. The District believes that high expectations for student behavior, use of effective school and classroom management strategies, provision of appropriate intervention and support, and parent involvement can minimize the need for disciplinary measures that exclude students from instruction as a means for correcting student misbehavior.

Each school site and each classroom teacher has established behavior expectations for their students that are consistent with Board policy and applicable state and federal laws. Staff shall enforce disciplinary rules fairly, consistently, and in accordance with the District's nondiscrimination policies. Students shall be held to a strict account for their conduct on the way to and from school, in the classroom and other school buildings, on school grounds, at school-sponsored activities, and on the school bus. Students shall conform to school regulations; obey promptly all directions of teachers and others in authority; be diligent in study; be kind, courteous, and respectful to all students and staff; and refrain entirely from the use of profane and vulgar language.

At all times, the safety of students and staff and the maintenance of an orderly school environment shall be priorities in determining appropriate discipline. To the extent possible, staff shall use disciplinary strategies that keep students in school and participating in the instructional program. Disciplinary measures that may result in loss of instructional time or cause students to be disengaged from school, such as detention, suspension, and expulsion, shall be imposed only when required or permitted by law or when other means of correction have been documented to have failed.

#### **GROUNDS FOR SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION**

Reference: EC 35291, 48900, 48900.2. 48900.3, 48900.4, 48900.7, 48915, 48980

**BP/AR:** 5144.1 – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

A student at any grade level may be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion for committing any of the following acts that are related to a school activity or school attendance: (EC 48900, 48900.7)

- 1. Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person.
- 2. Willfully used force or violence upon another person, except in self-defense.
- 3. Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished any firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object.
- 4. Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, otherwise furnished, or was under the influence of any controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind.
- 5. Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind, and then sold, delivered, or otherwise furnished to any person another liquid, substance, or material and represented same as such controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant.
- 6. Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.
- 7. Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property.
- 8. Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property.
- 9. Possessed or used tobacco, or products containing tobacco or nicotine products.

- 10. Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.
- 11. Unlawfully possessed, offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any drug paraphernalia.
- 12. Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.
- 13. Possessed an imitation firearm. Imitation firearm means a replica of a firearm that is so substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm.
- 14. Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault or committed a sexual battery.
- 15. Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a student who is a complaining witness or witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for the purpose of preventing that student from being a witness and/or retaliating against that student for being a witness.
- 16. Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma.
- 17. Engaged in, or attempted to engage in, hazing. Hazing means a method of initiation or pre-initiation into a student organization or body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution, which is likely to cause serious bodily injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to a former, current, or prospective student.
- 18. Engaged in an act of bullying. Bullying means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, directed toward one or more students that has or can reasonably be predicted to have the effect of placing a reasonable student in fear of harm to the student's person or property; cause the student to experience a substantially detrimental effect on the student's physical or mental health; or cause the student to experience substantial interferences with the student's academic performance or ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by the school. Bullying also includes an act of cyber sexual bullying by a student through the dissemination of, or the solicitation or incitement to disseminate, a photograph or other visual recording that depicts a nude, semi-nude, or sexually explicit photograph or other visual recording of an identifiable minor, when such dissemination is to another student or to school personnel by means of an electronic act and has or can be reasonably predicted to have one or more of the effects of bullying described above. Cyber sexual bullying does not include a depiction, portrayal, or image that has any serious literary, artistic, educational, political, or scientific value or that involves athletic events or school-sanctioned activities.
- 19. Aided or abetted the infliction or attempted infliction of physical injury on another person.
- 20. Made terrorist threats against school officials and/or school property. A terrorist threat includes any written or oral statement by a person who willfully threatens to commit a crime which will result in death or great bodily injury to another person or property damage in excess of \$1,000, with the specific intent that the statement is to be taken as a threat, even if there is no intent of actually carrying it out.

Additional grounds for suspension and expulsion for students in grades 4 through 12 include: (EC 48900.2, 48900.3, 48900.4)

- 1. Committed sexual harassment. Sexual harassment means conduct which, when considered from the perspective of a reasonable person of the same gender as the victim, is sufficiently severe or pervasive as to have a negative impact upon the victim's academic performance or to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment.
- 2. Caused, attempted to cause, threatened to cause, or participated in an act of hate violence. Hate violence includes injuring or intimidating a victim, interfering with the exercise of a victim's civil rights, or damaging a victim's property because of the victim's race, ethnicity, religion, nationality, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation; a perception of the presence of any of those characteristics in the victim; or the victim's association with a person or group with one or more of those actual or perceived characteristics.
- 3. Intentionally engaged in harassment, threats, or intimidation against **district** personnel or students that is sufficiently severe or pervasive to have the actual and reasonably expected effect of materially disrupting classwork, creating substantial disorder, and invading the rights of school personnel or students by creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment.

#### Recommendation to Expel

As required law, a student found to have committed any of the following acts at school or at a school activity off school grounds shall be immediately suspended and recommended for expulsion: (EC 48915(c))

- 1. Possessing, selling, or otherwise furnishing a firearm.
- 2. Brandishing a knife at another person.
- 3. Unlawfully selling a controlled substance.
- 4. Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault or committing a sexual battery.
- 5. Possessing an explosive.

For all other acts committed at school or at a school activity off school grounds, a student may be recommended for expulsion based on a finding of one or both of the following: (EC 48915(b) and (e))

- 1. Other means of correction are not feasible or have repeatedly failed to bring about proper conduct.
- 2. Due to the nature of the act, the presence of the student causes a continuing danger to the physical safety of the student or others.

## INVOLVEMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

**Reference:** EC 35291, 44014, 48902, 48980

**BP/AR**: 5144.1 – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Whenever any school employee is attacked, assaulted, or physically threatened by a student, the incident must be promptly reported to the appropriate law enforcement authorities. Additionally, the principal or designee must notify the appropriate law enforcement authorities, within specified timelines, of any acts committed by students occurring on school grounds that involve:

- 1. Assault with a deadly weapon or instrument
- 2. Sexual battery or sexual assault
- 3. Controlled substances, alcoholic beverages, or intoxicants
- 4. Firearms or explosives
- 5. Any dirk, dagger, ice pick, knife having a blade longer than 2½ inches, folding knife with a blade that locks into place, razor with an unguarded blade, taser, or stun gun (as defined in PC 244.5(a)), any instrument that expels a metallic projectile, such as a BB or a pellet, through the force of air pressure, CO2 pressure, or spring action, or any spot marker gun

Whenever the principal or designee reports a criminal act committed by a student with exceptional needs, the principal or designee will ensure that copies of the student's special education and disciplinary records are provided to law enforcement authorities for consideration.

#### PROPERTY LOSS OR DAMAGE

**Reference:** EC 35291, 48904, 48980, 49014

**<u>BP/AR</u>**: 3515.4 – Recovery for Property Loss or Damage; 5125.2 – Withholding Grades, Diploma or Transcripts; 6161.2 – Damaged or Lost Instructional Materials

When district property is damaged due to the willful misconduct of a student, the District shall seek reimbursement of damages, within the limitations specified in law, from the student's parent or from any other responsible individual.

The District may collect debt owed by a student or former student as a result of vandalism or to cover the replacement cost of district books, supplies, or property loaned to a student that the student willfully fails to return or that is willfully cut, defaced, or otherwise injured. If the student's parent is unable to pay for the damages or to return the property, a program of voluntary work for the student shall be offered in lieu of the payment of monetary damages. Until the student's parents have paid for the damages, or the voluntary work has been completed, the **District** may withhold the student' grades, diploma, and/or transcript. Before withholding a student's grades, diploma, and/or transcripts, the student's parents shall be informed of the student's alleged misconduct in writing. In addition, appropriate disciplinary procedures may be initiated against the student.

#### SUSPENSION BY TEACHER FROM CLASS

**Reference:** EC 35291, 48900.1, 48910, 48980

**BP/AR**: 5144.1 – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process; 5144.4 – Required Parental Attendance

After other means of correction have failed to bring about proper conduct, a teacher may suspend a student from their class for the remainder of the day and the following day for any act listed under the notification on "Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion". A teacher may also refer a student to the principal or designee for consideration of suspension from school.

A student removed from class will not be returned to class during the period of removal without approval of the teacher of the class and the principal. During this period of suspension, the student will not be placed in another regular class; however, if the student is assigned to more than one class per day, the student may be placed in any other regular classes except those held at the same time as the class from which the student was removed. The teacher may require the student to complete any assignments and tests missed during the removal.

As soon as possible, the teacher will ask the student's parent to attend a parent-teacher conference regarding the removal. A counselor or psychologist may attend the conference if it is practicable, and a school administrator will attend, if requested by either the parent or teacher.

When suspending a student from class for committing an act of obscenity, habitual profanity or vulgarity, disruption of school activities, and/or willful defiance, the teacher may require any parent who lives with the student to accompany the student for a portion of a school day in the class from which the student has been suspended. A written notice will be sent to the parent regarding the implementation of this requirement.

Per LC 230.7, employers are not allowed to discharge or in any manner discriminate against an employee who is a parent of a student taking time off to comply with the requirement described above as long as the parent has given reasonable notice to their employer. Any employee who is discharged, threatened with discharge, demoted, suspended, or in any other manner discriminated against in the terms and conditions of employment by their employer for taking time off to appear in their child's school as described above shall be entitled to reinstatement and reimbursement for lost wages and work benefits caused by those acts of the employer.

#### SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL

Reference: EC 35291, 48911, 48980

**BP/AR:** 5144.1 – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

A student may not be suspended from school for more than five consecutive school days unless the suspension is extended pending expulsion proceedings. A suspension by the principal or designee will be preceded by an informal conference where the student is informed of the reason for the disciplinary action, including the other means of correction that were attempted, and the evidence against them, and is given the opportunity to present their version and evidence in their own defense. This conference may be omitted if the principal or designee determines that an emergency exists, involving a clear and present danger to the lives, safety or health of students or school personnel. If a student is suspended without this conference, both the parent and student will be notified of the student's right to return to school for the purpose of a conference. The conference will be held within two school days unless the student waives their right to it or is physically unable to attend for any reason. In such a case, the conference will be held as soon as the student is physically able to return to school.

At the time of the suspension, a school employee will make a reasonable effort to contact the parent by telephone, by email, or in person. The parent will also be notified in writing of the suspension. The notice will state the specific offense committed by the student and may include the date and time when the student may return to school. School officials may request a meeting with the parent to discuss the causes and duration of the suspension, the school policy involved and any other pertinent matter. A parent of a student suspended must respond without delay to the request for a meeting; however, the student may not be denied readmission solely because the parent failed to attend the meeting.

If a student is also being recommended for expulsion, the Superintendent or designee may extend the period of suspension beyond the five consecutive days if determined, following a meeting in which the student and the student's parent are invited to participate, that the student's presence at the school or at an alternative school would endanger persons or property or threaten to disrupt the instructional process.

*Note:* In the case of a foster child, any discipline-related notification provided to the parent means notification to the foster child's educational rights holder, attorney, and county social worker. For an Indian child, the notification is provided to the Indian child's tribal social worker and, if applicable, county social worker.

#### REPORTING THREATS

*Reference*: EC 35291, 48902, 49331, 49393, 48980

**BP/AR**: 3515 – Campus Safety; 5131.7 – Weapons and Dangerous Instruments

Any employee or other school official whose duties bring them in contact on a regular basis with students in any of grades 6-12, as part of a middle or high school, who is alerted to or observes any threat or perceived threat of a homicidal act shall immediately report the threat or perceived threat to law enforcement.

Threat or perceived threat means any writing or action of a student that creates a reasonable suspicion that the student is preparing to commit a homicidal act related to school or a school activity. This may include possession, use, or depictions of firearms, ammunition, shootings, or targets in association with infliction of physical harm, destruction,

or death in a social media post, journal, class note, or other media associated with the student. It may also include a warning by a parent, student, or other individual.

## STUDENT RECORDS

#### ACCESS BY MILITARY RECRUITERS

Reference: 20 USC 7908

**BP/AR**: 5125.1 – Release of Directory Information

Federal law requires that the District provides military recruiters access to secondary school students' names, addresses and telephone listings upon request by the military recruiters. A student or parent may request that this information not be released to military recruiters without prior written consent. An opt-out form is provided within this notice.

#### ACCESS TO STUDENT RECORDS

**Reference:** 34 CFR 99.7, 99.34; EC 234.7, 49063, 49069.7

**BP/AR:** 5125 – Student Records

Access means personal inspection and review, request and receipt, and oral description or communication of any record. A log is maintained in each student's record which lists all persons, agencies, or organizations that have requested or received information from the records and the legitimate educational interest of the requester. The log is only accessible to the parent, a student who is age 16 years or older or who has completed the 10th grade, the custodian of records, and certain state and federal officials.

School officials and employees with legitimate educational interests may access student records without parental consent as long as access to such records is required to fulfill their duties and responsibilities, whether routine in nature or as a result of special circumstances (e.g., working with the student, compiling and analyzing student data, connecting a student to education programs or services). School officials and employees also include contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the District has outsourced its functions and who perform services for which the District would otherwise use employees. Upon request from officials of another school, school system, or postsecondary institution in which a student seeks or intends to enroll or is already enrolled, the District is authorized to disclose educational records without parental consent as long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer.

A student's citizenship status, immigration status, place of birth, or any other information indicating national origin will not be released without parental consent or a court order.

#### Parents have the right to:

- 1. Inspect and review the student's educational record maintained by the school
- 2. Request that a school correct records which they believe to be inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights (see notification on "Challenging Student Records")
- 3. Consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's records, except to the extent that state and federal laws authorize disclosure without consent, and request a copy of the records that were disclosed
- 4. File a complaint with the United States Department of Education concerning an alleged failure by the District to comply with the provisions of the United States Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) by writing to: Student Privacy Policy Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW, Washington, D.C. 20202-4605

When a student turns 18 years of age, all rights regarding student records are transferred from the parent to the student. If the adult student is still claimed by the parent as a dependent for tax purposes, the parent may still access the student's records. Although noncustodial parents are not afforded the rights described above, they have the right to access their student's education records unless that right of access has been limited through a court order.

When prior written consent from a parent is required by law, the parent must provide a written, signed, and dated consent before the District discloses the student record. Such consent may be given through electronic means in those cases where it can be authenticated. The parent must specify the records that may be disclosed, state the purpose of the disclosure, and identify the party or class of parties to whom the disclosure may be made. Upon request by the parent, the District will provide the parent a copy of the records disclosed. The written request to access or disclose

a student's records must be submitted in written form to the Director of Student Services, who will, in turn, have five business days from the day of receipt of the request to fulfill the request during regular school hours. Qualified certificated personnel are available to interpret records when requested. Reasonable measures will be taken to prevent the alteration, damage, or loss of records during inspection.

#### **CAL GRANT PROGRAM**

**Reference:** EC 69432.9

**BP/AR:** 5121 – Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement; 5125 – Student Records

A Cal Grant is a California-specific financial aid allocation that does not have to be paid back. To qualify, a student must meet the eligibility and financial requirements as well as any minimum grade point average (GPA) requirements. Cal Grants can be used at any University of California, California State University or California Community College. Some independent and career colleges or technical schools in California also take Cal Grants.

Cal Grant applicants must apply using the FAFSA or CA Dream Act Application by the deadline and meet all eligibility, financial, and minimum GPA requirements of either program. To assist students with the application, all students in grade 12 are automatically considered a Cal Grant applicant and each grade 12 student's GPA will be submitted by the October 1 deadline to the California Student Aid Commission (CASC) electronically by either the school or the District. A student, or the parent of a student under 18 years of age, may complete a form to indicate that they do not wish for the school to electronically send CASC the student's GPA. Until a student turns 18 years of age, only the parent may opt out the student. Once a student turns 18 years of age, only the student may opt themselves out, and can opt in if the parent had previously decided to opt out the student. Notification regarding CASC and the opportunity to opt out of being automatically deemed a Cal Grant applicant will be provided to all students and their parents by January 1 of the students' 11th grade year. If the opt out form is not received by March 1 of the student's 11th grade year, the student's GPA will be submitted to CASC beginning September of the student's 12th grade year.

## CALIFORNIA COLLEGE GUIDANCE INITIATIVE

*Reference*: EC 60900.5

**BP/AR:** 5125 – Student Records

The California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI) works to smooth the path to college for California students and unify the efforts of the institutions that serve them. Combining data-driven tools and infrastructure with capacity building and student-focused curricula, CCGI helps close the gaps between systems and ensure that all California students, especially those who have been underrepresented in higher education, can move seamlessly from K-12 to college and career. The California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CalPADS) is a longitudinal data system used to maintain individual-level data including student demographics, course data, discipline, assessments, staff assignments, and other data for state and federal reporting.

#### Data from CalPADS:

- 1. Are shared with the CCGI.
- 2. Are used to provide students and families with direct access to online tools and resources.
- 3. Will enable a student to transmit information shared with the CCGI to both of the following:
  - Postsecondary educational institutions for purpose of admissions and academic placement.
  - The Student Aid Commission for purposes of admissions and academic placement.

#### **DIRECTORY INFORMATION**

**Reference:** 20 USC 1232g; 24 CFR 99.37; EC 49063, 49073

**BP/AR**: 5125.1 – Release of Directory Information

Directory information means information contained in a student record that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. Such student information includes the student's name, address, telephone number, email address, date of birth, major field of study, participation record in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of athletic team members, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and most recent previous school attended. Directory information may include a student identification number, user identification, or other personal identifier used by the student for purposes of accessing or communicating in electronic systems as long as the identifier cannot be used to gain access to education records except when used in

conjunction with a personal identification number, password, or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user.

Directory information does not include a student's social security number. Directory information also does not include the student's citizenship status, immigration status, place of birth, or any other information indicating national origin. The District will not release such information without parental consent or a court order.

The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the school and the District to include this type of information from the student's education records in certain school and/or District publications (e.g., a playbill showing the student's role in a drama production, honor roll or other recognition lists, annual yearbook, promotion/graduation programs, sports activity sheets showing weight and height of team members). Additionally, the District has determined that the following individuals, officials, or organizations may receive directory information: Parent advisory committees and school resources officers.

No information may be released to private profit-making entity other than employers, prospective employers and representatives of the news media, including, but not limited to, newspapers, magazines, and radio and television stations. No directory information of a student identified as a homeless child or youth will be released unless the parent has provided written consent that directory information may be released. For all other students, directory information will not be released if their parent notifies the school principal in writing that such information not be disclosed without their prior consent. Parents may submit a *Release of Directory Information* form to opt out, or in the case of a homeless child or youth, opt in, of the release of directory information by the third Friday in September.

Additionally, the District will not include the directory information or the personal information of a student or the parent of a student in the minutes of a meeting of the Governing Board, except as required by judicial order or federal law, if the parent has provided a written request to the secretary or clerk of the Board to exclude their personal information or the name of their minor child from the minutes of a Board meeting.

#### MAINTENANCE OF STUDENT RECORDS

**Reference:** 5 CCR 432, 437; EC 49063, 49076.7

**BP/AR**: 5125 – Student Records

A cumulative record must be maintained on the history of a student's development and educational progress. Student records are any items of information, whether recorded by handwriting, print, tapes, film, microfilm or other means, gathered within or outside the School District that are directly related to an identifiable student and maintained for the purpose of second-party review. Active records are maintained at the student's school; inactive records are maintained at individual school sites.

Per state and federal law, the District maintains the following *mandatory permanent records* indefinitely: student's legal name, date and place of birth, method of verifying birth date, sex, enter and leave date each school year, subjects taken, marks or number of credits toward graduation, verification of or exemption from required immunization, date of high school graduation or equivalent, and parent's name and address (including the student's address if different, and the annual verification of residency for both the student and the parent). The District also keeps the following *mandatory interim records* until three years after the student leaves or graduates, or their usefulness has ceased: log identifying persons or agencies who have requested or received information from the student record, health information, information on participation in special education programs, language training records, progress slips/notices, parental authorizations/restrictions/waivers, rejoinders to challenged records, results of standardized tests administered within the past three years, expulsion orders, and independent study evaluation and findings. *Permitted records*, which are records that the District has determined important to maintain, may include, but are not limited to, objective counselor and teacher ratings, standardized test results older than three years, routine discipline data, verified reports of relevant behavior patterns, disciplinary notices, and attendance records.

The District will not collect or solicit social security numbers or the last four digits of social security numbers of students or parents, except as required by state or federal law or as required to establish eligibility for a federal benefit program. Additionally, the District will not collect information or documents regarding the citizenship or immigration status of students or their family members, unless required by state or federal law or as required to administer a state or federally supported educational program.

On an annual basis, records that are not designated as mandatory permanent records are reviewed to determine the records that still need to be retained and those that are appropriate for destruction. Records are destroyed in a way that assures that such records will not be available to possible public inspection in the process of destruction.

The Director of Student Services has been designated as the custodian of records at the District level, and at each school site, the principal serves as the custodian of records for students enrolled at their school. The custodian of records is responsible for implementing the policies and procedures related to student records; in particular, they must protect the student and the student's family from invasion of privacy by ensuring only authorized persons may access student records.

## PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

**Reference:** 20 USC 1232h; EC 51513

**BP/AR:** 5022 – Student and Family Privacy Rights; 6162.8 – Research

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) affords parents of elementary and secondary students certain rights regarding the conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include, but are not limited to, the right to:

- Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED)—
  - 1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
  - 2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
  - 3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
  - 4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
  - 5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
  - 6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
  - 7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parent; or
  - 8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.
- Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of
  - 1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
  - 2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
  - 3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others. (This does not apply to the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions.)
- Inspect, upon request and before administration or use
  - 1. Protected information surveys of students and surveys created by a third party;
  - 2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
  - 3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.

The District has developed and adopted policies, in consultation with parents, regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. The District will directly notify parents of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes. The District will also directly notify, such as through U.S. Mail or email, parents of students who are scheduled to participate in the specific activities or surveys noted below and will provide an opportunity for the parent to opt their child out of participation of the specific activity or survey. The District will make this notification to parents at the beginning of the school year if the District has identified the specific or approximate dates of the activities or surveys at that time. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys listed below and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of such activities and surveys. Parents will also be provided an opportunity to review any pertinent surveys. Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this direct notification requirement:

- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for marketing, sales, or other distribution.
- Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by ED.
- Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with: Student Privacy Policy Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20202

## **TECHNOLOGY**

#### ELECTRONIC LISTENING AND RECORDING DEVICES

*Reference*: EC 51512

**BP/AR:** 1250 – Visitors/Outsiders

The use by any person, including a student, of any electronic listening or recording device in any classroom without the prior consent of the teacher and the principal given to promote an educational purpose is prohibited. It disrupts and impairs the teaching process and discipline schools. Any person, other than a student, who willfully violates this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Any pupil violating this section shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

#### INTERNET SAFETY

Reference: 47 CFR 54.520; 20 USC 7131, 47 USC 254

**BP/AR**: 6163.4 – Student Use of Technology

An emerging national concern is the inappropriate use of the Internet by students. Across the nation, schools continue to see an increase in negative student behavior as a result of messages written using electronic technology, posted to popular social networking websites. Many sites contain instant messaging components that allow students to chat with other students and to post statements that ordinarily would not be said in a face-to-face conversation. The popularity of these websites has grown.

Unfortunately, some students use the sites to participate in online bullying or to threaten harm to other students. The "cyber bullies" use the anonymity of the Web to hurt others without witnessing the consequences. Students who are bullied online sometimes do not report these occurrences for fear that they will be barred from using the Internet.

Outside of schools, there have been instances of adults, who are child predators and con artists, posing as youths and gaining access to student chat rooms. In some cases, these contacts have led to tragedy. Some unsuspecting students post enough personal information that predators are able to locate students' home or school addresses, thereby becoming easy targets for predators.

The District shall ensure that all district computers with Internet access have a technology protection measure that protects against access to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors and that the operation of such measures is enforced. To reinforce these measures, rules and procedures are designed to restrict students' access to harmful or inappropriate matter on the Internet and to ensure that students do not engage in unauthorized or unlawful online activities.

Parents should be aware of what their children are writing on the Internet and what others are posting in reply. These websites are public domain, and anything posted there can be seen by anyone who has Internet access. Although most of what is written is not immoral, offensive, or illegal, some of it is. Parents may choose to investigate a site by personally logging onto the site. The services are free, and users may register and join the site by using an email address. Once registered, parents can search by name and email address to see if their child is registered. Search results may be narrowed by entering the name of the city. Parents will then be able to view the kinds of personal information, messages, diaries, and photographs that students post on the site.

Parents should be aware that most social media platforms are required to disclose all cyberbullying reporting procedures in the social media platform's terms of service. They must also have a mechanism within its internet-based service to allow an individual, whether or not that individual has a profile on the internet-based service, to report cyberbullying or any content that violates the existing terms of service.

Parents are encouraged to discuss with their children the potential danger of the Internet and establish rules and guidelines to ensure their safety while on the Internet. For additional Internet safety tips and advice, visit any of the following websites:

- Common Sense Media <a href="https://www.commonsensemedia.org">https://www.commonsensemedia.org</a>
- Connect Safely https://www.connectsafely.org/
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children https://www.netsmartz.org/

- Net Cetera https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/feature-0002-parents
- Web Wise Kids http://www.webwisekids.org

The District will continue to provide Internet security within its schools. It is important that parents also monitor Internet use at home.

#### **USE OF DISTRICT TECHNOLOGY**

**Reference:** 47 CFR 54.520; 20 USC 7131, 47 USC 254

**BP/AR**: 6163.4 – Student Use of Technology

See the attached Technology Responsibility Agreement provided within this notice.

#### **USE OF MOBILE COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

**Reference:** EC 48901.5, 48901.7

**BP/AR**: 5131.8 – Mobile Communication Devices

The use of smartphones and other mobile communication devices on campus may be beneficial to student learning and well-being, but could be disruptive of the instructional program in some circumstances.

Mobile communication devices shall be turned off during instructional time. However, a student shall not be prohibited from possessing or using a mobile communication device under any of the following circumstances:

- In the case of an emergency, or in response to a perceived threat of danger
- When a teacher or administrator grants permission to the student to possess or use a mobile communication device, subject to any reasonable limitation imposed by that teacher or administrator
- When a licensed physician or surgeon determines that the possession or use is necessary for the student's health and well-being
- When the possession or use is required by the student's individualized education program or Section 504 plan

Smartphones and other mobile communication devices shall not be used in any manner which infringes on the privacy rights of any other person. When used in an unauthorized manner, the device may be confiscated and/or searched according to law and policy, and the student may be subject to discipline. A student may also be subject to discipline for use of a mobile communication device off school grounds if it poses a threat or danger to the safety of students, staff, or district property or substantially disrupts school activities.

The District is not responsible for the loss, theft, or damage of a student's mobile communication device which is brought onto school grounds or to a school activity.

## Board Policy Manual San Marcos Unified School District

Policy 5144: Discipline Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 11/09/2023 | Last Reviewed Date: 11/09/2023

The Board of Trustees believes that one of the major functions of the public schools is the preparation of youth for responsible citizenship. The District shall foster a learning environment which reinforces the concepts of self-discipline and the acceptance of personal responsibility. Students are expected to progress from being adult-directed to self-directed, with minimal application of disciplinary measures.

The Board believes that high expectations for student behavior, effective classroom management, and parent involvement can minimize the need for discipline. Staff shall use preventative measures and positive conflict resolution techniques whenever possible.

In order to maintain an environment conducive to attaining the highest quality of education in the district, there must exist certain disciplinary policies and regulations relating to student conduct that delineates acceptable behavior and provides the basis for sound disciplinary practices within each school in the District. These policies and regulations will be enforced fairly, uniformly, and consistently without regard to race, creed, color, gender or sexual orientation.

The administration, teachers, and classified staff share the mutual responsibility for student conduct and safety, and the enforcement of district policies and procedures. The Board shall give reasonable support and assistance to all employees with respect to student discipline. The Superintendent or designee shall provide professional development as necessary to assist staff in developing classroom management skills and implementing effective disciplinary techniques.

The Board recognizes that not all students will adhere to district rules for appropriate behavior. Sufficient support services shall be provided so that continually disruptive students will be returned to regular classes only after consequences and interventions are applied to bring about some modification of behavior. Students may be assigned to other alternative programs, or be subject to removal from school, in accordance with law, Board policy and administrative regulations.

In order to ensure that school site rules for student discipline are enforced fairly, uniformly, and consistently, the Superintendent shall establish procedures for the development of such rules. All school site rules shall be strictly based on District policy, procedure, and existing law.

All avenues provided in policy, procedure, and law for the discipline of students may be utilized in developing site level rules. These include, but are not limited to, advising and counseling students, conferencing with parents/guardians, detention during and after school hours or on Saturdays, recess restriction, community service, alternative educational environments, removal from class, and, if necessary, suspension and expulsion.

Special care shall be taken to solicit the views of the school community, including administrators, teachers, school security personnel, parents, and students in developing the site level rules. The adoption of each school's rules on student discipline is the responsibility of the school principal/designee. All adopted school site rules shall be subject to Board review and approval prior to implementation. School site rules shall be revised periodically as required by any changes in District policy or procedure, and shall undergo site level rule review as required by law.

The principal of each school shall ensure that every student and his/her parent/guardian is notified in writing of all Board policies, administrative procedures, and individual school rules related to discipline at the beginning of each school year, and that transfer students and their parents/guardians are so advised at the time of enrollment in school.

#### **Corporal Punishment**

Corporal punishment (the willful infliction of pain) shall not be used as a disciplinary measure against any student. School administrators and teachers shall employ other means of disciplining students who violate school rules, district procedures, or district policies.

The use of reasonable and necessary force by an employee to protect oneself, students, or others, to obtain possession of weapons/dangerous objects, or to prevent damage to district property, shall not be considered corporal punishment for purposes of this policy. (Edc. Code 49001)

## **Parent Liability**

Parents/guardians are liable (Education Code 48904) for the willful misconduct of their minor children that results in damages to school property or the injury or death of a district student, employee, or volunteer (Civil Code 1714.1).

## **Community Service**

As part of or instead of disciplinary action, the Board, Superintendent, principal or principal's designee may, at his/her discretion, require a student to perform community service on school grounds, or with written permission of the student's parent/guardian off school grounds, during non school hours. Such service may include, but is not limited to, community or school outdoor beautification, campus betterment, and teacher, peer, or youth assistance programs.

This community service option is not available for a student who has been suspended, pending expulsion, pursuant to Education Code 48915. However, if the recommended expulsion is not implemented or the expulsion itself is suspended, then a student may be required to perform community service for the resulting suspension pursuant to this section.

## Board Policy Manual San Marcos Unified School District

Status: ADOPTED

#### Policy 5145.7: Sexual Harassment

Original Adopted Date: 11/09/2023 | Last Reviewed Date: 11/09/2023

The Board of Trustees is committed to maintaining a safe school environment that is free from harassment and discrimination. The Board prohibits, at school or at school-sponsored or school-related activities, sexual harassment targeted at any student by anyone. The Board also prohibits retaliatory behavior or action against any person who reports, files a complaint or testifies about, or otherwise supports a complainant in alleging sexual harassment.

The district strongly encourages students who feel that they are being or have been sexually harassed on school grounds or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity by another student or an adult, or who have experienced off-campus sexual harassment that has a continuing effect on campus, to immediately contact their teacher, the principal, the district's Title IX Coordinator, or any other available school employee. Any employee who receives a report or observes an incident of sexual harassment shall notify the Title IX Coordinator.

Once notified, the Title IX Coordinator shall ensure the complaint or allegation is addressed through AR 5145.71 - Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures or BP/AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures, as applicable. Because a complaint or allegation that is dismissed or denied under the Title IX complaint procedure may still be subject to consideration under state law, the Title IX Coordinator shall ensure that any implementation of AR 5145.71 concurrently meets the requirements of BP/AR 1312.3.

The Title IX Coordinator shall offer supportive measures to the complainant and respondent, as deemed appropriate under the circumstances.

The Superintendent or designee shall inform students and parents/guardians of the district's sexual harassment policy by disseminating it through parent/guardian notifications, publishing it on the district's web site, and including it in student and staff handbooks. All district staff shall be trained regarding the policy.

#### Instruction/Information

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all district students receive age-appropriate information on sexual harassment. Such instruction and information shall include:

- 1. What acts and behavior constitute sexual harassment, including the fact that sexual harassment could occur between people of the same sex and could involve sexual violence
- 2. A clear message that students do not have to endure sexual harassment under any circumstance
- 3. Encouragement to report observed incidents of sexual harassment even when the alleged victim of the harassment has not complained
- 4. A clear message that student safety is the district's primary concern, and that any separate rule violation involving an alleged victim or any other person reporting a sexual harassment incident will be addressed separately and will not affect the manner in which the sexual harassment complaint will be received, investigated, or resolved

- 5. A clear message that, regardless of a complainant's noncompliance with the writing, timeline, or other formal filing requirements, every sexual harassment allegation that involves a student, whether as the complainant, respondent, or victim of the harassment, shall be investigated and action shall be taken to respond to harassment, prevent recurrence, and address any continuing effect on students
- 6. Information about the district's procedures for investigating complaints and the person(s) to whom a report of sexual harassment should be made
- 7. Information about the rights of students and parents/guardians to file a civil or criminal complaint, as applicable, including the right to file a civil or criminal complaint while the district investigation of a sexual harassment complaint continues
- 8. A clear message that, when needed, the district will implement supportive measures to ensure a safe school environment for a student who is the complainant or victim of sexual harassment and/or other students during an investigation

### **Disciplinary Actions**

Upon completion of an investigation of a sexual harassment complaint, any student found to have engaged in sexual harassment or sexual violence in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action. For students in grades 4-12, disciplinary action may include suspension and/or expulsion, provided that, in imposing such discipline, the entire circumstances of the incident(s) shall be taken into account.

Upon investigation of a sexual harassment complaint, any employee found to have engaged in sexual harassment or sexual violence toward any student shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, in accordance with law and the applicable collective bargaining agreement.

#### **Record-Keeping**

In accordance with law and district policies and regulations, the Superintendent or designee shall maintain a record of all reported cases of sexual harassment to enable the district to monitor, address, and prevent repetitive harassing behavior in district schools.

Status: ADOPTED

#### Policy 5145.3: Nondiscrimination/Harassment

Original Adopted Date: 11/09/2023 | Last Revised Date: 06/13/2024 | Last Reviewed Date: 06/13/2024

This policy shall apply to all acts constituting unlawful discrimination or harassment related to school activity or to school attendance occurring within a district school, to acts which occur off campus or outside of school-related or school-sponsored activities but which may have an impact or create a hostile environment at school, and to all acts of the Governing Board and the Superintendent in enacting policies and procedures that govern the district.

The Board desires to provide a welcoming, safe, and supportive school environment that allows all students equal access to and opportunities in the district's academic, extracurricular, and other educational support programs, services, and activities. The Board prohibits, at any district school or school activity, unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying, targeted at any student by anyone, based on the student's actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, ethnicity, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

Unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, may result from physical, verbal, nonverbal, or written conduct based on any of the categories listed above. Unlawful discrimination also occurs when prohibited conduct is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it affects a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity; creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment; has the effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with a student's academic performance; or otherwise adversely affects a student's educational opportunities.

Unlawful discrimination also includes disparate treatment of students based on one of the categories above with respect to the provision of opportunities to participate in school programs or activities or the provision or receipt of educational benefits or services.

Because unlawful discrimination may occur when disciplining students, including suspension and expulsion, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that staff enforce discipline rules fairly, consistently and in a non-discriminatory manner, as specified in Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5144 - Discipline, Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process, and Administrative Regulation 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students With Disabilities).

The Board also prohibits any form of retaliation against any individual who reports or participates in the reporting of unlawful discrimination, files or participates in the filing of a complaint, or investigates or participates in the investigation of a complaint or report alleging unlawful discrimination. Retaliation complaints shall be investigated and resolved in the same manner as a discrimination complaint.

The Superintendent or designee shall facilitate students' access to the educational program by publicizing the district's nondiscrimination policy and related complaint procedures to students, parents/guardians, and employees. In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall post the district's policies prohibiting discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying and other required information on the district's website in a manner that is easily accessible to parents/guardians and students, in accordance with law and the accompanying administrative regulation. (Education Code 234.1, 234.6)

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training and/or information on the scope and use of the policy and complaint procedures and take other measures designed to increase the school community's understanding of the requirements of law related to discrimination. The Superintendent or designee shall regularly review the implementation of the district's nondiscrimination policies and practices and, as necessary, shall take action to remove any identified barrier to student access to or participation in the district's educational program. The Superintendent or designee shall report the findings and recommendations to the Board after each review.

Regardless of whether a complainant complies with the writing, timeline, and/or other formal filing requirements, all complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, shall be investigated and prompt action taken to stop the discrimination, prevent recurrence, and address any continuing effect on students.

Students who engage in unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, in violation of law, Board policy, or administrative regulation shall be subject to appropriate consequence or discipline, which may include suspension or expulsion when the behavior is severe or pervasive as defined in Education Code 48900.4. Any employee who permits or engages in prohibited discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

All allegations of unlawful discrimination in district programs and activities shall be brought, investigated, and resolved in accordance with Board Policy 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures.

#### **Record-Keeping**

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a record of all reported cases of unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, to enable the district to monitor, address, and prevent repetitive prohibited behavior in district schools.

Status: ADOPTED

## Policy 5131.2: Bullying

Original Adopted Date: 11/09/2023 | Last Revised Date: 05/09/2024 | Last Reviewed Date: 05/09/2024

This policy shall apply to all acts constituting bullying related to school activity or to school attendance occurring within a district school, to acts which occur off campus or outside of school-related or school-sponsored activities but which may have an impact or create a hostile environment at school, and to all acts of the Governing Board and the Superintendent in enacting policies and procedures that govern the district.

The Board recognizes the harmful effects of bullying on student well-being, student learning, and school attendance and desires to provide a welcoming, safe, and supportive school environment that protects students from physical, mental, and emotional harm. No individual or group shall, through physical, written, verbal, visual, or other means, harass, sexually harass, threaten, intimidate, cyberbully, cause bodily injury to, or commit hate violence against any student or school personnel, or retaliate against them for filing a complaint or participating in the complaint resolution process.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies for addressing bullying in district schools with the involvement of students, parents/guardians, and staff. As appropriate, the Superintendent or designee may also collaborate with social services, mental health services, law enforcement, courts, and other agencies and community organizations in the development and implementation of effective strategies to promote safety in schools and the community.

Such strategies shall be incorporated into the comprehensive safety plan and, to the extent possible, into the local control and accountability plan and other applicable district and school plans.

Any complaint of bullying shall be investigated and, if determined to be discriminatory, resolved in accordance with law and the district's uniform complaint procedures specified in Administrative Regulation 1312.3. If, during the investigation, it is determined that a complaint is about nondiscriminatory bullying, the principal or designee shall inform the complainant and shall take all necessary actions to resolve the complaint.

If the Superintendent or designee believes it is in the best interest of a student who has been the victim of an act of bullying, as defined in Education Code 48900, the Superintendent or designee shall advise the student's parents/guardians that the student may transfer to another school. If the parents/guardians of a student who has been the victim of an act of bullying requests a transfer for the student pursuant to Education Code 46600, the Superintendent or designee shall allow the transfer in accordance with law and district policy on intradistrict or interdistrict transfer, as applicable.

District families are encouraged to model respectful behavior, contribute to a safe and supportive learning environment, and monitor potential causes of bullying.

Any employee who permits or engages in bullying or retaliation related to bullying shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.





Subject: Internet Safety

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The San Marcos Unified School District prides itself on providing a safe learning environment for its students. An emerging national concern is the inappropriate use of the Internet by students. This problem has the potential to be harmful, and we ask your support in assisting us with this challenge.

Across the nation, schools have seen an increase in negative student behavior as a result of messages written using electronic technology, posted to popular social media websites. Many of the social media websites contain instant messaging components that allow students to chat with other students and post statements that ordinarily would not be said in a face-to-face conversation.

Unfortunately, some of these websites are being used by child predators, "cyber bullies," and con artists. Unfortunately, some students use the sites to participate in online bullying or to threaten harm to other students. The so-called "cyber bullies," mostly children between the ages of 9 and 14, use the anonymity of the web to hurt others without witnessing the consequences. Students who are bullied online sometimes do not report these occurrences for fear that they will be barred from using the Internet.

Outside of our schools, there have been instances of adults posing as youths and gaining access to student chat rooms. In some cases, these contacts have led to tragedy. Some unsuspecting students post enough personal information that predators are able to locate students' home or school addresses, thereby becoming easy targets for predators.

The San Marcos Unified School District has blocked the use of these social networking sites from our school computers. We will continue to block objectionable material as we deem appropriate. Parents should be aware of what their children are writing on the Internet and what others are posting in reply. These social networking websites are public domain, and some of the contents posted there can be seen by anyone who has Internet access. If you choose to do so, you may investigate the sites by personally logging on to the sites. The services are free, and users may register using an e-mail address. Once you have registered, you can search by name and e-mail address to see if your child is registered. You can narrow the search result by entering the name of your city. You will be able to view the kinds of personal information, messages, diaries, and photographs that students post to this website.

We encourage you to talk to your child about the potential danger of the Internet. Ask if they have an account on any social media website. If your child is using such a site with your permission, you may want to review his or her profile to ensure that no personal and identifiable information has been posted.

We also encourage you to establish rules and guidelines to ensure the safety of your child while on the Internet. Some websites offer parental or family guidance for Internet safety; for example:

www.connectsafely.org. www.childnet.com/resources

The San Marcos Unified School District will continue to provide Internet security within our schools. It is important that parents also monitor Internet use at home.

Thank you for your support and cooperation in keeping our students safe. If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact: Education Technology (760) 752-1214.

















## **Student Technology Responsible Use Policy**

## **Purpose:**

The purpose of this document is to outline San Marcos Unified School District's Responsible Use Policy as it relates to the use of technology by staff and students. Our community of staff and students use technology to access and share information, communicate with one another, and to create products, which convey understanding and have educational purpose. While we want our students to be active contributors in a globally connected environment, we need them to be safe, legal, and responsible. This Technology Responsible Use Policy supports our vision of digital citizenship. The policy applies to all users of San Marcos Unified School District computer networks, the resources made available by these networks, and all devices connected to these networks.

## **General Policies:**

- The purpose of a SMUSD user account is to provide access to the district's network and hosted programs to facilitate a seamless educational experience promoting 21st century literacy skills.
- Access is a privilege and involves user responsibility. Inappropriate use may result in cancellation of those privileges and disciplinary action.
- SMUSD accounts are owned by SMUSD. All digital files associated with user accounts may be retrieved by SMUSD staff at any time without prior notice and without permission of the user. SMUSD reserves the right to monitor all accounts in order to maintain system integrity and to ensure responsible use.
- Students should have no expectation of personal privacy in any matters stored in, created by, received, or sent through the SMUSD computer network or its hosted programs.
- A content filtering solution is in place to prevent access to sites that may contain inappropriate and/or harmful material including, but not limited to pornography, weapons, illegal drugs, gambling, and sites that pose a security risk.
- The SMUSD Technology Responsible Use Policy applies to users who connect via their own service (cell phones, mobile hot-spots, etc.). However, SMUSD cannot be held responsible for the content accessed through these services.

## **Responsible Use and Digital Citizenship**

**Respect Yourself:** I will select user names that are appropriate and will use appropriate language/content online.

**Protect Yourself**: I will not publish personal details, contact details, or a schedule of activities for myself or anyone else. I am responsible for activities initiated by and/or performed under my accounts. I understand it is my responsibility to appropriately secure my account login and

password. I understand it is my responsibility to maintain and backup my own data. If I am uncertain whether a specific activity is permitted or appropriate, I will ask a teacher/administrator before engaging in that activity.

**Respect Others**: I will not use technologies to bully or tease others. I will not make audio or video recordings of students/employees without their prior permission. I understand that posing as someone else is illegal, and I will not pose as a user other than myself when online. I will be careful and aware when printing to avoid wasting resources.

**Governing Board:** 

Sarah Ahmad

Stacy Carlson Jamie Chamberlain Andres Ramos Martin Andrew S. Johnsen, Ed.D. Superintendent

Carlos Ulloa, Ed.D.

















## Page 2

#### **Student Technology Responsible Use Policy**

**Protect Others**: I will help maintain a safe computing environment by notifying appropriate school officials of inappropriate behavior, vulnerabilities, risks, and breaches involving school/district technology.

**Respect Intellectual Property**: I will appropriately cite any and all use of websites, books, audio (including music), photos, videos, etc. I will respect all copyrights.

**Protect Intellectual Property:** I will not reuse, remix, or otherwise edit materials, resources, or other content that others produce without express permission.

## **Appropriate Use of Digital Tools and Resources**

In accordance with our district mission, goals and vision for 21st century learning, our students may require accounts on third-party systems. Many of these accounts will be used at school for school-related projects and accessed outside of school for additional learning. The use of these accounts will help our students to master the effective digital communication and citizenship skills necessary for higher education and the workplace.

Guided classroom use of interactive web-based tools such as learning management systems, and educational social networking sites is the best way for students to learn how to use them safely and responsibly. Such use will help students develop the attitudes and skills that will help keep them safe outside of school.

By agreeing to his policy, I give permission to SMUSD to create and manage third party accounts (including, but not limited to SMUSD G Suite Apps (Gmail, Drive, Calendar, Classroom, etc.), Benchmark, iReady, Screencastify, Google CS First, YouTube, CCGI (California College Guidance Initiative), Adobe Spark and other Adobe products, Nearpod, Classlink, Seesaw, Flip and others, for my child. These accounts are intended for students as they learn to use technology and then transition to using technology to learn.

#### **I Know**

- The technology equipment, programs, tools, and systems managed by or used at SMUSD may be monitored by designated staff to ensure appropriate use for educational or administrative purposes (including the materials I create, view, copy, or transmit on the system) at any time without notifying me.
- All SMUSD equipment and accounts are for schoolwork only and not for personal use.
- Copyrighted software or data may not be placed on any system connected to the District's system(s) without permission from the holder of the copyright. Only the owner(s) or individuals the owner(s) specifically authorized may upload copyrighted material to the system(s).
- Social media venues are very public. What I contribute leaves a digital footprint forever, even after it is deleted. I won't post anything I wouldn't want friends, enemies, parents, teachers, or a future employer to see. I will ensure what I post promotes a positive image to the world.
- Posting or sharing personal information about myself or others on websites, discussion boards, or in email
  is inappropriate and unsafe. I know that saying unkind and untrue things about others may be considered
  bullying and is prohibited.

#### I Will

- Treat all technology devices carefully and report any issues immediately.
- Work only on the programs and websites my teacher tells me to use.
- Keep my login and password information confidential and only share it with my parents/guardians, and teacher.
- Tell an adult if I read or see something on the screen that is not appropriate for school
- Keep myself, family, and friends safe by not publishing identifiable information about myself or others (e.g. last names, phone numbers, pictures, addresses, schedules, events, etc.) on district provided equipment or accounts.
- Follow all district and school rules, regulations and policies.



## Page 3 Student Technology Responsible Use Policy

#### I Will Not

- Use technology to hurt, scare, or bully others.
- Change, tamper with, or attempt to circumvent any of the school equipment, systems, and security/content filtering measures. This includes, but is not limited to settings, software, downloads, hardware, etc.
- Access or try to access another person's files, folders, accounts, or work in general
- Re-use or re-distribute content created by others without their permission or violate copyright laws
- Access, post, or distribute offensive material including but not limited to obscene or explicit pictures, offensive comments or jokes, and harmful content that would violate district policies.
- Pretend to be someone else, spread lies, or harass others online including attempting to communicate with others who have asked me not to.
- Post or transmit pictures without obtaining prior permission from all individuals depicted or from parents of depicted students who are under the age of 18.

## **Consequences**

Any malicious attempts to harm or destroy District equipment or materials, data of another user of the District's system(s), or any of the agencies or other networks that are connected to the Internet is prohibited. Deliberate attempts to compromise, degrade, or disrupt system performance may be viewed as violations of District policies and administrative regulations and, possibly, as criminal activity under applicable state and federal laws.

Noncompliance with applicable regulations will result in a) disciplinary action consistent with District policies and regulations; b) revocation of account; c) suspension of access to District technology resources. Violations of law may result in criminal prosecutions as well as disciplinary action by the District.

#### Notes:

- 1. Please contact the school site's office to request permission to bring an approved personal electronic device on campus.
- 2. To **opt out** of the following, please contact the school site administrator before September 15:
  - SMUSD providing Internet access for my student while at school.
  - SMUSD creating and managing third-party accounts for my student. By opting out, I understand he/she will not be able to participate, electronically, in certain projects, which require these accounts.
  - My child's name/picture to be published in publicly distributed media.
  - My child's ability to use the Internet while on campus.





Dear Parents/Guardians,

We all must cooperate to keep our schools safe and weapon-free. Thus, we are asking for your cooperation in helping us enforce our strict weapons policy.

Under no circumstance should a student bring to school a knife, penknife, weapon, gun or imitation firearm, explosives or firecrackers, or other dangerous instrument, such as mace or pepper spray. Other items unsafe for children to bring to school because they could cause injury would include, but not be limited to: laser pointers, poppers, bottle/can openers, toy guns, scissors, or any items with sharp points. In the past several years, parents have sent knives with children to peel or cut lunch fruits. Please do the cutting or peeling at home. According to California Education Code 48915 and Board Policy, if your child brings a knife or any weapon to school, your child will be immediately suspended and may be required to attend an expulsion hearing before the District's Administration Hearing Panel.

It is important that you know and understand that this policy and its penalties apply to children in all grades, kindergarten through twelfth. We are asking that parents assist the schools in keeping all children safe by not allowing them to bring to school anything that is inappropriate or unsafe.

Please discuss this subject with your child, if you have any questions, please call the Principal or Assistant Principal.

Yours truly,

**Principal** 















#### 2024-25 ORAL HEALTH NOTIFICATION LETTER

(to accompany Oral Health Assessment/Waiver Request Form)

#### Dear Parent or Guardian:

To make sure your child is ready for school, California law, Education Code Section 49452.8, now requires that your child have an oral health assessment (dental check-up) by May 31 in either kindergarten or first grade, whichever is his or her first year in public school. Assessments that have happened within the 12 months before your child enters school also meet this requirement. The law specifies that the assessment must be done by a licensed dentist or other licensed or registered dental health professional.

Take the attached Oral Health Assessment/Waiver Request form to the dental office, as it will be needed for your child's checkup. If you cannot take your child for this required assessment, please indicate the reason for this in Section 3 of the form. You can get more copies of the necessary form at your child's school or online from the California Department of Education's Web site at http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/. California law requires schools to maintain the privacy of students' health information. Your child's identity will not be associated with any report produced as a result of this requirement.

The following resources will help you find a dentist and complete this requirement for your child:

- 1. Medi-Cal/Denti-Cal's toll-free number or Web site can help you to find a dentist who takes Denti-Cal: 1-800-322-6384; http://www.denti-cal.ca.gov. For help enrolling your child in Medi-Cal/Denti-Cal, contact your local social service agency at: 1-866-262-9881.
- 2. Healthy Families' toll-free number or Web site can help you to find a dentist who takes Healthy Families insurance or to find out if your child can enroll in the program: 1-800-880-5305 or http://www.benefitscal.com/.
- 3. For additional resources that may be helpful, contact your local public health care department or Dental Health Initiative San Diego at 619-692-8858.

Remember, your child is not healthy and ready for school if your child has poor dental health! Here is important advice to help your child stay healthy:

- Take your child to the dentist twice a year.
- Choose healthy foods for the entire family. Fresh foods are usually the healthiest foods.
- Brush teeth at least twice a day with toothpaste that contains fluoride.
- Limit candy and sweet drinks, such as punch or soda. Sweet drinks and candy contain a lot of sugar, which causes cavities and replaces important nutrients in your child's diet. Sweet drinks and candy also contribute to weight problems, which may lead to other diseases, such as diabetes. The less candy and sweet drinks, the better!

Baby teeth are very important. They are not just teeth that will fall out. Children need their teeth to eat properly, talk, smile, and feel good about themselves. Children with cavities may have difficulty eating, stop smiling, and have problems paying attention and learning at school. Tooth decay is an infection that does not heal and can be painful if left without treatment. If cavities are not treated, children can become sick enough to require emergency room treatment, and their adult teeth may be permanently damaged.

Many things influence a child's progress and success in school, including health. Children must be healthy to learn, and children with cavities are not healthy. Cavities are preventable, but they affect more children than any other chronic disease.

If you have questions about the new oral health assessment requirement, please contact the Student Services Department, 760.752.1289.

Sincerely,

Superintendent San Marcos Unified School District

Attachment

**Governing Board:** 

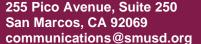
Sarah Ahmad

Jamie Chamberlain Stacy Carlson Andrew S. Johnsen, Ed.D. Superintendent

**Andres Ramos Martin** 

Carlos Ulloa, Ed.D.

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#### 2024-25 ORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT FORM

California law (*Education Code* Section 49452.8) states your child must have a dental check-up by May 31 of his/her first year in public school. A California licensed dental professional operating within his scope of practice must perform the check-up and fill out Section 2 of this form. If your child had a dental check-up in the 12 months before he/she started school, ask your dentist to fill out Section 2. If you are unable to get a dental check-up for your child, fill out Section 3.

Child's First Name:		ut by parent or guardian)  Last Name:		Middle Initial:	Child's birth date:
Address:					Apt.:
City:				ZIP code:	
School Name:		Teacher:		Grade:	Child's Sex:
Parent/Guardian Name:		Child's race/ethnicity:  White Black/African American Hispanic/Latino Asian  Native American Multi-racial Other  Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Unknown			
	ral Health Data Collection NOTE: Consider each box			al professional)	
Assessment Date:	Caries Experience (Visible decay and/or fillings present)    Yes   No	Visible Decay Present: ☐ Yes ☐ No	Treatment Urgency:  □ No obvious problem found  □ Early dental care recommended (caries without pain or infection; or child would benefit from sealants or further evaluation)  □ Urgent care needed (pain, infection, swelling or soft tissue lesions)		
Licensed Dent	al Professional Signature		A License Number		 Date
Section 3: W To be filled o	Vaiver of Oral Health Asses but by parent or guardian a	sment Requireme asking to be excuse	nt ed from this requirem		
□ I am unable My child' □ Medi-C □ I cannot aff	e my child from the dental e to find a dental office tha 's dental insurance plan is: Cal/Denti-Cal    Healthy Faford a dental check-up for lant my child to receive a de	t will take my child amilies	l's dental insurance pl	lan.	·
Optional: oth	ner reasons my child could i	not get a dental ch	eck-up:		
	e excused from this requir	rement:			
If asking to b	·				
•	of parent or guardian				Date

This information may only be used for purposes related to your child's health. If you have questions, please call your school.

Return this form to the school no later than May 31 of your child's first school year.

Original to be kept in child's school record.

**Governing Board:** 

Sarah Ahmad

Stacy Carlson Jamie Chamberlain And Andrew S. Johnsen, Ed.D. Superintendent

Andres Ramos Martin

Carlos Ulloa, Ed.D.

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255 Pico Avenue, Suite 250 San Marcos, CA 92069 communications@smusd.org

















# Student Accident Insurance - For ALL Students 2024-2025 Enrollment Information Form

Students are active and thriving while at school and San Marcos Unified prioritizes a safe and secure learning environment. While we do our very best to ensure the safety of our students, we realize that accidents do happen. Under Education Code 49472 & 32221, the District is required to contract with a third-party insurance carrier to offer parents the opportunity to purchase low-cost student accident insurance - this coverage starts at only \$14 per year. This coverage is available for ALL students enrolled in the District, not just athletes.

The San Marcos Unified School District does not carry medical or dental insurance for students injured on school premises, under school jurisdiction, or while participating in school-related activities.

Enrolling in a voluntary student accident insurance plan is extremely beneficial in the event of an accident occurring during school hours or while participating in school-sponsored activities. This insurance can serve as primary coverage for accident-related injuries OR as supplemental coverage to offset the cost of co-pays, out-of-pocket expenses, or share-of-cost expenses, including emergency room visits, ambulance fees, or follow-up office visit co-pays. Coverage is available starting at just \$14 per year! (Tackle football coverage is a separate plan that needs to be purchased.)

#### OPTIONAL SCHOOL TIME ACCIDENT COVERAGE

For a minimum of \$14 per year, this insurance covers accidents occurring during school hours and school-sponsored activities on or off school premises including physical education (PE), recess, lunch, classrooms, athletic events, field trips (excluding overnight trips), and more **for ALL students**, **not just athletes!** 

DENTAL COVERAGE - For only \$8.00 per year, you can enroll your student in the extended Dental coverage. The maximum eligible expenses payable per covered injury is \$25,000.

Please take the time to review the various levels of low-cost coverage available to you and your student.











# **VOLUNTARY STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE**

Accidents can happen to any student while at school or at a school-sponsored event.



# **BE PREPARED!**

Enrolling in a voluntary student accident insurance plan is extremely beneficial if an accident was to occur while attending or participating in school-sponsored activities. This coverage can be used as primary coverage for accident injuries OR supplemental coverage to cover the cost of co-pays or out-of-pocket expenses such as ER costs, ambulance costs, or an office visit co-pay. This coverage starts at \$14 A YEAR! (Tackle football coverage is a separate plan that needs to be purchased.)

San Marcos Unified School District does not carry medical or dental insurance for students injured on school premises, while under school jurisdiction, or while participating in school-related activities. The District has a voluntary student accident insurance program available for student families who wish to participate. This insurance program is optional and complies with California Education Code. Please review the summaries below.

# **OPTIONAL SCHOOL TIME ACCIDENT COVERAGE**

Insurance coverage is provided for covered Injuries incurred during the hours and days when school is in session and while attending or participating in school-sponsored and supervised activities on or off school premises. Includes participation in: Interscholastic Sports, excluding high school interscholastic tackle football (see below Optional Football Coverage option); Summer Recreation Activities sponsored by the school; One-Day School Field Trips (no Overnight) and School Sponsored Religious Activities. Coverage is provided for traveling to, during, or after such activities as a member of a group in transportation furnished or arranged by the Policyholder and traveling directly to or from their home premises and the school or the site of a covered activity.



# Optional School Time Accident Coverage\*

# **Annual Premium:**

Plan "Low" - \$14 Plan "Medium" - \$28 Plan "High" - \$43

# Optional 24-Hour Accident Coverage\*

### **Annual Premium:**

Plan "Low" - \$82 Plan "Medium" - \$105 Plan "High" - \$210

\*Includes sports except football

# Optional 24-Hour Dental Coverage

**Annual Premium:** 

\$8

# Optional Football Coverage\*\*

### **Annual Premium:**

Plan "Low" - \$85 Plan "Medium" - \$115 Plan "High" - \$215

\*\*Must be purchased separately

For detailed information on optional insurance plans, please visit <u>www.studentinsuranceusa.com</u>

**Student Insurance Program Brochure** 



Click here or scan the QR code to enroll online

For questions or additional information, please contact Student Insurance directly at:

Email: sirep@studentinsuranceusa.com

Phone: (310) 825-5688

Address: 10801 National Blvd, Suite 603 Los Angeles, CA 90064

Information can also be found on our website:

www.smusd.org/departments/risk management/voluntary student accident insurance

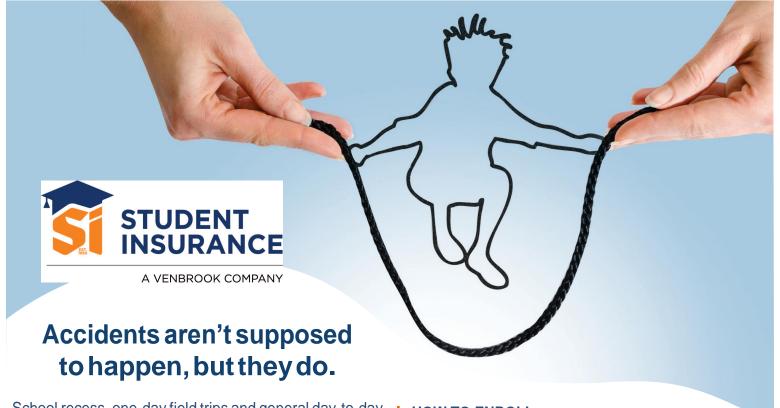


# Voluntary Student Accident Medical Insurance



K-12 Schools 2024-25





School recess, one-day field trips and general day-to-day activities can all lead to injuries. Having coverage during school hours, or around the clock can insure your loved ones get the care they need without financial hardship to your family.

# **ELIGIBILITY**

Any enrolled student is eligible for coverage.

# 12 ACCIDENT PLANS THAT ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH YOUR SCHOOL:

- School Time Accident Only
- 24-Hour Accident Only
- Optional Football Coverage
- 24-Hour Dental

All available plans are offered by Special Markets Insurance Consultants, Inc. To research which plans are being offered by your school, please visit our website's online enrollment tool at www.studentinsuranceusa.com

# **PAYMENT**

Parents or guardians of students are responsible for enrollment and premium payment.

# **HOW TO ENROLL**

Enrolling is easy and only takes a few minutes.

# Go to www.studentinsurance.com

- 1. Click on Coverage Details at the top
- 3. Select State and click "Look Up"
- 4. Click on School or District
- 5. Click on link to display plan details.

Parents can either print or complete the enrollment application to mail with check or money order or:

# You can enroll online:

- 1. Enroll online by clicking "Enroll Now"
- 2. Select State and click "Look Up"
- 3. Click on School or District
- 4. Select school location name (if applicable)
- 5. Check the plan options
- 6. Complete online application (more than one child can be enrolled on the same application)
- 7. Paybycredit/debit
- 8. Print ID card

# **About Student Insurance**

Since 1950 Student Insurance, Inc. (SI) has delivered competitive pricing on comprehensive Student Accident Insurance coverage to the K-12 segment. For further details of the coverage outlined above, including costs, benefits, exclusions and any reductions or limitation, and the terms under which the policy may be continued in force, please refer to **www.studentinsuranceusa.com**. Students are able to purchase coverage only if his/her school district is a policyholder with the insurance company.

# 2024-2025 STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE COVERAGE

**OPTIONAL SCHOOL TIME ACCIDENT COVERAGE** - Insurance coverage is provided for covered Injuries incurred during the hours and days when school is in session and while attending or participating in school sponsored and supervised activities on or off school premises. Includes participation in: Interscholastic Sports, excluding high school interscholastic tackle football (see below Optional Football Coverage option); Summer Recreation Activities sponsored by the school; One-Day School Field Trips (no Overnight) and School Sponsored Religious Activities. Coverage is provided for traveling to, during or after such activities as a member of a group in transportation furnished or arranged by the Policyholder and traveling directly to or from their home premises and the school or the site of a covered activity.

Annual Premium: Plan "Low" - \$14.00 Plan "Medium" - \$28.00 Plan "High" - \$43.00

**OPTIONAL 24-HOUR ACCIDENT COVERAGE -** Insurance coverage is provided around the clock, 24 Hours per day. Provides coverage during the weekends and vacation periods including the entire summer. Students are protected while at Home or away, any place, any time, anywhere. Coverage is provided for participation in Interscholastic Sports, excluding high school interscholastic tackle football (see below Optional Football Coverage option).

Annual Premium: Plan "Low" - \$82.00 Plan "Medium" - \$105.00 Plan "High" - \$210.00

**OPTIONAL FOOTBALL COVERAGE** - Covers Accidents occurring while participating in high school interscholastic tackle football practice or competition. Travel is covered when going directly and uninterruptedly to or from such practice or competition as part of a group in transportation furnished or arranged by the Policyholder. Refer to benefits and limitations described inside this brochure. Optional Football Coverage begins on the date of premium receipt and ends on the last day of practice or competition. Ninth Graders who play with 9<sup>th</sup> graders ONLY are not charged extra for football coverage. Their Optional School-Time or Optional 24-Hour Accident Coverage will apply if purchased.

Annual Premium: Plan "Low" - \$85.00 Plan "Medium" - \$115.00 Plan "High" - \$215.00

**OPTIONAL 24-HOUR DENTAL COVERAGE (Can be purchased separately or with other coverage)** – Insurance coverage is in effect 24 Hours a day. Injury must be treated within 60 days after the Accident occurs. Benefits are payable within 12 months after the date of Injury. The maximum eligible expenses payable per covered Injury is \$25,000. In addition, when the dentist certifies that treatment must be deferred until after the Benefit Period, deferred benefits will be paid to a maximum of \$1,000. The Student must be treated by a legally qualified dentist who is not a member of the student's Immediate Family for Injury to teeth. Coverage is limited to treatment of sound, natural teeth. **Annual Premium: \$8.00** 

**COVERAGE PERIOD** — Coverage under the Optional School-Time Accident Coverage, the Optional 24-Hour Accident Coverage and the Optional 24-Hour Dental Coverage starts on the date of premium receipt but not before the start of the school year. Optional School-Time Accident Coverage ends at the close of the regular ninemonth school term, except while the student is attending classroom sessions exclusively sponsored and solely supervised by the School during the summer. Optional 24-Hour Accident and Dental Coverage ends when school reopens for the following school year. Coverage is available under the plan throughout the school year at the premiums quoted **(no pro rata premiums available)**.

,	SCHEDI II E OE DENEERT	•	
SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS  Coverage for Injuries due to Accidents only			
Maximum Benefit:	Plan "Low"	Plan "Medium"	Plan "High"
School-Time Option	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$100,000
24-Hour Option	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$100,000
Football Option	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$100,000
Injuries Involving Motor Vehicles	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$ 10,000
Death Benefit/Double Dismemberment	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$ 20,000
Single Dismemberment	\$ 5,000	\$10,000	\$ 10,000
Loss Period for Medical Benefits	Treatment must begin within 60 days from the date of Injury		
Benefit Period for Medical and AD&D/Loss of Sight Benefits	1 Year	1 Year	1 Year
Excess Coverage Applicability	Full Excess	Full Excess	Full Excess
Hospital/Facility Services - Inpatient			
Hospital Room and Board (Semi-Private Room Rate)	65% RE*	75% RE*	80% RE*
Inpatient Hospital Miscellaneous	65% RE*	75% RE*	80% RE*
Hospital/Facility Services - Outpatient			
Free-Standing Ambulatory Surgical Facility	65% RE* to \$500 Maximum	75% RE* to \$800 Maximum	80% RE* to \$1,500 Maximum
Outpatient Hospital Miscellaneous			
	65% RE* to \$500 Maximum	75% RE* to \$800 Maximum	80% RE* to \$1,500 Maximum
Hospital Emergency Room	65% RE* to \$500 Maximum	75% RE* to \$800 Maximum	80% RE* to \$1,500 Maximum
Physician's Services			
Surgical	65% RE*	75% RE*	80% RE*
Assistant Surgeon	25% of Surgical Benefits	25% of Surgical Benefits	25% of Surgical Benefits
Anesthesiologist	25% of Surgical Benefits	25% of Surgical Benefits	25% of Surgical Benefits
Physician's Outpatient Treatment in connection with Physical Therapy	050/ DE*/405) 5 3/5) 5 3 4	750/ DE+/400\ 6 '47\ 6 '4\	000/ 55* (\$40) 5 */0) 5 * \$4
and/or Spinal Manipulation			80% RE* / \$40 Visit/8 Visit Max.
Physician's Non-surgical Treatment (Except as above)	65% RE*	75% RE*	80% RE*
Other Services			
Registered Nurses' Services	65% RE*	75% RE*	80% RE*
Prescriptions - outpatient	65% RE*	75% RE*	80% RE*
Laboratory Tests – Outpatient	65% RE*	75% RE*	80% RE*
X-rays, includes interpretation – Outpatient	65% RE*	75% RE*	80% RE*
Diagnostic Imaging (MRI, CAT Scan, etc) includes interpretation		75% RE*	80% RE*
Ground Ambulance	65% RE*	75% RE*	80% RE*
Durable Medical Equipment (includes Orthopedic Braces & Appliances)	65% RE*	75% RE*	80% RE*
Dental Treatment to sound, natural teeth due to covered injury	65% RE* to \$500 Maximum	75% RE* to \$800 Maximum	80% RE* to \$1,500 Maximum
Replacement of eyeglasses, hearing aids, contact lenses,	•	•	. ,
if medical treatment is also received for the covered injury.	\$150 Maximum	\$500 Maximum	\$700 Maximum
*RE means Reasonable Expense			GER_0418 EFTB(0009)
·			= ```

Student's Last Name	Student's First Name Student's Middle Initial			Grade				
Address			City		Sta	ate	Zip_	
Telephone Number	Birthdate							
School System	Name of School							
Check your selection:								
Plan "Low"	q School-Time \$14.00							
Plan "Medium"	q School-Time \$28.00							
Plan "High"	q School-Time \$43.00	$\bar{q}$ 24-Hour Accident	\$210.00	$ar{q}$ Football	\$215.00	q 24-Hou	ır Dental	\$8.00
	Please make cl	neck payable to G	erber Li	fe Insuran	ce Comp	oany		
				_		al Enclose	ed:	
Signature of Parent or C	Guardian			С	)ate	ai Liicios	-u	



# CLAIM FORM SIGNED CLAIM FORM IS REQUIRED

- 1. PLEASE FULLY COMPLETE THIS FORM PAGE 1 & PAGE 2
- 2. ATTACH HCFA/UB04-MEDICAL BILLS & EOBS FROM ANY OTHER INSURANCE YOU HAVE
- 3. SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

WEB-TPA P.O. Box 2415 Grapevine, TX 76099-2415

Toll-Free: 866-975-9468 Fax: 469-417-1969

Email: benefit.assist@webtpa.com

# **IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

Your insurance plan is designed to provide maximum benefits for minimum premium. This plan of insurance is secondary, in most instances, to any health insurance you have. If you have other insurance, submit your claim (health and/or dental) to your other insurer. When you receive their Benefit Statement, send it to us along with your HCFA/UB04 (medical bills) and this completed form. Note: The accident policy benefits are limited and may not provide 100% coverage.

≼ IF PART 1-A & PART 1-B ARE NOT COMPLETED IN FULL THIS CLAIM CANNOT BE PROCESSED AND WILL BE RETURNED >

# PART 1-A - TO BE COMPLETED IN FULL BY THE ORGANIZATION/SCHOOL

Organization/School Dist	rict/College Name			Policy Nur	mber	
School/Team/League Na		Phone No. ( )				
Address			Email			
			Туре с	of Activity/Spo	ort	
If Athletics, designate		□Interscholastic □In	tercollegiate	□Game	□Jr. Varsity	
Name of injured person/s	tudent					
Date of Accident	Accid	dent Time				
Date of First Treatment _	Has t	reatment been completed	d? □Yes	□No		
Where and how did accid	lent occur? (Please be specific)					
and supervised activity a	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	nber of the Organization	School Distri	ct? □Yes	□No	n a sponsore
	n?					
	ANIZATION/SCHOOL OFFICIAL UNLESS INJU  COMPLETED IN FULL BY CLAIN					,
						<del>T IIIITOTT</del>
	gal Name					•
	Age				IMale □Fem	
	□Player □Coach □Official/Umpi n or Parents/Guardian			-	,	•
Address of Injured Ferso	II of Farents/Guardian					
Phone No. ( )	Ema	l Address				
If Injured party is over ag	e 18: Employer Name and Addres	ss				
Phone No. ( )	□Self Employ	ed □Unemployed				
Father/Guardian Name _						
	lress			Phone No	. ( <u>)</u>	
					ploved □Une	

Is claimant covered under any other medical and or dental insurance policy?   Is claimant covered under a government sponsored insurance such as Medicare/Medicaid?   IYes  Name of all companies providing claimant insurance coverage or prepaid health plans  Name of Company  Address  Are benefits due for this claim under these other insurance coverages?   IYes   No (See IMPORT  Does your son or daughter have medical insurance coverage as an eligible dependent from a previdecree?   IYes   No If yes, please give name, address and phone number of responsible party  AFFIDAVIT: I verify that the above statement on other insurance is accurate and complete. I under incorrect information via the U.S. Mail may be fraudulent and violate federal laws as well as state later date that there are other insurance benefits collectible on this claim I will reimburse Gerber Li	Policy #  ANT NOTICE at top of form on page 1)  ous marriage as mandated in a divorce  erstand that the intentional furnishing of
Is claimant covered under any other medical and or dental insurance policy?   Is claimant covered under a government sponsored insurance such as Medicare/Medicaid?   Is claimant covered under a government sponsored insurance such as Medicare/Medicaid?   Is claimant covered under a government sponsored insurance such as Medicare/Medicaid?   Is claimant covered under a government sponsored insurance or prepaid health plans   Address  Address  Are benefits due for this claim under these other insurance coverages?   If yes INO (See IMPORT Does your son or daughter have medical insurance coverage as an eligible dependent from a previdecree?   If yes INO If yes, please give name, address and phone number of responsible party   AFFIDAVIT: I verify that the above statement on other insurance is accurate and complete. I under incorrect information via the U.S. Mail may be fraudulent and violate federal laws as well as state later date that there are other insurance benefits collectible on this claim I will reimburse Gerber Li	Policy #  ANT NOTICE at top of form on page 1)  ous marriage as mandated in a divorce  erstand that the intentional furnishing of
Is claimant covered under a government sponsored insurance such as Medicare/Medicaid?   Name of all companies providing claimant insurance coverage or prepaid health plans  Name of Company  Address  Are benefits due for this claim under these other insurance coverages?   Does your son or daughter have medical insurance coverage as an eligible dependent from a previdecree?   Ores DNo If yes, please give name, address and phone number of responsible party  AFFIDAVIT: I verify that the above statement on other insurance is accurate and complete. I under incorrect information via the U.S. Mail may be fraudulent and violate federal laws as well as state later date that there are other insurance benefits collectible on this claim I will reimburse Gerber Li	Policy #  ANT NOTICE at top of form on page 1)  ous marriage as mandated in a divorce  erstand that the intentional furnishing of
Are benefits due for this claim under these other insurance coverages?   Does your son or daughter have medical insurance coverage as an eligible dependent from a previdecree?   One incorrect information via the U.S. Mail may be fraudulent and violate federal laws as well as state later date that there are other insurance benefits collectible on this claim I will reimburse Gerber Li	ANT NOTICE at top of form on page 1)  ous marriage as mandated in a divorce  erstand that the intentional furnishing of
Are benefits due for this claim under these other insurance coverages?   Over IMPORT  Does your son or daughter have medical insurance coverage as an eligible dependent from a previous decree?  Over IMPORT  No If yes, please give name, address and phone number of responsible party  AFFIDAVIT: I verify that the above statement on other insurance is accurate and complete. I under incorrect information via the U.S. Mail may be fraudulent and violate federal laws as well as state later date that there are other insurance benefits collectible on this claim I will reimburse Gerber Line.	ANT NOTICE at top of form on page 1)  ous marriage as mandated in a divorce  erstand that the intentional furnishing of
Does your son or daughter have medical insurance coverage as an eligible dependent from a previdecree?   Yes  No If yes, please give name, address and phone number of responsible party  AFFIDAVIT: I verify that the above statement on other insurance is accurate and complete. I unde incorrect information via the U.S. Mail may be fraudulent and violate federal laws as well as state later date that there are other insurance benefits collectible on this claim I will reimburse Gerber Li	ous marriage as mandated in a divorce
incorrect information via the U.S. Mail may be fraudulent and violate federal laws as well as state later date that there are other insurance benefits collectible on this claim I will reimburse Gerber Li	
which Gerber Life Insurance Company would not have been liable.	
Signature: Injured Person, Parent or Guardian	Date:
SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED	
<b>AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE INFORMATION:</b> I hereby authorize any employer, health plan, i health care profession, clinic, laboratory, pharmacy, medical facility or other person that has provi connection with this claim to disclose, when requested to do so, all information with respect to any consultations, prescription or treatment, and copies of all hospital or medical records and itemized Insurance Company, it's agents, employees and representatives.	ded treatment, payment, or services in njury, policy coverage, medical history,
I hereby authorize WebTPA, Inc. to discuss any information related to medical expenses incurred or this claim, with Special Markets Insurance Consultants, Inc. representatives and their assigned a organization through which this policy is issued. A photo static copy of this authorization shall be original.	gents and to officials at the school or
Signature: Injured Person, Parent or Guardian	

# PLEASE READ THIS INFORMATION CAREFULLY. It is important.

### PLEASE FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS TO FILE A CLAIM

# ALL INFORMATION MUST BE PROVIDED IN ORDER FOR CLAIM TO BE PROCESSED. PROCESSING OF YOUR CLAIM WILL BE DELAYED IF COMPLETE INFORMATION IS NOT RECEIVED

NOTE: The accident policy benefits are limited and may not provide 100% coverage. Accident medical expense coverage under this policy is provided on an Excess Basis, and in most instances, benefits will only be paid under this plan after your own personal or group insurance has paid out its benefits. Completion of a claim form does not quarantee benefit payment. Each claim is reviewed according to the policy provisions.

Claim Guidelines: The following guidelines must be followed.

- ♦ Answer all questions in detail (including all signatures on the front and back of the form). A claim form needs to be completed for each accident.
- ♦ If you have other insurance, submit your claim to your other insurer. When you receive the explanation of benefits (sample attached) notice from your primary carrier, send it to us along with the corresponding HCFA/UB04 medical bills and with the fully completed claim form. You must submit the provider's medical bills; balance due statements will not be processed. Medical bills must include the procedure & diagnosis code along with the Provider's federal identification number. These bills are:
  - 1) HCFA-1500 (standard form used by Providers; sample attached)
  - 2) UB-04 or UB-92 (standard form used by Hospitals sample attached)
  - 3) ADA Dental Claim Form (All dental bills must be submitted through your primary insurance's medical and dental plans first before submitting the bills to WebTPA)

It would be helpful if the following was given to all providers the injured person is seeking treatment from:

- 1. WebTPA contact information
- 2. Organization/School name found on the claim form
- 3. Policy number found on the claim form

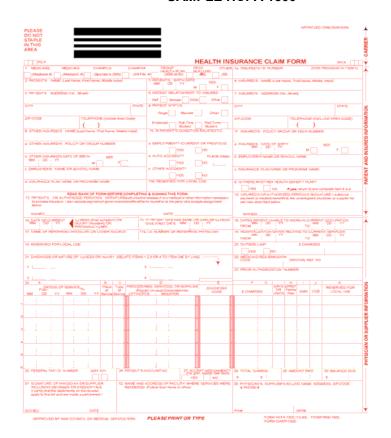
This way the providers of service can work directly with the claim office and provide them with the correct billing forms (itemized bill to include procedure & diagnosis code and tax id number) needed to process a claim.

- ♦ If you already paid the medical bill, include a paid receipt or a copy of your cancelled check at the same time you submit the medical bill. Otherwise payment will be made to the providers of service (Hospital, Physician or Others).
- ♦ Send all correspondence to WebTPA, Inc., **P.O. Box 2415 Grapevine, TX 76099-2415**. The claim form must be sent within 90 days of the date you first received medical care. Any bills not filed with the claim form should be sent, within 90 days of the date you received medical care, to the Company identified with claimant's name, Organization or School name and date of Accident.
- ♦ If you change your address, please notify WebTPA, Inc. by sending notification to WebTPA so that there is no delay in processing any claims.
- ♦ Please contact WebTPA, Inc. by calling **866-975-9468** if you would like to check the status of your claim or if you have any questions on how your claim was processed or the benefit paid.

# **Common Causes For Delays In Processing Claims**

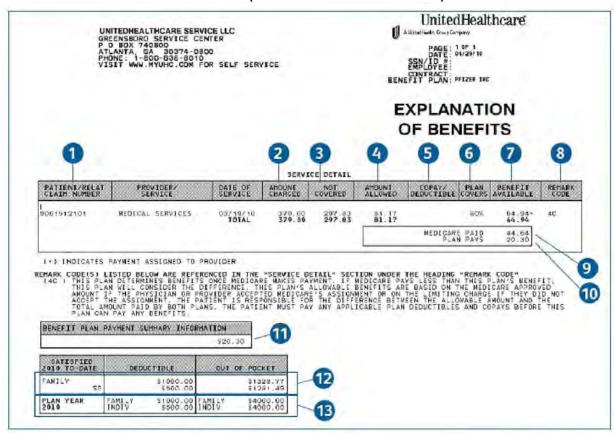
- 1. Claim Forms Not Completed In Full or Not Submitted.
- 2. Balance Due, Balance Forward, or Past Due Statements Submitted for Bills.
- 3. Explanation of Benefits from Primary Carrier Not Provided with the Bills.

KEEP COPIES OF ALL CLAIM FORMS, MEDICAL BILLS, AND CORRESPONDENCE FOR YOUR OWN RECORDS UNTIL YOUR CLAIM HAS BEEN PROCESSED.





# SAMPLE EOB (EXPLANATION OF BENEFITS)





# K-12 2024-2025 VOLUNTARY

STUDENT/ATHLETE
ACCIDENT INSURANCE





# Student Insurance 2024 - 2025 Voluntary Only Rates

Rates Including All Sports Except Senior High Football

	High	Medium	Low
Optional School-Time with Sports except SH Football	\$43.00	\$28.00	\$14.00
Optional 24-Hour with Sports except SH Football	\$210.00	\$105.00	\$82.00
Optional Senior High Football (Fall/Spring)	\$215.00	\$115.00	\$85.00
Optional 24-Hour Dental	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$8.00

School Time Effective: Date of First School Year Activity 24 Hour Effective: Date of First School Year Activity Football Effective: Date of First Day of Football

24 Hour Dental Effective: Date of First School Year Activity

School Time Termination: Date of Last Day of School
24 Hour Termination: 1st Day of the Following School Year

Football Termination: Date of Last Day of Football

24 Hour Dental Termination: 1<sup>st</sup> Day of the Following School Year

# **Included Additional Mandatory Coverages**

One-Day Field Trips (\$5,000 Maximum) Religious Education (\$5,000 Maximum) Counseling Benefit (\$10,000 Maximum)

### IMPORTANT NOTICE - THE POLICY DOES NOT PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR SICKNESS.

This proposal has been designed to illustrate the highlights of this insurance and it does not include all coverage details. All information in this proposal is subject to the provisions of Policy Form COL-11, underwritten by Gerber Life Insurance Company. If there is any conflict between this proposal and the Policy, the Policy will prevail.

PLAN	High	Medium	Low	
Optional School-Time with Sports except SH Football	\$ 43.00	\$ 28.00	\$ 14.00	
Optional 24-Hour with Sports except SH Football	\$ 210.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 82.00	
Optional Senior High Football (Fall/Spring)	\$ 215.00	\$ 115.00	\$ 85.00	
Optional 24-Hour Dental	\$ 8.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 8.00	
Maximum Benefit	High	Medium	Low	
Optional School-Time Coverage	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$25,000	
Optional 24-Hour Coverage	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$25,000	
Optional 24-Hour Coverage (Extension)	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$25,000	
Optional Interscholastic Football Coverage	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$25,000	
Deductible	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Injuries Involving Motor Vehicles	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	
Death Benefit	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$10,000	
Single Dismemberment Benefit	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$5,000	
Double Dismemberment Benefit	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$10,000	
Loss Period (Treatment must begin withindays of Injury)	60	60	60	
Benefit Period	One Year	One Year	One Year	
Coverage	Full Excess	Full Excess	Full Excess	
Hospital/Facility Services				
Inpatient				
Hospital Room and Board (Semi Private Room)	80% RE	75% RE	65% RE	
Inpatient Hospital Miscellaneous	80% RE	75% RE	65% RE	
Outpatient				
Free-standing Ambulatory Surgical Facility	80% RE up to \$1,500 Maximum	75% RE up to \$800 Maximum	65% RE up to \$500 Maximum	
Outpatient Hospital Miscellaneous-(except physician services and x-rays paid as below)	80% RE up to \$1,500 Maximum	75% RE up to \$800 Maximum	65% RE up to \$500 Maximum	
Hospital Emergency Room	80% RE up to \$1,500 Maximum	75% RE up to \$800 Maximum	65% RE up to \$500 Maximum	
Physician's Services				
Surgical	80% RE	75% RE	65% RE	
Assistant Surgeon	25% of Surg. Benefits 25% of Surg. Benefits		25% of Surg. Benefits	
Anesthesiologist	25% of Surg. Benefits	25% of Surg. Benefits	25% of Surg. Benefits	
Physician's Outpatient Treatment in connection with Physical Therapy and/or Spinal Manipulation	80% RE up to \$40/Visit/8 Visit Maximum 75% RE up to \$30/Visit/7 Visit Maximum		65% RE up to \$25/Visit/5 Visit Maximum	
Physician's Non-surgical Treatment (Except as above)	80% RE	75% RE	65% RE	
Other Services				
Registered Nurses' Services	80% RE	75% RE	65% RE	
Prescriptions - outpatient	80% RE	75% RE	65% RE	
Laboratory Tests Outpatient	80% RE	75% RE	65% RE	
X-rays, includes interpretation - outpatient	80% RE	75% RE	65% RE	
Diagnostic Imaging (MRI, CAT Scan, etc) includes interpretation	80% RE	75% RE	65% RE	
Ground Ambulance	80% RE	75% RE	65% RE	
Durable Medical Equipment		750/ 05	650/ DF	
(includes Orthopedic Braces & Appliances)	80% RE	75% RE	65% RE	
Dental Treatment to sound, natural teeth due to covered injury.	80% RE up to \$1,500 Maximum	75% RE up to \$800 Maximum	65% RE up to \$500 Maximum	
Replacement of eyeglasses, hearing aids, contact lenses, if medical treatment is also received for the covered injury.	\$700 Maximum	\$500 Maximum	\$150 Maximum	

### STUDENT ACCIDENT MEDICAL INSURANCE

Educators and administrators are looking for an accident medical insurance program their school(s) need and students deserve. The Student Accident insurance program underwritten by Gerber Life Insurance Company (the Company) is such a plan. A.M. Best rates Gerber Life "A" (Excellent) for financial condition. A.M. Best's "A" (Excellent) rating is the third highest of 13 active company ratings. For the latest information on ratings, please visit www.ambest.com.

# OPTIONAL COVERAGE\*\* WHO IS COVERED AND WHEN

Eligibility: All enrolled students of the school, Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, if premium is paid for.

\*\*Under "Optional Coverage" all students must be given the opportunity to enroll.

Premiums are the responsibility of the individual student and/or their parent/legal guardian.

### **OPTIONAL SCHOOL-TIME ACCIDENT COVERAGE**

Coverage and Limitations stated for Medical Expense Benefits selected by the Insured apply. The School-Time Accident Coverage excludes students participating in high school interscholastic tackle football and/or all interscholastic sports as stated for in the Application. Each Insured who pays the additional premium required for this benefit is insured under this provision. Coverage starts on the date of premium receipt, but not before the start of the school year. The Insured's coverage will end at the close of the regular nine-month school term, except while the Insured is attending academic classroom sessions exclusively sponsored and solely supervised by the school during the summer. All provisions of the Policy, including all Coverage and Limitations, Maximums and Exclusions, apply to Insureds covered under this provision.

### **OPTIONAL 24-HOUR ACCIDENT COVERAGE**

Coverage and Limitations stated for Medical Expense Benefits selected by the Insured apply. The 24-Hour Accident Coverage excludes students participating in high school interscholastic tackle football and/or all interscholastic sports as stated for in the Application. Each Insured who pays the additional premium required for this benefit is insured under this provision. Insurance coverage is provided, 24-Hours per day. Provides coverage during the weekends and vacation periods including the entire summer. Students are protected while at Home or away. Coverage starts on the date of premium receipt (but not before the start of the school year). It ends when school reopens for the following school year. All provisions of the Policy, including all Coverage and Limitations, Maximums and Exclusions, apply to Insureds covered under this provision.

### **OPTIONAL 24- HOUR ACCIDENT COVERAGE (EXTENSION)**

Insurance coverage is extended to provide for covered injuries that occur other than during the hours and days when school is in session and/or while attending or participating in school sponsored and supervised activities on or off school premises. The Extended Accident Coverage provides coverage during the weekends and Vacation periods, including the entire summer. No coverage is provided for participation in interscholastic tackle football. No coverage is provided for participating in Interscholastic Sports or school sponsored/supervised activities covered under the Student Accident Insurance Program purchased by the school. Coverage starts on the date of premium receipt (but not before the start of the school year). It ends when school reopens for the following school year.

### OPTIONAL INTERSCHOLASTIC FOOTBALL COVERAGE

Coverage and Limitations stated for Medical Expense Benefits selected by the Insured apply. Each Insured who pays the additional premium required for this benefit is insured under this provision. Travel is also covered when going directly and uninterruptedly to and from the practice and competition. Ninth graders who play with 9<sup>th</sup> graders only are not charged for football coverage. Their School-Time or 24-Hour coverage will apply if purchased. Additional premium is required by the Insured for this coverage. All other provisions of the Policy, including all Coverage and Limitations, Maximums and Exclusions, apply to Insureds covered under this provision.

# **OPTIONAL 24-HOUR ACCIDENT DENTAL COVERAGE**

Injury must be treated within 60 days after the accident occurs. Medical Expense Benefits are payable within 12 months after the date of Injury. The maximum eligible expenses payable per covered Injury is \$25,000. In addition, when the dentist certifies that treatment must be deferred until after the Benefit Period, deferred benefits will be paid to a maximum of \$1,000. Each Insured who pays the additional premium required for this benefit is insured under this provision. Coverage starts on the date of premium receipt, but not before the start of the school year. It ends when school reopens for the following school year. This provision covers Accidents occurring anytime and anywhere. The Insured must be treated by a legally qualified dentist who is not a member of the Insured's Immediate Family for Injury to teeth. The Company will then pay the Reasonable Expense which is Medically Necessary. Coverage is limited to treatment of sound, natural teeth. The maximum benefit payable under this provision is stated in the Policy. All other provisions of the Policy, including all Coverage and Limitations, Maximums and Exclusions, apply to Insureds covered under this provision.

### **Parent Letter**

August 2024

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The school district does not provide any type of health or accident insurance for injuries incurred by your child at school or participating in school-related activities.

As a service to students and their families, the district makes available a student accident insurance plan for you to purchase for your child at a reasonable cost.

The coverages available and the premiums charged are listed below:

# **REASONS TO PURCHASE THIS COVERAGE:**

This plan will provide benefits for medical expenses incurred because of an accident. If you have other insurance, benefits can be applied to your deductible or co-pays.

If you have no other insurance, this will become your primary accident plan.

**PURCHASE COVERAGE ON-LINE** (with Credit/Debit card) at www.studentinsuranceusa.com

All questions regarding this coverage should be directed to Student Insurance at 310-826-5688 or 800-367-5830







# **OPTIONAL FORMS**

(Please print, sign and return if you are interested in any of these optional forms)

- PARENTAL OPTIONS (Vision & Hearing Screenings, Sexual Health & HIV Prevention Education, Right to Refrain from Harmful or Destructive Use of Animals
- MEDIA OPT-OUT FORM
- ANNUAL PESTICIDE NOTIFICATION REQUEST













# SAN MARCOS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 2024-25 PARENTAL OPTIONS

(Applicable Only for the Current School Year)

PARENTS: PLEASE READ AND COMPLETE THE INFORMATION BELOW AND RETURN IT TO YOUR SCHOOL					
Student Name:	Date of Birth:				
City:	_Zip Code:				
Telephone No.:	Grade:				
School:					
Vision and Hearing Screenings  San Marcos Unified School District may require vision and hearing screenings of students enrolled in District programs or activities. Any screening required by the District shall be kept confidential. A parent or guardian having control or charge of any child enrolled in public schools may file annually with the principal of the school in which she/he is enrolled a statement in writing, signed by the parent or guardian, stating that she/he will not consent to a screening of the child.  □ I do not want my child to undergo vision and hearing screening.					
	Signature of Parent/Guardian (if student is under 18)				
	Sexual Health and HIV Prevention Education				
Students enrolled in District programs or activities may receive instruction in health education, including comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention and including information regarding sexual harassment, sexual abuse and human trafficking. Parents or guardians may submit a written request to excuse their child from participation in any class involving comprehensive sexual education or HIV prevention education, or from participation in any anonymous, voluntary, and confidential test, questionnaire, or survey on pupil health behaviors and risks.					
I would like my child <u>excused</u> from:  Participation in any anonymous, voluntary, and confidential test, questionnaire, or survey on pupil health behaviors and risks.					
All instructional materials are available for review. You may also request a copy of the California Healthy Youth Act (California Education Code sections 51930–51939).  This instruction will be provided by San Marcos Unified school district personnel.  If you do not want your student to participate in comprehensive sexual health or HIV prevention education, please provide a signed, written note to your school site, principal, teacher, etc. before instruction begins.					
	Signature of Parent/Guardian (if student is under 18)				
Right to Refrain from Harmful or Destructive Use of Animals					
Pursuant to Education Code 32255 <i>et seq.</i> , any student with a moral objection to dissecting or otherwise harming or destroying animals, or any parts thereof, shall notify his or her teacher regarding this objection. The student must obtain a note from his or her parent or guardian requesting exemption from participation in an education project involving the harmful or destructive use of animals.					
I would like my of animals.	hild <u>excused</u> from participation in an education project involving the harmful or destructive use				
	Signature of Parent/Guardian (if student is under 18)				
Governing Board:	Sarah Ahmad Stacy Carlson Jamie Chamberlain Andres Ramos Martin Carlos Ulloa, Ed.D.				















# SAN MARCOS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 2024-25 PARENTAL OPTIONS

(Applicable Only for the Current School Year)

# Media Release

☐ The student may be interviewed, photographed, or filmed by members of the media.				
☐ The student may NOT be interviewed, photographed, or filmed by me	embers of the media.			
Signature of Parent/Guardian (if student is under 18)				
Signature of Student (if student is 18 or older)				
Signature of Student (if over age of 14 and homeless and unaccompanied youth.)				



Sarah Ahmad

Stacy Carlson Jamie Chamberlain And Andrew S. Johnsen, Ed.D. Superintendent





















# SAN MARCOS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 2024-25 ANNUAL PESTICIDE NOTIFICATION REQUEST

PARENTS: PLEASE READ AND COMPLETE THE INFORMATION BELOW AND RETURN IT TO YOUR SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Parents/guardians can register with the school to receive notification or individual pesticide applications. Persons who register for this notification shall be notified at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the application, except in emergencies, and will be provided the name and active ingredient(s) of the pesticide as well as the intended date of application.

Parents/guardians seeking access to information on pesticides and pesticide use reduction developed by the Department of Pesticide Regulation pursuant to California Food and Agricultural Code 13184, can do so by accessing the web-site at <a href="https://www.cdpr.ca.gov">www.cdpr.ca.gov</a>.

Student Name:	Date of Birth:				
Address:					
City:	Zip Code:				
Telephone No.:	Grade:				
School:					
☐ I would like to be pre-notified every time a pesticide application is to take place at the school. I understand that the notification will be provided at least 72 hours before the application.					
Signature of Parent/Guardian (if student is under 18)	Signature of Student (if student is 18 or older)				



Sarah Ahmad

Stacy Carlson Jamie Chamberlain Andres Ramos Martin Andrew S. Johnsen, Ed.D. Superintendent















