STUDENT RECORDS

The Board of Trustees recognizes the importance of keeping accurate, comprehensive student records as required by law. The Superintendent or designee shall establish administrative regulations governing the identification, collection, retention, and security of student records. These regulations shall ensure the rights of authorized persons to have timely access to student records while maintaining the confidentiality of student records consistent with state and federal law.

(cf. 3580 - District Records)
(cf. 4040 - Employee Use of Technology)
(cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)
(cf. 5125.3 - Challenging Student Records)

The Superintendent or designee shall designate a certificated employee to serve as custodian of records with responsibility for student records at the district level. At each school, the principal or a certificated employee shall be designated as custodian of records for students enrolled at that school. The custodian of records shall be responsible for implementing Board policy and administrative regulation regarding student records. (5 CCR 431)

All appropriate personnel shall receive training regarding district policies and procedures for gathering and handling sensitive student information.

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

The district shall not collect or solicit social security numbers or the last four digits of social security numbers of students or their parents/guardians, unless otherwise required to do so by state or federal law. (Education Code 49076.7)

No information or documents regarding the citizenship or immigration status of students or their family members shall be collected, except as required by state or federal law or as required to administer a state or federally supported educational program. The Superintendent or designee shall not disclose student records to a person, agency, or organization for immigration enforcement purposes without parental consent, a court order, or a judicial subpoena. If a district employee receives such a request, he/she shall immediately report the request to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall report the request to the Board in a timely manner that ensures the confidentiality and privacy of any potentially identifying information. (Education Code 234.7)

(cf. 5145.13 - Response to Immigration Enforcement)

The Superintendent or designee shall not compile a list, registry, or database based on students' national origin, ethnicity, or religious belief, practice, or affiliation, nor shall he/she disclose student information to federal government authorities for the purpose of compiling such a list, registry, or database for purposes of immigration enforcement. Such information may only be compiled or exchanged with other local, state, or federal agencies if the information is aggregated and is not personally identifiable. (Government Code 8310.3)
STUDENT RECORDS  (continued)

Student Records from Social Media

The Superintendent or designee may gather and maintain information from the social media of any district student, provided that the district first notifies students and parents/guardians about the proposed program, offers an opportunity for public comment at a regularly scheduled Board meeting, and gathers only information that directly pertains to school safety or student safety. (Education Code 49073.6)

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)
(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)
(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)
(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

Contract for Digital Storage, Management, and Retrieval of Student Records

The Superintendent or designee may enter into a contract with a third party for the digital storage, management, and retrieval of student records and/or to authorize a third party provider of digital software to access, store, and use student records, provided that the contract meets the requirements of Education Code 49073.1 and other applicable state and federal laws.

(cf. 3312 - Contracts)

Legal Reference:  (see next page)
STUDENT RECORDS (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
234.7 Student protections relating to immigration and citizenship status
17604 Contracts
48201 Student records for transfer students who have been suspended/expelled
48853.5 Foster youth; placement, immunizations
48902 Notification of law enforcement of specified violations
48904-48904.3 Withholding grades, diplomas, or transcripts
48918 Rules governing expulsion procedures
48980 Parental notifications
48985 Notices in parent/guardian's primary language
49060-49079 Student records
49091.14 Parental review of curriculum
51747 Independent study
56011.5 Rights of students with disabilities
56050 Surrogate parents
56055 Foster parents
69432.9 Cal Grant program; notification of grade point average

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE
22580-22582 Digital privacy
22584-22585 Student Online Personal Information Protection Act
22586-22587 Early Learning Personal Information Protection Act

CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE
1985.3 Subpoena duces tecum

FAMILY CODE
3025 Access to records by noncustodial parents
6552 Caregiver's authorization affidavit

GOVERNMENT CODE
6252-6260 Inspection of public records

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE
120440 Immunizations; disclosure of information

PENAL CODE
245 Assault with deadly weapon

WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE
681 Truancy petitions
701 Juvenile court law
16010 Health and education records of a minor

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
430-438 Individual student records
16020-16027 Destruction of records of school districts

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
1232g Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
1232h Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 26
152 Definition of dependent child

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42
11434a McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act; definitions

Legal Reference continued: (see next page)
STUDENT RECORDS (continued)

Legal Reference: (continued)

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 16
Part 312 Children's Online Privacy Protection Rule

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34
99.1-99.67 Family Educational Rights and Privacy
300.501 Opportunity to examine records for parents of student with disability

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS
Legal Guidance on Providing All Children Equal Access to Education, Regardless of Immigration Status, February 2017

CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS
Promoting a Safe and Secure Learning Environment for All: Guidance and Model Policies to Assist California's K-12 Schools in Responding to Immigration Issues, April 2018

FEDERAL REGISTER

NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS
Data in the Cloud: A Legal and Policy Guide for School Boards on Student Data Privacy in the Cloud Computing Era, April 2014

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
IDEA and FERPA Confidentiality Provisions, 2014
Joint Guidance on the Application of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) to Student Health Records, 2008

WEB SITES
CSBA: http://www.csba.org
California Department of Education: http://www.cde.ca.gov
National School Boards Association: http://www.nsba.org
STUDENT RECORDS

Definitions

Student means any individual who is or has been in attendance at the district and regarding whom the district maintains student records. (34 CFR 99.3)

Attendance includes, but is not limited to, attendance in person or by paper correspondence, videoconference, satellite, Internet, or other electronic information and telecommunication technologies for students who are not physically present in the classroom, and the period during which a person is working under a work-study program. (34 CFR 99.3)

Student records are any items of information (in handwriting, print, tape, film, computer, or other medium) gathered within or outside the district that are directly related to an identifiable student and maintained by the district, required to be maintained by an employee in the performance of his/her duties, or maintained by a party acting for the district. Any information maintained for the purpose of second-party review is considered a student record. Student records include the student’s health record. (Education Code 49061, 49062; 5 CCR 430; 34 CFR 99.3)

Student records do not include: (Education Code 49061, 49062; 5 CCR 430; 34 CFR 99.3)

1. Directory information
   (cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)

2. Informal notes compiled by a school officer or employee which remain in the sole possession of the maker, are used only as a personal memory aid, and are not accessible or revealed to any other person except a substitute employee

3. Records of the law enforcement unit of the district, subject to 34 CFR 99.8
   (cf. 3515 - Campus Security)
   (cf. 3515.3 - District Police/Security Department)

4. Records created or received by the district after an individual is no longer a student and that are not directly related to the individual's attendance as a student

5. Grades on peer-graded papers before they are collected and recorded by a teacher

Mandatory permanent student records are those records which are maintained in perpetuity and which schools have been directed to compile by state law, regulation, or administrative directive. (5 CCR 430)

Mandatory interim student records are those records which the schools are directed to compile and maintain for specified periods of time and are then destroyed in accordance with state law, regulation, or administrative directive. (5 CCR 430)
**STUDENT RECORDS (continued)**

*Permitted student records* are those records having clear importance only to the current educational process of the student. (5 CCR 430)

*Disclosure* means to permit access to, or the release, transfer, or other communication of, personally identifiable information contained in student records to any party, except the party that provided or created the record, by any means including oral, written, or electronic. (34 CFR 99.3)

*Access* means a personal inspection and review of a record or an accurate copy of a record, or receipt of an accurate copy of a record or an oral description or communication of a record, and a request to release a copy of any record. (Education Code 49061)

*Personally identifiable information* includes, but is not limited to: (34 CFR 99.3)

1. The student's name
2. The name of the student's parent/guardian or other family members
3. The address of the student or student's family
4. A personal identifier, such as the student's social security number, student number, or biometric record (e.g., fingerprints, retina and iris patterns, voiceprints, DNA sequence, facial characteristics, and handwriting)
5. Other indirect identifiers, such as the student's date of birth, place of birth, and mother's maiden name
6. Other information that, alone or in combination, is linked or linkable to a specific student that would allow a reasonable person in the school community, who does not have personal knowledge of the relevant circumstances, to identify the student with reasonable certainty
7. Information requested by a person who the district reasonably believes knows the identity of the student to whom the student record relates

*Adult student* is a person who is or was enrolled in school and who is at least 18 years of age. (5 CCR 430)

*Parent/guardian* means a natural parent, an adopted parent, legal guardian, surrogate parent, or foster parent. (Education Code 49061, 56050, 56055)
STUDENT RECORDS  (continued)

*Legitimate educational interest* is an interest held by any school official, employee, contractor, or consultant whose duties, responsibilities, or contractual obligations to the district, whether routine or as a result of special circumstances, require him/her to have access to student records.

*School officials and employees* are officials or employees whose duties and responsibilities to the district, whether routine or as a result of special circumstances, require that they have access to student records.

*Contractor or consultant* is anyone with a formal written agreement or contract with the district regarding the provision of services or functions outsourced to him/her by the district. Contractor or consultant shall not include a volunteer or other party. (Education Code 49076)

*Custodian of records* is the employee responsible for the security of student records maintained by the district and for devising procedures for assuring that access to such records is limited to authorized persons. (5 CCR 433)

*County placing agency* means the county social service department or county probation department. (Education Code 49061)

**Persons Granted Absolute Access**

In accordance with law, absolute access to any student records shall be granted to:

1. Parents/guardians of students younger than age 18 years, including the parent who is not the student’s custodial parent  (Education Code 49069; Family Code 3025)

2. An adult student, or a student under the age of 18 years who attends a postsecondary institution, in which case the student alone shall exercise rights related to his/her student records and grant consent for the release of records  (34 CFR 99.3, 99.5)

3. Parents/guardians of an adult student with disabilities who is age 18 years or older and has been declared incompetent under state law  (Education Code 56041.5)

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

**Access for Limited Purpose/Legitimate Educational Interest**

The following persons or agencies shall have access to those particular records that are relevant to their legitimate educational interest or other legally authorized purpose:
STUDENT RECORDS (continued)

1. Parents/guardians of a student age 18 or older who is a dependent child as defined under 26 USC 152 (Education Code 49076; 34 CFR 99.31)

2. Students who are age 16 or older or who have completed the 10th grade (Education Code 49076; 34 CFR 99.31)

3. School officials and employees, consistent with the definition provided in the section "Definitions" above (Education Code 49076; 34 CFR 99.31)

4. Members of a school attendance review board (SARB) who are authorized representatives of the district and any volunteer aide age 18 or older who has been investigated, selected, and trained by the SARB to provide follow-up services to a referred student (Education Code 49076)

(cf. 5113.1 - Chronic Absence and Truancy)
(cf. 5113.12 - District School Attendance Review Board)

5. Officials and employees of other public schools, school systems, or postsecondary institutions where the student intends or is directed to enroll, including local, county, or state correctional facilities where educational programs leading to high school graduation are provided, or where the student is already enrolled, as long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer (Education Code 49076; 34 CFR 99.31)

Unless the annual parent/guardian notification issued pursuant to Education Code 48980 includes a statement that the district may disclose students' personally identifiable information to officials of another school, school system, or postsecondary institution where the student seeks or intends to enroll, the Superintendent or designee shall, when such a disclosure is made, make a reasonable attempt to notify the parent/guardian or adult student at his/her last known address, provide a copy of the record that is disclosed, and give the parent/guardian or adult student an opportunity for a hearing to challenge the record. (34 CFR 99.34)

6. The Student Aid Commission, to provide the grade point average (GPA) of all district students in grade 12 and, when requested, verification of high school graduation or its equivalent of all students who graduated in the prior academic year, for use in the Cal Grant postsecondary financial aid program. However, such information shall not be submitted when students opt out or are permitted by the rules of the Student Aid Commission to provide test scores in lieu of the GPA. (Education Code 69432.9, 69432.92)

No later than October 15 each year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify each student in grade 12, and his/her parents/guardians if the student is under age 18 years,
STUDENT RECORDS  (continued)

that the student's GPA will be forwarded to the Student Aid Commission unless he/she opts out within a period of time specified in the notice, which shall not be less than 30 days. (Education Code 69432.9)

Students' social security numbers shall not be included in the submitted information unless the Student Aid Commission deems it necessary to complete the financial aid application and the Superintendent or designee obtains permission from the student's parent/guardian, or from the adult student, to submit the social security number. (Education Code 69432.9)

7. Federal, state, and local officials, as needed for an audit, evaluation, or compliance activity related to a state or federally funded education program and in accordance with a written agreement developed pursuant to 34 CFR 99.35 (Education Code 49076; 34 CFR 99.3, 99.31, 99.35)

8. Any county placing agency acting as an authorized representative of a state or local educational agency which is required to audit or evaluate a state or federally supported education program pursuant to item #7 above (Education Code 49076)

9. Any person, agency, or organization authorized in compliance with a court order or lawfully issued subpoena (Education Code 49077; 5 CCR 435; 34 CFR 99.31)

Unless otherwise instructed by the court, the Superintendent or designee shall, prior to disclosing a record pursuant to a court order or subpoena, give the parent/guardian or adult student at least three days' notice of the name of the requesting agency and the specific record requested, if lawfully possible within the requirements of the judicial order. (Education Code 49077; 5 CCR 435; 34 CFR 99.31)

10. Any district attorney who is participating in or conducting a truancy mediation program or participating in the presentation of evidence in a truancy petition (Education Code 49076)

11. A district attorney's office for consideration against a parent/guardian for failure to comply with compulsory education laws (Education Code 49076)

12. Any probation officer, district attorney, or counsel of record for a minor student for the purposes of conducting a criminal investigation or an investigation in regards to declaring the minor student a ward of the court or involving a violation of a condition of probation, subject to evidentiary rules specified in Welfare and Institutions Code 701 (Education Code 49076)
STUDENT RECORDS (continued)

When disclosing records for these purposes, the Superintendent or designee shall obtain written certification from the recipient of the records that the information will not be disclosed to another party without prior written consent of the student's parent/guardian or the holder of the student's educational rights, unless specifically authorized by state or federal law. (Education Code 49076)

13. Any judge or probation officer for the purpose of conducting a truancy mediation program for a student or for the purpose of presenting evidence in a truancy petition pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 681 (Education Code 49076)

In such cases, the judge or probation officer shall certify in writing to the Superintendent or designee that the information will be used only for truancy purposes. Upon releasing student information to a judge or probation officer, the Superintendent or designee shall inform, or provide written notification to, the student's parent/guardian within 24 hours. (Education Code 49076)

14. A foster family agency with jurisdiction over a currently enrolled or former student; short-term residential treatment program staff responsible for the education or case management of a student; or a caregiver who has direct responsibility for the care of a student, including a certified or licensed foster parent, an approved relative or nonrelated extended family member, or a resource family, as defined (Education Code 49076)

Such individuals shall have access to the student's current or most recent records of grades, transcripts, attendance, discipline, online communication on platforms established by schools for students and parents/guardians, and any individualized education program or Section 504 plan developed and maintained by the district (Education Code 49069.3)

(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504)
(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

15. A student age 14 years or older who is both a homeless student and an unaccompanied minor as defined in 42 USC 11434a (Education Code 49076)

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)

16. An individual who completes items #1-4 of the caregiver's authorization affidavit pursuant to Family Code 6552 and signs the affidavit for the purpose of enrolling a minor in school (Education Code 49076)
STUDENT RECORDS  (continued)

17. A caseworker or other representative of a state or local child welfare agency or tribal organization that has legal responsibility for the care and protection of a student, provided that the information is directly related to providing assistance to address the student's educational needs (Education Code 49076; 20 USC 1232(g))

18. Appropriate law enforcement authorities, in circumstances where Education Code 48902 requires that the district provide special education and disciplinary records of a student with disabilities who is suspended or expelled for committing an act violating Penal Code 245 (Education Code 48902, 49076)

When disclosing such records, the Superintendent or designee shall obtain written certification by the recipient of the records as described in item #12 above. (Education Code 49076)

19. Designated peace officers or law enforcement agencies in cases where the district is authorized by law to assist law enforcement in investigations of suspected criminal conduct or kidnapping and a written parental consent, lawfully issued subpoena, or court order is submitted to the district, or information is provided to it indicating that an emergency exists in which the student's information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals (Education Code 49076.5; 34 CFR 99.1-99.67)

In such cases, the Superintendent or designee shall provide information about the identity and location of the student as it relates to the transfer of that student's records to another public school district or California private school. (Education Code 49076.5)

When disclosing records for the above purposes, the Superintendent or designee shall obtain the necessary documentation to verify that the person, agency, or organization is a person, agency, or organization that is permitted to receive such records.

Any person, agency, or organization granted access is prohibited from releasing information to another person, agency, or organization without written permission from the parent/guardian or adult student unless specifically allowed by state law or the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. (Education Code 49076)

In addition, the parent/guardian or adult student may provide written consent for access to be granted to persons, agencies, or organizations not afforded access rights by law. The written consent shall specify the records to be released and the party or parties to whom they may be released. (Education Code 49075)
STUDENT RECORDS (continued)

Only a parent/guardian having legal custody of the student may consent to the release of records to others. Either parent/guardian may grant consent if both parents/guardians notify the district, in writing, that such an agreement has been made. (Education Code 49061)

(cf. 5021 - Noncustodial Parents)

Discretionary Access

At his/her discretion, the Superintendent or designee may release information from a student's records to the following:

1. Appropriate persons, including parents/guardians of a student, in an emergency if the health and safety of the student or other persons are at stake (Education Code 49076; 34 CFR 99.31, 99.32, 99.36)

   When releasing information to any such appropriate person, the Superintendent or designee shall record information about the threat to the health or safety of the student or any other person that formed the basis for the disclosure and the person(s) to whom the disclosure was made. (Education Code 49076; 34 CFR 99.32)

   Unless it would further endanger the health or safety of the student or other persons, the Superintendent or designee shall inform the parent/guardian or adult student within one week of the disclosure that the disclosure was made, of the articulate and significant threat to the health or safety of the student or other individuals that formed the basis for the disclosure, and of the parties to whom the disclosure was made.

2. Accrediting associations (Education Code 49076; 34 CFR 99.31)

3. Under the conditions specified in Education Code 49076 and 34 CFR 99.31, organizations conducting studies on behalf of educational institutions or agencies for the purpose of developing, validating, or administering predictive tests, administering student aid programs, or improving instruction, provided that: (Education Code 49076; 34 CFR 99.31)
   a. The study is conducted in a manner that does not permit personal identification of parents/guardians and students by individuals other than representatives of the organization who have legitimate interests in the information.
   b. The information is destroyed when no longer needed for the purposes for which the study is conducted.
STUDENT RECORDS (continued)

c. The district enters into a written agreement with the organization that complies with 34 CFR 99.31.

4. Officials and employees of private schools or school systems where the student is enrolled or intends to enroll, subject to the rights of parents/guardians as provided in Education Code 49068 and in compliance with 34 CFR 99.34 (Education Code 49076; 34 CFR 99.31, 99.34)

5. Local health departments operating countywide or regional immunization information and reminder systems and the California Department of Public Health, unless the parent/guardian has requested that no disclosures of this type be made (Health and Safety Code 120440)

6. Contractors and consultants having a legitimate educational interest based on services or functions which have been outsourced to them through a formal written agreement or contract by the district, excluding volunteers or other parties (Education Code 49076)

(cf. 3600 - Consultants)

De-identification of Records

When authorized by law for any program audit, educational research, or other purposes, the Superintendent or designee may release information from a student record without prior consent of the parent/guardian or adult student after the removal of all personally identifiable information. Prior to releasing such information, the Superintendent or designee shall make a reasonable determination that the student's identity is not personally identifiable, whether through single or multiple releases and taking into account other reasonably available information. (Education Code 49074, 49076; 34 CFR 99.31)

Process for Providing Access to Records

Student records shall be maintained in a central file at the school attended by the student or, when records are maintained at different locations, a notation shall be placed in the central file indicating where other records may be found. Parents/guardians shall be notified of the location of student records if not centrally located. (Education Code 49069; 5 CCR 433)

The custodian of records shall be responsible for the security of student records and shall ensure that access is limited to authorized persons. (5 CCR 433)

The custodian of records shall develop reasonable methods, including physical, technological, and administrative controls, to ensure that school officials and employees obtain access to only those student records in which they have legitimate educational interests. (34 CFR 99.31)
To inspect, review, or obtain copies of student records, authorized persons shall submit a request to the custodian of records. Prior to granting the request, the custodian of records shall authenticate the individual's identity. For any individual granted access based on a legitimate educational interest, the request shall specify the interest involved.

When required by law, the parent/guardian shall provide 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 district's consent form shall 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/guardian, the district shall provide him/her a copy of the records disclosed. (34 CFR 99.30)

If the parent/guardian refuses to provide written consent for the release of student information, the Superintendent or designee shall not release the information, unless it is otherwise subject to release based on a court order or a lawful subpoena.

Within five business days following the date of request, a parent/guardian or other authorized person shall be granted access to inspect, review, and obtain copies of student records during regular school hours. (Education Code 49069)

Qualified certificated personnel shall be available to interpret records when requested. (Education Code 49069)

The custodian of records or the Superintendent or designee shall prevent the alteration, damage, or loss of records during inspection. (5 CCR 435)

**Access Log**

A log shall be maintained for each student's record which lists all persons, agencies, or organizations requesting or receiving information from the records and the legitimate educational interest of the requester. (Education Code 49064)

In every instance of inspection by persons who do not have assigned educational responsibility, the custodian of records shall make an entry in the log indicating the record inspected, the name of the person granted access, the reason access was granted, and the time and circumstances of inspection. (5 CCR 435)

The custodian of records shall also make an entry in the log regarding any request for records that was denied and the reason for the denial.

The log shall include requests for access to records by:
STUDENT RECORDS (continued)

1. Parents/guardians or adult students
2. Students who are 16 years of age or older or who have completed the 10th grade
3. Parties obtaining district-approved directory information
4. Parties who provide written parental consent, in which case the consent notice shall be filed with the record pursuant to Education Code 49075
5. School officials and employees who have a legitimate educational interest
6. Law enforcement personnel seeking to enforce immigration laws

The log shall be accessible only to the parent/guardian, adult student, dependent adult student, student who is age 16 years or older or who has completed the 10th grade, custodian of records, and certain state or federal officials. (Education Code 49064; 5 CCR 432)

Duplication of Student Records

To provide copies of any student record, the district shall charge a reasonable fee not to exceed the actual cost of providing the copies. No charge shall be made for providing up to two transcripts or up to two verifications of various records for any former student. No charge shall be made to locate or retrieve any student record. (Education Code 49065)

(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)

Changes to Student Records

Only a parent/guardian having legal custody of a student or an adult student may challenge the content of a record or offer a written response to a record. (Education Code 49061)

(cf. 5125.3 - Challenging Student Records)

No additions except routine updating shall be made to a student's record after high school graduation or permanent departure without prior consent of the parent/guardian or adult student. (5 CCR 437)

A student's legal name or gender as entered on the mandatory student record required pursuant to 5 CCR 432 shall only be changed with proper documentation. However, at the written request of a student or, if appropriate, his/her parents/guardians, the district shall use the student's preferred name and pronouns consistent with his/her gender identity on all other district-related documents.

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)
STUDENT RECORDS (continued)

Retention and Destruction of Student Records

All anecdotal information and assessment reports maintained as student records shall be dated and signed by the individual who originated the data. (5 CCR 431)

The following mandatory permanent student records shall be kept indefinitely: (5 CCR 432, 437)

1. Legal name of student
2. Date and place of birth and method of verifying birth date
   
   (cf. 5111 - Admission)
3. Sex of student
4. Name and address of parent/guardian of minor student
   a. Address of minor student if different from the above
   b. Annual verification of parent/guardian's name and address and student's residence
   
   (cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)
5. Entrance and departure dates of each school year and for any summer session or other extra session
6. Subjects taken during each year, half-year, summer session, or quarter, and marks or credits given
   
   (cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)
7. Verification of or exemption from required immunizations
   
   (cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations)
8. Date of high school graduation or equivalent

Mandatory interim student records, unless forwarded to another district, shall be maintained subject to destruction during the third school year after the school year in which they originated, following a determination that their usefulness has ceased or the student has left the district. These records include: (Education Code 48918, 51747; 5 CCR 432, 437, 16027)
STUDENT RECORDS (continued)

1. Expulsion orders and the causes therefor
   (cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)
   (cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

2. A log identifying persons or agencies who request or receive information from the student record

3. Health information, including verification or waiver of the health screening for school entry
   (cf. 5141.32 - Health Screening for School Entry)

4. Information on participation in special education programs, including required tests, case studies, authorizations, and evidence of eligibility for admission or discharge
   (cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)
   (cf. 6164.4 - Identification and Evaluation of Individuals for Special Education)

5. Language training records
   (cf. 6174 - Education for English Learners)

6. Progress slips/notices required by Education Code 49066 and 49067

7. Parental restrictions/stipulations regarding access to directory information

8. Parent/guardian or adult student rejoinders to challenged records and to disciplinary action

9. Parent/guardian authorization or denial of student participation in specific programs

10. Results of standardized tests administered within the past three years
    (cf. 6162.51 - State Academic Achievement Tests)

11. Written findings resulting from an evaluation conducted after a specified number of missed assignments to determine whether it is in a student's best interest to remain in independent study
    (cf. 6158 - Independent Study)

Permitted student records may be destroyed six months after the student completes or withdraws from the educational program, including: (5 CCR 432, 437)
STUDENT RECORDS (continued)

1. Objective counselor and/or teacher ratings
2. Standardized test results older than three years
3. Routine disciplinary data
   *(cf. 5144 - Discipline)*
4. Verified reports of relevant behavioral patterns
5. All disciplinary notices
6. Supplementary attendance records

Records shall be destroyed in a way that assures they will not be available to possible public inspection in the process of destruction. *(5 CCR 437)*

Transfer of Student Records

When a student transfers into this district from any other school district or a private school, the Superintendent or designee shall inform the student's parent/guardian of his/her rights regarding student records, including the right to review, challenge, and receive a copy of student records. *(Education Code 49068; 5 CCR 438)*

When a student transfers into this district from another district, the Superintendent or designee shall request that the student's previous district provide any records, either maintained by that district in the ordinary course of business or received from a law enforcement agency, regarding acts committed by the transferring student that resulted in his/her suspension or expulsion. *(Education Code 48201)*

*(cf. 4158/4258/4358 - Employee Security)*
*(cf. 5119 - Students Expelled From Other Districts)*

When a student transfers from this district to another school district or to a private school, the Superintendent or designee shall forward a copy of the student's mandatory permanent record within 10 school days of the district's receipt of the request for the student's records. The original record or a copy shall be retained permanently by this district. If the transfer is to another California public school, the student's entire mandatory interim record shall also be forwarded. If the transfer is out of state or to a private school, the mandatory interim record may be forwarded. Permitted student records may be forwarded to any other district or private school. *(Education Code 48918, 49068; 5 CCR 438)*
STUDENT RECORDS (continued)

Upon receiving a request from a county placing agency to transfer a student in foster care out of a district school, the Superintendent or designee shall transfer the student's records to the next educational placement within two business days. (Education Code 49069.5)

All student records shall be updated before they are transferred. (5 CCR 438)

Student records shall not be withheld from the requesting district because of any charges or fees owed by the student or parent/guardian. (5 CCR 438)

If the district is withholding grades, diploma, or transcripts from the student because of his/her damage or loss of school property, this information shall be sent to the requesting district along with the student's records.

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

Notification of Parents/Guardians

Upon any student's initial enrollment, and at the beginning of each school year thereafter, the Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians and eligible students, in writing, of their rights related to student records. If 15 percent or more of the students enrolled in the district speak a single primary language other than English, then the district shall provide these notices in that language. Otherwise, the district shall provide these notices in the student's home language insofar as practicable. The district shall effectively notify parents/guardians or eligible students with disabilities. (Education Code 49063, 48985; 34 CFR 99.7)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

The notice shall include: (Education Code 49063; 34 CFR 99.7, 99.34)

1. The types of student records kept by the district and the information contained therein
2. The title(s) of the official(s) responsible for maintaining each type of record
3. The location of the log identifying those who request information from the records
4. District criteria for defining school officials and employees and for determining legitimate educational interest
5. District policies for reviewing and expunging student records
6. The right to inspect and review student records and the procedures for doing so
STUDENT RECORDS (continued)

7. The right to challenge and the procedures for challenging the content of a student record that the parent/guardian or student believes to be inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights

8. The cost, if any, charged for duplicating copies of records

9. The categories of information defined as directory information pursuant to Education Code 49073

10. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's records except when disclosure without consent is authorized by law

11. Availability of the curriculum prospectus developed pursuant to Education Code 49091.14 containing the titles, descriptions, and instructional aims of every course offered by the school

(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)

12. Any other rights and requirements set forth in Education Code 49060-49078, and the right of parents/guardians to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning an alleged failure by the district to comply with 20 USC 1232g

13. A statement that the district forwards education records to other agencies or institutions that request the records and in which the student seeks or intends to enroll or is already enrolled as long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment

In addition, the annual parental notification shall include a statement that 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.

Student Records from Social Media

For the purpose of gathering and maintaining records of students' social media activity, the Superintendent or designee shall: (Education Code 49073.6)

1. Gather or maintain only information that pertains directly to school safety or student safety

2. Provide a student with access to any information that the district obtained from his/her social media activity and an opportunity to correct or delete such information
3. Destroy information gathered from social media and maintained in student records within one year after a student turns 18 years of age or within one year after the student is no longer enrolled in the district, whichever occurs first.

4. Notify each parent/guardian that the student's information is being gathered from social media and that any information maintained in the student's records shall be destroyed as provided in item #3 above. The notification shall also include, but is not limited to, an explanation of the process by which a student or his/her parent/guardian may access the student's records for examination of the information gathered or maintained and the process by which removal of the information may be requested or corrections to the information may be made. The notification may be provided as part of the annual parental notification required pursuant to Education Code 48980.

5. If the district contracts with a third party to gather information on a student from social media, ensure that the contract:
   a. Prohibits the third party from using the information for purposes other than those specified in the contract or from selling or sharing the information with any person or entity other than the district, the student, or his/her parent/guardian.
   b. Requires the third party to destroy the information immediately upon satisfying the terms of the contract, or when the district notifies the third party that the student has turned 18 years of age or is no longer enrolled in the district, whichever occurs first.
The Board of Trustees recognizes the importance of maintaining the confidentiality of directory information and therefore authorizes the release of such information only in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

The Superintendent or designee may release student directory information to representatives of the news media or nonprofit organizations in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation.

(cf. 1112 - Media Relations)

The Superintendent or designee may limit or deny the release of specific categories of directory information to any public or private nonprofit organization based on his/her determination of the best interests of district students. (Education Code 49073)

Legal Reference:
- EDUCATION CODE
  - 234.7 Student protections relating to immigration and citizenship status
  - 49061 Definitions
  - 49063 Notification of parents of their rights
  - 49073 Release of directory information
  - 49073.5 Directory information; military representatives; telephone numbers
  - 49603 Public high schools; military recruiting
- UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 10
  - 503 Military recruiter access to directory information
- UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
  - 1232g Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
  - 7908 Armed forces recruiter access to students and student recruiting information
- UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42
  - 11434a McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act; definitions
- CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

Management Resources:
- CALIFORNIA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE PUBLICATIONS
  - Promoting a Safe and Secure Learning Environment for All: Guidance and Model Policies to Assist California's K-12 Schools in Responding to Immigration Issues, April 2018
- U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
  - Access to High School Students and Information on Students by Military Recruiters, 2002
- WEB SITES
  - California Attorney General's Office: http://oag.ca.gov
Students

RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Definition

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: (Education Code 49061; 20 USC 1232g; 34 CFR 99.3)

1. Name
2. Address
3. Telephone number
4. Email address
5. Date of birth
6. Major field of study
7. Participation record in officially recognized activities and sports
8. Weight and height of athletic team members
9. Dates of attendance
10. Degrees and awards received
11. Most recent previous school attended

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)
(cf. 1114 - District-Sponsored Social Media)

Directory information does not include a student's social security number or student identification number. However, for purposes of accessing or communicating in electronic systems, directory information may include a student identification number, user identification, or other personal identifier used by the student provided that 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. (34 CFR 99.3)

Directory information also does not include a student's citizenship status, immigration status, place of birth, or any other information indicating national origin.
RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION  (continued)

Notification to Parents/Guardians

At the beginning of each school year, all parents/guardians shall be notified as to the categories of directory information the district plans to release and the recipients of the information. The notification shall also inform parents/guardians of their right to refuse to let the district designate any or all types of information as directory information, how to refuse release, and the period of time within which a parent/guardian must notify the district in writing that he/she does not want a certain category of information designated as directory information. (Education Code 49063, 49073; 20 USC 1232g; 34 CFR 99.37)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)
(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

In addition, the annual parental notification shall include a statement that directory information does not include citizenship status, immigration status, place of birth, or any other information indicating national origin and that the district will not release such information without parental consent or a court order.

(cf. 5145.13 - Response to Immigration Enforcement)

The Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians that they may request that the district not release the name, address, and telephone number of their child to military recruiters, employers, or institutions of higher education without prior written consent. (20 USC 7908)

Parent/Guardian Consent

No directory information of a student identified as a homeless child or youth as defined in 42 USC 11434a shall be released, unless the parent/guardian, or the student if he/she is 18 years or older, has provided written consent that directory information may be released. For any other student, directory information shall not be released if his/her parent/guardian notifies the district in writing that such information not be disclosed without the parent/guardian's prior consent. (Education Code 49073; 20 USC 1232g, 7908)

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)
(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)

For a former student, the district shall continue to honor any valid request to opt out of the disclosure of directory information made while the student was in attendance at the district, unless the opt-out request has been rescinded. (34 CFR 99.37)
RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION

PARENT/GUARDIAN NOTICE
RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a federal law, requires that Palmdale School District with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, the district may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the district to the contrary in accordance with district procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the district to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school and/or district publications. Examples include:

- a playbill, showing your child's role in a drama production
- the annual yearbook
- honor roll or other recognition lists
- graduation programs
- sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent/guardian's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require districts receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended, to provide military recruiters, upon request, with students' names, addresses, and telephone listings, unless parents/guardians have advised the district that they do not want their child's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

If you do not want the district to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the district in writing by _____(insert date)_________. The district has designated the following information as directory information:

1. Name
2. Address
3. Telephone number
4. Email address
5. Date of birth
RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION  (continued)

6. Major field of study
7. Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
8. Weight and height of athletic team members
9. Dates of attendance
10. Degrees and awards received
11. Most recent previous school attended

The district also may disclose your child's student identification number, user identification, or other unique personal identifier used to communicate in electronic systems, provided it cannot be used to access education records without a personal identification number (PIN), password, or other factor that only the authorized user knows. Your child's social security number will not be used for this purpose.

Directory information does not include your child's citizenship status, immigration status, place of birth, or any other information indicating national origin. The district will not disclose such information without your consent or a court order.
Students

AR 5125.2(a)

WITHHOLDING GRADES, DIPLOMA OR TRANSCRIPTS

When a minor student willfully cuts, defaces, or otherwise injures real or personal property of the district or willfully does not return district property that has been loaned to the student, the student's parents/guardians may be required to pay the costs of all damages within the limits established pursuant to Education Code 48904. Until the student's parents/guardians have paid for the damages or the student has completed voluntary work or other nonmonetary alternative offered by the district in lieu of monetary damages, the Superintendent or designee may withhold the student's grades, diploma, and/or transcripts. (Education Code 48904, 49014)

(cf. 3515.4 - Recovery for Property Loss or Damage)
(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)
(cf. 5125 - Student Records)
(cf. 5131.5 - Vandalism and Graffiti)
(cf. 6161.2 - Damaged or Lost Instructional Materials)

This administrative regulation shall not apply to a student who is a current or former homeless or foster youth. (Education Code 49014)

Before withholding a student's grades, diploma, and/or transcripts, the Superintendent or designee shall inform the student's parents/guardians in writing of the student's alleged misconduct. (Education Code 48904)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

The student shall be afforded due process consistent with procedures established for the expulsion of students. (Education Code 48904)

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

When a student who is transferring into the district has had grades, a diploma, and/or transcripts withheld by the previous district, the Superintendent or designee shall continue to withhold the student's grades, diploma, and/or transcripts until notified by the previous district that the decision to withhold has been rescinded. (Education Code 48904.3)

Upon receiving notice that a student whose grades, diploma, and/or transcripts have been withheld by this district has transferred to another district in California, the Superintendent or designee shall provide the student's records to the new district and notify the new district that the student's grades, diploma, and/or transcripts are being withheld from the student and parents/guardians pursuant to Education Code 48904.

The Superintendent or designee shall also notify the student's parents/guardians in writing that the decision to withhold the student's grades, diploma, and/or transcripts will be enforced by the new district. (Education Code 48904.3)

Legal Reference: (see next page)
WITHHOLDING GRADES, DIPLOMA OR TRANSCRIPTS (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
48904 Liability of parent
48904.3 Withholding grades, diplomas, or transcripts of pupils causing property damage or injury; transfer of pupils to new school districts; notice to rescind decision to withhold
48911 Suspension by principal, designee or superintendent
49014 Public School Fair Debt Collection Act
49069 Absolute right to access
At the beginning of each school year or, for a student enrolled after the beginning of the school year, at the time of enrollment, parents/guardians shall be notified of the availability of the following procedures for challenging the contents of student records. Any student who is 18 years of age or attends a postsecondary institution shall have the sole right to challenge the contents of his/her records in accordance with the following procedures. (Education Code 49061, 49063)

Procedures for Challenging Records

The custodial parent/guardian of any student may submit to the Superintendent or designee a written request to correct or remove from his/her child's records any information concerning the child which he/she alleges to be any of the following: (Education Code 49070; 34 CFR 99.20)

1. Inaccurate
2. An unsubstantiated personal conclusion or inference
3. A conclusion or inference outside of the observer's area of competence
4. Not based on the personal observation of a named person with the time and place of the observation noted
5. Misleading
6. In violation of the privacy or other rights of the student

Within 30 days of receiving a request to correct or remove any information from a record, the Superintendent or designee shall meet with the parent/guardian and the district employee who recorded that information, if he/she is presently employed by the district. (Education Code 49070)

If the challenge involves a student's grade, the teacher who gave the grade shall be given an opportunity to state, orally and/or in writing, the reasons for which the grade was given. Insofar as practicable, the teacher shall be included in all discussions related to any grade change. In the absence of clerical or mechanical error, fraud, bad faith, or incompetency, a student's grade as determined by the teacher shall be final. (Education Code 49066)

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)
CHALLENGING STUDENT RECORDS (continued)

Resolution of Challenge/Appeals

After considering all relevant information, the Superintendent or designee shall sustain or deny the parent/guardian’s allegations. (Education Code 49070)

If the parent/guardian's allegations are sustained, the Superintendent or designee shall order the correction or removal and destruction of the information. (Education Code 49070)

If the Superintendent or designee denies the allegations, the parent/guardian may, within 30 days, appeal the decision in writing to the Board of Trustees. Within 30 days of receiving the written appeal, the Board shall meet in closed session with the parent/guardian and the district employee who recorded the information, if he/she is presently employed by the district. The Board shall then decide whether to sustain or deny the allegations. The decision of the Board shall be final. (Education Code 49070)

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

If the Board sustains any or all of the allegations, the Superintendent or designee shall immediately order the correction or removal and destruction of the pertinent information from the student's records and shall inform the parent/guardian in writing that the information has been corrected or destroyed. (Education Code 49070)

If the parent/guardian does not file an appeal, or if the appeal is denied by the Board, the parent/guardian shall be informed of his/her right to submit a written objection to the information. Any statement submitted by the parent/guardian shall be maintained with the contested part of the record for as long as the record is maintained and shall be disclosed whenever the related part of the record is disclosed. (Education Code 49070; 34 CFR 99.21)

Hearing Panel

The Superintendent or designee and/or the Board may appoint a hearing panel to assist in making determinations regarding a challenge to student records or an appeal, as applicable, provided that the parent/guardian gives written consent to releasing relevant student record information to the panel members. Such a hearing panel shall consist of the following persons: (Education Code 49071)

1. A chairperson who is a principal of a public school other than the school at which the record is on file

2. A certificated employee appointed by the district's certificated employee council or, if no such council exists, by a parent/guardian
CHALLENGING STUDENT RECORDS (continued)

3. A parent/guardian appointed by the Superintendent or designee or the Board, whoever convenes the panel

If possible, the members of the hearing panel shall not be acquainted with the student, his/her parent/guardian, or the employee who recorded the information, except when the parent/guardian appoints the certificated employee pursuant to item #2 above. (Education Code 49071)

The panel shall be provided with verbatim copies of the information that is the subject of the controversy. The panel shall, in closed session, hear the parent/guardian's objections to the student record and, if the employee is presently employed by the district, the employee's testimony. The proceedings of the hearing shall not be disclosed or discussed by panel members except in their official capacities. The panel shall submit, to the Superintendent or designee or the Board as applicable, its written findings setting forth the facts and decisions of the panel. (Education Code 49071)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
49061 Definitions
49063 Notification of parents of their rights
49066 Grades; change of grade; physical education grade
49070 Challenging content of records
49071 Hearing panel

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
1232g Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act
1681-1688 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34
99.1-99.67 Family Educational Rights and Privacy, especially:
99.20-99.22 Procedures for amending educational records
The Board of Trustees encourages excellence as a goal for all students and wishes to publicly recognize students for exemplary achievement in academic, athletic, extracurricular, or community service activities.

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)
(cf. 5127 - Graduation Ceremonies and Activities)
(cf. 6142.4 - Service Learning/Community Service Classes)

District/School Awards

Student awards may include verbal recognition, a letter, a certificate, a Board resolution, public ceremony, trophy, gift, plaque, or cash gift.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop criteria for the selection of student award recipients.

Biliteracy Award

To be eligible to receive the Pathway of the Seal of Biliteracy, a student shall demonstrate in accordance with state criteria from Californians Together, proficiency in English and at least one other language. Final determination of awards in 5th and 8th will be determined by the site principal and upon the requirements given to parents and students.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
220 Nondiscrimination
35160 Authority of governing boards
35310-35319 Scholarship and loan funds
44015 Awards to employees and students
51243-51245 Credit for private school foreign language instruction
51450-51455 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma
51460-51464 State Seal of Biliteracy
52164.1 Assessment of English language skills of English learners

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
876 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma
1632 Credit for private school foreign language instruction
11510-11516 Assessment of English language development

Management Resources:

WEB SITES
CSBA: http://www.csba.org
California Department of Education: http://www.cde.ca.gov
Californians Together: http://www.californianstogether.org

Policy adopted: PALMDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT
Palmdale, California
AWARDS FOR ACHIEVEMENT

District/School Awards

The Superintendent or designee may appoint an awards committee at each school which may consist of school administrators, teachers, parents/guardians, community members, and student representatives. The committee shall submit recommendations for student awards to the Superintendent or designee for approval.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

Individual awards in excess of $200 must be expressly approved by the Board of Trustees. (Education Code 44015)
PROMOTION CEREMONIES AND ACTIVITIES

Considerations

The Palmdale School District remains committed to providing our students the academic and social skills necessary for a successful transition from 8th grade to high school. To that end, the district has agreed to reserve promotional ceremonies and culminating activities solely for 8th grade students who achieve this level of proficiency.

In order to encourage high standards of academic achievement, conduct and behavior, the principal may deny a student the privilege of participating in promotion ceremonies and/or activities in accordance with school rules. School rules shall ensure that prior to denial of the privilege(s), the student, and where practicable his/her parent/guardian, is made aware of the grounds for such denial and that the student is given an opportunity to respond to the proposed denial. If privilege(s) are to be denied, the student and parent/guardian shall receive written notice of the denied privilege and the means whereby he/she may appeal this decision.

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)
(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)
CONDUCT

The Board of Trustees believes that all students have the right to be educated in a safe, respectful and welcoming environment. Every educator has the right to teach in a positive atmosphere free from disruption and obstacles that impede learning. To maintain such an environment, students, parents/guardians, staff and the Board all must understand and fulfill their responsibilities related to positive student conduct. Students shall be expected to exhibit safe, respectful and responsible behavior that supports and does not infringe upon the rights of others or interfere with the school program while on school grounds, while going to or coming from school, while at school activities, and while on district transportation.

(cf. 5112.5 - Open/Closed Campus)
(cf. 5131.1 - Bus Conduct)
(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

Conduct is considered appropriate when students are diligent and responsible about their studies, careful and safe with school property, and courteous and respectful towards their teachers, other staff, students, and volunteers.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that each school site develops positive behavioral expectations and standards of conduct and discipline consistent with district policies and administrative regulations. This will be achieved through the adoption and implementation of a consistent School-Wide Positive Behavior Support Plan at every school in Palmdale School District based upon the Building Effective Schools Together Through Positive Behavior Support (BEST Behavior) model. This includes: teaching school norms and expectations and social-emotional skills; reinforcing appropriate student behavior; using effective classroom management and Positive Behavior Support strategies by providing early intervention for misbehavior, appropriate use of logical consequences, and behavioral data collection for individual and school-wide decisions regarding student behavior improvement. Students and parents/guardians shall be notified of district and school expectations related to conduct.

Prohibited student conduct includes, but is not limited to:

1. Conduct that endangers students, staff or others, including, but not limited to, physical violence, possession of a firearm or other weapon, and terrorist threats.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 5131.7 - Weapons and Dangerous Instruments)
(cf. 5142 - Safety)

2. Discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students or staff, including sexual harassment, hate motivated behavior, cyberbullying, hazing or intimidation activity, extortion, or any verbal, written, or physical conduct that causes or threatens to cause violence, bodily harm, or substantial disruption.

3. Conduct that disrupts the orderly classroom or school environment
CONDUCT (continued)

(cf. 5131.4 - Student Disturbances)

4. Willful defiance of staff's authority

5. Harassment of students or staff, including bullying, intimidation, so-called "Cyber bullying", hazing or initiation activity, ridicule, extortion, or any other verbal, written, or physical conduct that causes or threatens to cause bodily harm or emotional suffering, in accordance with the section entitled "Bullying/Cyberbullying" below

"Cyberbullying" includes the transmission of communications, posting of harassing messages, direct threats, social cruelty, or other harmful texts, sounds, or images on the Internet, social networking sites, or other digital technologies using a telephone, computer, or any wireless communication device. Cyberbullying also includes breaking into another person's electronic account and assuming that person's identity in order to damage that person's reputation or friendships.

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)
(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)
(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)

6. Damage to or theft of property belonging to students, staff, or the district. The district shall not be responsible for students' personal belongings which are brought on campus or to a school activity and are lost, stolen, or damaged.

(cf. 3515.4 - Recovery for Property Loss or Damage)
(cf. 5131.5 - Vandalism, Theft and Graffiti)

7. Possession or use of laser pointers on school premises, unless used for a valid instructional or other school-related purpose, including employment (Penal Code 417.27)

Prior to bringing a laser pointer on school premises, students shall first obtain permission from the principal or designee. The principal or designee shall determine whether the requested use of the laser pointer is for a valid instructional or other school-related purpose.

8. Obscene acts or use of profane, vulgar, or abusive language

(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)

9. Plagiarism or dishonesty in school work or on tests

(cf. 5131.9 - Academic Honesty)
(cf. 6162.54 - Test Integrity/Test Preparation)
(cf. 6162.6 - Use of Copyrighted Materials)
CONDUCT (continued)

10. Inappropriate attire
   
   (cf. 5132 - Dress and Grooming)

11. Tardiness or unexcused absence from school
   
   (cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)
   (cf. 5113.1 - Truancy)

12. Failure to remain on school premises in accordance with school rules
   
   (cf. 5112.5 - Open/Closed Campus)

13. Possession, use, or being under the influence of tobacco, alcohol, or other prohibited drug in violation of school rules
   
   (cf. 5131.6 - Alcohol and Other Drugs)
   (cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)
   (cf. 5131.63 - Steroids)

Employees are expected to provide appropriate supervision and Positive Behavior Support strategies to enforce and reinforce standards of conduct and, if they observe or receive a report of a violation of these standards, to immediately intervene or call for assistance. If an employee believes a matter has not been resolved, he/she shall refer the matter to his/her supervisor or administrator for further investigation.

When a school official suspects that a search of a student or his/her belongings will turn up evidence of the student's violation of the law or school rules, such a search shall be conducted in accordance with BP/AR 5145.12 - Search and Seizure.

   (cf. 5145.12 - Search and Seizure)

When a student uses any prohibited device, or uses a permitted device in an unethical or illegal activity, a district employee may confiscate the device. The employee shall store the item in a secure manner until an appropriate time.

Students who violate district or school rules and regulations may be subject to disciplinary consequences including, but not limited to, suspension, expulsion, transfer to alternative programs in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation, and contact with local law enforcement as appropriate.

   (cf. 1020 - Youth Services)

   (cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)
   (cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)
   (cf. 5144 - Discipline)
CONDUCT  (continued)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)
(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))
(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)
(cf. 6185 - Community Day School)

Students also may be subject to disciplinary consequences for any off-campus conduct during nonschool hours which poses a threat or danger to the safety of students, staff, or district property, or substantially disrupts the educational program of the district or any other district in accordance with law, Board policy, or administrative regulation.

Possession of Cellular Phones and Other Mobile Communications Devices

No student shall be prohibited from possessing or using an electronic signaling device that is determined by a licensed physician or surgeon to be essential for the student's health and the use of which is a limited to health-related purpose. (Education Code 48901.5)

Except with prior consent for health reasons, students shall not use on school campus or buses personal electronic signaling devices including, but not limited to, pagers, beepers, or cellular/digital telephones for voice usage, digital imaging, or text messaging or other mobile communications devices such digital media players, personal digital assistants (PDAs), compact disc players, portable game consoles, cameras, digital scanners, and laptop computers. All such devices shall be turned off in class.

If a disruption occurs or a student uses any mobile communications device for improper activities, a school employee may confiscate it. If a school employee finds it necessary to confiscate a device, he/she shall notify parents/guardians and make arrangements to return it in a reasonable period of time.

In accordance with the Board's policy and administrative regulation on search and seizure, a school official may search a student's mobile communications device, including, but not limited to, reviewing messages or viewing pictures.

A student who violates this policy may be prohibited from possessing a mobile communications device at school or school-related events and/or may be subject to disciplinary consequences in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation.

Bullying/Cyber Bullying

The Board desires to prevent bullying by establishing a positive, collaborative school climate and explicit, positive behavioral expectations.

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)
(cf. 5138 - Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation)
(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)
CONDUCT (continued)

The district may provide students instruction in the classroom or other school settings that promotes communication, social skills, and assertiveness skills and may involve parents/guardians, staff, and community members in the development of strategies to prevent and respond to bullying.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)
(cf. 6163.4 - Student Use of Technology)

School staff shall receive related professional development, including information about early warning signs of harassing/intimidating behaviors and effective prevention and intervention strategies. Parents/guardians and students also may be provided with similar information.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)
(cf. 5136 - Gangs)

Students may submit a verbal or written complaint of conduct they consider to be bullying to a teacher or administrator and may also request that their name be kept in confidence. The Superintendent or designee may establish other processes whereby students may submit anonymous reports of bullying. Complaints of bullying or harassment shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with site-level grievance procedures specified in AR 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment.

When a student is suspected of or reported to be using electronic or digital communications to engage in cyber bullying against other students or staff or to threaten district property, the investigation shall include documentation of the activity, identification of the source, and a determination of the impact or potential impact on school activity or school attendance. Students shall be encouraged to save and print any messages sent to them that they feel constitutes cyber bullying and to notify a teacher, principal, or other employee so that the matter may be investigated.

Cyber bullying conducted using district-owned equipment or on school premises, as well as off-campus cyber bullying that impacts school activity or school attendance, may be subject to disciplinary consequences in accordance with district policies and regulations. If the student is using a social networking site or service that has terms of use that prohibit posting harmful material, the Superintendent or designee also may file a complaint with the Internet site or service to have the material removed.

(cf. 5145.12 - Search and Seizure)
(cf. 6163.4 - Student Use of Technology)

Legal Reference: (see next page)
CONDUCT (continued)

Legal Reference:

**EDUCATION CODE**
- 200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination
- 32280-32289 Comprehensive safety plan
- 35181 Governing board authority to set policy on responsibilities of students
- 35291-35291.5 Rules
- 44807 Duty concerning conduct of students
- 48900-48925 Suspension and expulsion
- 51512 Prohibition against electronic listening or recording device in classroom without permission

**CIVIL CODE**
- 1714.1 Liability of parents and guardians for willful misconduct of minor

**PENAL CODE**
- 288.2 Harmful matter with intent to seduce
- 313 Harmful matter
- 417.25-417.27 Laser scope or laser pointer
- 647 Use of camera or other instrument to invade person's privacy; misdemeanor
- 653.2 Electronic communication devices, threats to safety

**VEHICLE CODE**
- 23123-23124 Prohibitions against use of electronic devices while driving

**CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5**
- 300-307 Duties of students

**UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42**
- 2000h-2000h6 Title IX, 1972 Education Act Amendments

**COURT DECISIONS**
- Bethel School District No. 403 v. Fraser, (1986) 478 U.S. 675

Management Resources:

**CSBA PUBLICATIONS**
- Safe Schools: Strategies for Boards of Trustees to Ensure Student Success, 2011
- Providing a Safe, Nondiscriminatory School Environment for All Students, Policy Brief, April 2010
- Cyberbullying: Policy Considerations for Boards, Policy Brief, July 2007

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS**
- Bullying at School, 2003

**WEB SITES**
- CSBA: http://www.csba.org
- California Department of Education, Safe Schools Office: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss
- Center for Safe and Responsible Internet Use: http://cyberbully.org
- National School Boards Association: http://www.nsba.org
- National School Safety Center: http://www.schoolsafety.us
**BUS CONDUCT**

Bus transportation is a privilege extended only to students who display good conduct while preparing to ride, riding or leaving the bus. Continued disorderly conduct or persistent refusal to submit to the authority of the driver shall be sufficient reason for a student to be denied transportation.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)
(cf. 3540 - Transportation)
(cf. 3541.2 - Transportation for Students with Disabilities)
(cf. 3543 - Transportation Safety and Emergencies)
(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

The Superintendent or designee shall establish regulations related to student conduct on buses, bus driver authority, and the suspension of riding privileges. The Board of Trustees shall make these rules available to parents/guardians and students. (Code of Regulations, Title 5, Section 14103)

(cf. 3452 - School Bus Drivers)

Students found to be in violation of the district's bus conduct rules shall be subject to discipline in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation.

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

**Bus Surveillance Systems**

Video cameras may be used on school buses to monitor student behavior while traveling to and from school and school activities. The Board believes that such monitoring will deter misconduct and help to ensure the safety of students and staff. Students found to be in violation of the district's bus conduct rules shall be subject to discipline in accordance with district policy and regulations. At the discretion of the Superintendent or designee, school bus video recordings also may be used to resolve complaints by students and/or parents/guardians and to help employees maintain discipline.

(cf. 3515 - Campus Security)
(cf. 3515.4 - Recovery for Property Loss or Damage)

The Superintendent or designee shall notify students, parents/guardians, and staff that surveillance may occur on any school bus and that the contents of a recording may be a student record and, as such, may be used in student disciplinary proceedings or referred to local law enforcement, as appropriate. In addition, a prominent notice shall be placed in each bus stating that the bus is equipped with a surveillance monitoring system.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

Legal Reference: (see next page)
BUS CONDUCT (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
35160 Authority of governing boards
39800 Transportation
39839 Transportation of guide dogs, signal dogs, service dogs
44808 Duty to supervise conduct of students
48900 Grounds for suspension and expulsion
48918 Expulsion procedures
49060-49079 Student records
49073-49079 Privacy of student records

GOVERNMENT CODE
6253-6270 California Public Records Act

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
14103 Authority of the driver

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 13
1200-1228 General provisions, school bus regulations

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
1232g Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34
99.1-99.67 Family Educational Rights and Privacy

Management Resources:

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE PUBLICATIONS
The Appropriate and Effective Use of Security Technologies in U.S. Schools: A Guide for Schools and Law Enforcement Agencies, 1999

WEB SITES
CSBA: http://www.csba.org
California Department of Education, Office of School Transportation: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/tn
Students

AR 5131.1(a)

BUS CONDUCT

Bus Rider Rules

Because school bus passengers' behavior can directly affect their safety and the safety of others, the following regulations apply at all times when students are riding a school bus, including school activity trips.

1. Riders shall follow the instructions and directions of the bus driver at all times.
   
   *(cf. 3542 - School Bus Drivers)*

2. Riders should arrive at their designated bus stop no less than 5 minutes prior to the assigned pick-up time and stand in a safe place at the stop to wait quietly for the bus.

3. Riders shall enter the bus in an orderly manner and go directly to their seats.

4. Riders shall sit down and fasten any passenger restraint systems and remain seated while the bus is in motion and shall not obstruct the aisle with their legs, feet, or other personal objects. When reaching their destination, riders shall remain seated until the bus stops and only then enter the aisle and go directly to the exit.

5. Riders should be courteous to the driver and to fellow passengers. Vulgarity, rude, or abusive behavior is prohibited.

6. Because serious safety hazards can result from noise or behavior that distracts the driver, loud talking, laughing, yelling, singing, whistling, scuffling, throwing objects, smoking, eating, drinking, standing and changing seats are prohibited actions which may lead to suspension of riding privileges.
   
   *(cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)*
   *(cf. 5144 - Discipline)*

7. No part of the body, hands, arms or head should be put out of the window. Nothing should be thrown from the bus.

8. Riders shall help keep the bus and the area around the bus stop clean. Riders shall not damage or deface the bus or tamper with bus equipment.

9. No animals shall be allowed on the bus except those specified in Education Code 39839 and 13 CCR 1216, service animals.

10. Riders should be alert for traffic when leaving the bus and shall follow the district's transportation safety plan when crossing the road and exiting the bus.

11. Students living across the street from where the bus stop is located will be escorted across the street by the driver. Students must cross in front of the bus and walk straight across the street.
BUS CONDUCT  (continued)

12. Parents/guardians of kindergarten students or students new to the process of riding a school bus are urged to have someone escort students to and from bus stops until they have adjusted to the new schedule. However, this procedure is not mandatory and drivers can drop students without an escort present. Precautions will be taken if a student appears ill, upset or confused.

Riders who fail to comply with the above rules shall be reported to the school principal or designee, who shall determine the severity of the misconduct and take action accordingly. In all instances of misconduct, the rider and his/her parent/guardian shall be given notice and warning. In the case of a severe violation or repeated offenses, the rider may be denied transportation for a period of time determined by the principal or designee, up to the remainder of the school year.

Bus drivers shall not deny transportation except as directed by the principal or designee.

13. Riders may bring electronic devices onto the bus only if such devices are permitted at school. If the use of cellular telephones or similar devices disrupts the safe operation of the school bus, the bus driver may direct the student to no longer use the device on the bus.

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

Bus Surveillance Systems

The Superintendent or designee shall supervise the use and maintenance of the district's bus surveillance system. Students and staff are prohibited from tampering with or interfering with the bus surveillance system. Any student found tampering with the system shall be subject to discipline and shall be responsible for the costs of any necessary repairs or replacement.

(cf. 3515.4 - Recovery for Property Loss or Damage)
(cf. 5131.5 - Vandalism and Graffiti)

Camera supports may be installed in all buses, and cameras may be rotated among the buses and activated at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee.

The Superintendent or designee shall notify students, parents/guardians and staff that surveillance may occur on any school bus and that the recordings may be used in student disciplinary proceedings. This notification shall include a copy of the district's policy and regulation on bus conduct. In addition, a prominent notice shall be placed in each bus, stating that the bus is equipped with a surveillance monitoring system.

The Superintendent or designee shall routinely review recordings taken on school buses and shall document any evidence of student misconduct.
BUS CONDUCT (continued)

Recordings retained as part of an individual student's disciplinary record shall be maintained in accordance with law and Board policy governing the access, review and release of student records. Recordings retained as part of an expulsion record are nonprivileged, disclosable public records pursuant to Education Code 48918.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)
(cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)

Recordings may be viewed by persons other than the Superintendent or designee under the following conditions:

1. When student misconduct is revealed as a result of a school bus recording or reported to the Superintendent or designee by a student, staff member or parent/guardian, students involved in the incident and their parents/guardians may ask the Superintendent or designee for an opportunity to view the recording.
   a. Requests for viewing must be made within 48 hours of receiving notification that misconduct occurred.
   b. A viewing shall be provided or denied within five days of the request.
   c. Viewing will be limited to those frames containing the incident of misconduct.

2. Bus drivers and school administrators may ask to view a recording in order to observe a specific problem and work toward its solution.

3. Viewing shall occur only at a school-related site and in the presence of the Superintendent or designee.

4. All persons who view a recording shall be identified in a written log.
Students

BP 5131.2(a)

BULLYING

The Board of Trustees recognizes the harmful effects of bullying on student well-being, student learning, and school attendance and desires to provide a safe school environment that protects students from physical 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.

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)
(cf. 5136 - Gangs)
(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)
(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)
(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)

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.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)
(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)
(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

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.

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)
(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)

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 AR 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.

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

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

(cf. 4118 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)
(cf. 4119.21/4219.21/4319.21 - Professional Standards)
(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination
32282 Comprehensive safety plan
32283.5 Bullying; online training
35181 Governing board policy on responsibilities of students
35291-35291.5 Rules
48900-48925 Suspension or expulsion
48985 Translation of notices
52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan

PENAL CODE
422.55 Definition of hate crime
647 Use of camera or other instrument to invade person's privacy; misdemeanor
647.7 Use of camera or other instrument to invade person's privacy; punishment
653.2 Electronic communication devices, threats to safety

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
4600-4670 Uniform complaint procedures

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 47
254 Universal service discounts (e-rate)

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28
35.107 Nondiscrimination on basis of disability; complaints

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34
104.7 Designation of responsible employee for Section 504
106.8 Designation of responsible employee for Title IX
110.25 Notification of nondiscrimination on the basis of age

COURT DECISIONS

Management Resources: (see next page)
BULLYING (continued)

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS
Final Guidance: AB 1266, Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students, Privacy, Programs, Activities & Facilities, Legal Guidance, March 2014
Providing a Safe, Nondiscriminatory School Environment for Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students, Policy Brief, February 2014
Addressing the Conditions of Children: Focus on Bullying, Governance Brief, December 2012
Safe Schools: Strategies for Governing Boards to Ensure Student Success, 2011
Cyberbullying: Policy Considerations for Boards, Policy Brief, rev. July 2010
Building Healthy Communities: A School Leaders Guide to Collaboration and Community Engagement, 2009
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
Bullying Module
California's Social and Emotional Learning: Guiding Principles, 2018
Social and Emotional Learning in California: A Guide to Resources, 2018
Health Education Content Standards for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2008
Bullying at School, 2003
CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS
Promoting a Safe and Secure Learning Environment for All: Guidance and Model Policies to Assist California K-12 Schools in Responding to Immigration Issues, April 2018
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS
Dear Colleague Letter: Responding to Bullying of Students with Disabilities, October 2014
Guidance to America’s Schools: Bullying of Students with Disabilities, October 2014
Dear Colleague Letter: Guidance on Schools’ Obligations to Protect Students from Student-on-Student Harassment on the Basis of Sex; Race, Color and National Origin; and Disability, October 26, 2010
Dear Colleague Letter: Harassment and Bullying, October 2010
WEB SITES
CSBA: http://www.csba.org
California Department of Education, Safe Schools Office: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss
Center on Great Teachers and Leaders: https://gtlcenter.org
Collaborative for Academic Social and Emotional Learning: https://casel.org
Common Sense Media: http://www.commonsensemedia.org
National School Safety Center: http://www.schoollsafety.us
Partnership for Children and Youth: https://www.partnerforchildren.org

Policy adopted: PALMDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT Palmdale, California
Students

AR 5131.2(a)

BULLYING

Definitions

Bullying is an unwanted, aggressive behavior that involves a real or perceived imbalance of power between individuals with the intent to cause emotional or physical harm. Bullying can be physical, verbal, or social/relational and involves repetition or potential repetition of a deliberate act.

Cyberbullying includes the electronic creation or transmission of harassing communications, direct threats, or other harmful texts, sounds, or images. Cyberbullying also includes breaking into another person's electronic account or assuming that person's online identity in order to damage that person's reputation.

(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)
(cf. 6163.4 - Student Use of Technology)

Examples of the types of conduct that may constitute bullying and are prohibited by the district include, but are not limited to:

1. Physical bullying that inflicts harm upon a person's body or possessions, such as hitting, kicking, pinching, spitting, tripping, pushing, taking or breaking someone's possessions, or making cruel or rude hand gestures

2. Verbal bullying that includes saying or writing hurtful things, such as teasing, name-calling, inappropriate sexual comments, taunting, or threats to cause harm

3. Social/relational bullying that harms a person's reputation or relationships, such as leaving a person out of an activity on purpose, influencing others not to be friends with someone, spreading rumors, or embarrassing someone in public

4. Cyberbullying, such as sending demeaning or hateful text messages or emails, sending rumors by email or by posting on social networking sites, or posting embarrassing photos, videos, web site, or fake profiles

Measures to Prevent Bullying

The Superintendent or designee shall implement measures to prevent bullying in district schools, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Ensuring that each school establishes clear rules for student conduct and implements strategies to promote a positive, collaborative school climate

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)
(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)
BULLYING (continued)

2. Providing to students, through student handbooks and other age-appropriate means, information about district and school rules related to bullying, mechanisms available for reporting incidents or threats, and the consequences for engaging in bullying.

3. Encouraging students to notify school staff when they are being bullied or when they suspect that another student is being bullied, and providing means by which students may report threats or incidents confidentially and anonymously.

4. Conducting an assessment of bullying incidents at each school and, if necessary, increasing supervision and security in areas where bullying most often occurs, such as classrooms, playgrounds, hallways, restrooms, and cafeterias.

5. Annually notifying district employees that, pursuant to Education Code 234.1, any school staff who witnesses an act of bullying against a student has a responsibility to immediately intervene to stop the incident when it is safe to do so.

Staff Development

The Superintendent or designee shall make the California Department of Education's online training module on the dynamics of bullying and cyberbullying, which includes the identification of bullying and cyberbullying and the implementation of strategies to address bullying, available annually to all certificated staff and to other employees who have regular interaction with students. (Education Code 32283.5)

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

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training to teachers and other school staff to raise their awareness about the legal obligation of the district and its employees to prevent discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying of district students. Such training shall be designed to provide staff with the skills to:

1. Discuss the diversity of the student body and school community, including their varying immigration experiences.

2. Discuss bullying prevention strategies with students, and teach students to recognize the behavior and characteristics of bullying perpetrators and victims.

3. Identify the signs of bullying or harassing behavior.

4. Take immediate corrective action when bullying is observed.
BULLYING (continued)

5. Report incidents to the appropriate authorities, including law enforcement in instances of criminal behavior

Student Instruction

As appropriate, the district shall provide students with instruction, in the classroom or other educational settings, that promotes social-emotional learning, effective communication and conflict resolution skills, character/values education, respect for cultural and individual differences, self-esteem development, assertiveness skills, and appropriate online behavior.

(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)
(cf. 6142.94 - History-Social Science Instruction)

The district shall also educate students about the negative impact of bullying, discrimination, intimidation, and harassment based on actual or perceived immigration status, religious beliefs and customs, or any other individual bias or prejudice.

Students should be taught the difference between appropriate and inappropriate behaviors, how to advocate for themselves, how to help another student who is being bullied, and when to seek assistance from a trusted adult. As role models for students, staff shall be expected to demonstrate effective problem-solving and anger management skills.

To discourage cyberbullying, teachers may advise students to be cautious about sharing passwords, personal data, or private photos online and to consider the consequences of making negative comments about others online.

Reporting and Filing of Complaints

Any student, parent/guardian, or other individual who believes that a student has been subjected to bullying or who has witnessed bullying may report the incident to a teacher, the principal, a compliance officer, or any other available school employee.

When a report of bullying is submitted, the principal or a district compliance officer shall inform the student or parent/guardian of the right to file a formal written complaint in accordance with AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures. The student who is the alleged victim of the bullying shall be given an opportunity to describe the incident, identify witnesses who may have relevant information, and provide other evidence of bullying.

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

Within one business day of receiving such a report, a staff member shall notify the principal of the report, whether or not a uniform complaint is filed. In addition, any school employee who observes an incident of bullying involving a student shall, within one business day, report such observation to the principal or a district compliance officer, whether or not the alleged victim files a complaint.
BULLYING  (continued)

Within two business days of receiving a report of bullying, the principal shall notify the district compliance officer identified in AR 1312.3.

When the circumstances involve cyberbullying, individuals with information about the activity shall be encouraged to save and print any electronic or digital messages that they feel constitute cyberbullying and to notify a teacher, the principal, or other employee so that the matter may be investigated. When a student uses a social networking site or service to bully or harass another student, the Superintendent or designee may file a request with the networking site or service to suspend the privileges of the student and to have the material removed.

**Discipline/Corrective Actions**

Corrective actions for a student who commits an act of bullying of any type may include counseling, behavioral intervention and education, and, if the behavior is severe or pervasive as defined in Education Code 48900, may include suspension or expulsion in accordance with district policies and regulations.

(cf. 5138 - Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation)
(cf. 5144 - Discipline)
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)
(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))
(cf. 6159.4 - Behavioral Interventions for Special Education Students)

When appropriate based on the severity or pervasiveness of the bullying, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the parents/guardians of victims and perpetrators and may contact law enforcement.

The Superintendent, principal, or principal's designee may refer a victim, witness, perpetrator, or other student affected by an act of bullying to a school counselor, school psychologist, social worker, child welfare attendance personnel, school nurse, or other school support service personnel for case management, counseling, and/or participation in a restorative justice program as appropriate. (Education Code 48900.9)

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

If any student involved in bullying exhibits warning signs of suicidal thought or intention or of intent to harm another person, the Superintendent or designee shall, as appropriate, implement district intervention protocols which may include, but are not limited to, referral to district or community mental health services, other health professionals, and/or law enforcement.

(cf. 5141.52 - Suicide Prevention)
Students

STUDENT DISTURBANCES

The Board of Trustees desires to provide orderly campuses that create a positive school environment and are conducive to learning. When students initiate or are involved in a campus disturbance that has the potential to threaten the safety of students or staff, the Superintendent or designee may request law enforcement assistance.

The Superintendent or designee and the principal of each school shall establish a school disturbance response plan that is intended to curb disruptions which may lead to riots, violence, or vandalism at school or at school-sponsored events. In developing each school's plan, the Superintendent or designee shall consult with local law enforcement authorities to create guidelines for law enforcement support and intervention.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)
(cf. 5131.5 - Vandalism and Graffiti)

Staff are encouraged to be alert to conditions at school that may lead to a disturbance, such as racial or cultural conflict, student protests, or gang intimidation and confrontations. Staff who believe that a disturbance is imminent, or who see a disturbance occurring, shall immediately contact the principal and invoke the school disturbance response plan.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 5136 - Gangs)
(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)
(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)

Students who participate in a campus disturbance shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulations.

(cf. 3515 - Campus Security)
(cf. 5144 - Discipline)
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)
(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

Legal Reference: (see next page)
STUDENT DISTURBANCES (continued)

Legal Reference:
- EDUCATION CODE
  - 32210 Willful disturbance of public school or meeting
  - 32211 Threatened disruption or interference with classes
  - 32280-32288 School safety plans
  - 35160 Authority of governing boards
  - 38000-38005 Security patrols
  - 44810 Willful interference with classroom conduct
  - 44811 Disruption of classwork or extracurricular activities
  - 48900 Grounds for suspension or expulsion
  - 48907 Student exercise of free expression
  - 51512 Prohibited use of electronic listening or recording device
- PENAL CODE
  - 243.5 Assault or battery on school property
  - 403-420 Crimes against the public peace, especially:
  - 415 Fighting; noise; offensive words
  - 415.5 Disturbance of peace of school
  - 416 Assembly to disturb peace; refusal to disperse
  - 626-626.10 Crimes on school grounds
  - 627-627.7 Access to school premises
  - 653b Loitering about schools or public places

Management Resources:
- U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
  - Practical Information on Crisis Planning: A Guide for Schools and Communities, May 2003
- WEB SITES
  - CSBA: http://www.csba.org
  - California Department of Education, Safe Schools Office: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss
STUDENT DISTURBANCES

Prohibited Activities

A student involved or attempting to be involved in any of the following prohibited activities shall be subject to discipline:

1. Disturbing the peace, including, but not limited to, causing or attempting to cause a riot, burning or destroying property, fighting, challenging another to fight, or using offensive words likely to provoke a fight
   
   (cf. 3515 - Campus Security)

2. Disrupting school operations, including, but not limited to, exercising free expression which is obscene, libelous, or slanderous or so incites students as to create a clear and present danger of the commission of unlawful acts on school premises or the violation of lawful school regulations, or substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school (Education Code 48907)
   
   (cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)

Other examples of activities that may be considered disrupting school operations include, but are not limited to:

a. Organizing or participating in unauthorized assemblies on school premises

b. Participating in sit-ins or stand-ins which deny students or employees normal access to school premises

c. Interfering with or unauthorized use of the district's computer system

(cf. 6163.4 - Student Use of Technology)

3. Refusing to disperse, including, but not limited to, assembling for the purpose of causing a disruption and refusing to disperse upon the direction of school personnel

4. Boycotting school, including, but not limited to, participating in any protest that involves nonattendance where attendance is required at school, class, or at a school activity

   Any student who participates in a boycott shall be given an unexcused absence and may be classified as truant, regardless of any parent/guardian approval of the absence.

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)
(cf. 5113.1 - Chronic Absence and Truancy)
(cf. 5144 - Discipline)
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)
STUDENT DISTURBANCES (continued)

Extension of Class Period and/or Dismissal of School

During any disturbance in which additional students might become involved while changing classes, the principal or designee may notify all staff that any class currently in session will be extended until further notice. Upon receiving this notification, staff shall ensure that all students in their charge remain in one location under their supervision and shall ask all students who are in the halls to return to their classes immediately.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)
USE OF SECLUSION AND RESTRAINT

District staff shall enforce standards of appropriate student conduct in order to provide a safe and secure environment for students and staff on campus, but are prohibited from using seclusion and behavioral restraint to control student behavior except to the limited extent authorized by law.

*(cf. 5131 - Conduct)*
*(cf. 5131.1 - Bus Conduct)*
*(cf. 6159.4 - Behavioral Interventions for Special Education Students)*

Definitions

*Behavioral restraint* includes mechanical restraint or physical restraint used as an intervention when a student presents an immediate danger to self or to others. Behavioral restraint does not include postural restraints or devices used to improve a student's mobility and independent functioning rather than to restrict movement. (Education Code 49005.1)

*Mechanical restraint* means the use of a device or equipment to restrict a student's freedom of movement. Mechanical restraint does not include the use of devices as prescribed by an appropriate medical or related services professional, including, but not limited to, adaptive devices or mechanical supports used to achieve proper body position, balance, or alignment; vehicle safety restraints during the transport of a student; restraints for medical immobilization; or orthopedically prescribed devices which permit a student to participate in activities without risk of harm. Mechanical restraint also does not include the use of devices by peace officers or security personnel for detention or for public safety purposes. (Education Code 49005.1)

*(cf. 3515.3 - District Police/Scurity Department)*

*Physical restraint* means a personal restriction that immobilizes or reduces the ability of a student to move the torso, arms, legs, or head freely. Physical restraint does not include a physical escort in which a staff member temporarily touches or holds the student's hand, wrist, arm, shoulder, or back for the purpose of inducing a student who is acting out to walk to a safe location. Physical restraint also does not include the use of force by peace officers or security personnel for detention or for public safety purposes. (Education Code 49005.1)

*Prone restraint* means the application of a behavioral restraint on a student in a facedown position. (Education Code 49005.1)

*Seclusion* means the involuntary confinement of a student alone in a room or an area from which the student is physically prevented from leaving. Seclusion does not include a timeout involving the monitored separation of the student in an unlocked setting, which is implemented for the purpose of calming the student. (Education Code 49005.1)
USE OF SECLUSION AND RESTRAINT  (continued)

Prohibitions

Seclusion and behavioral restraint of students shall not be used in any form as a means of coercion, discipline, convenience, or retaliation. (Education Code 49005.8)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

In addition, staff shall not take any of the following actions: (Education Code 49005.2, 49005.8)

1. Administer a drug that is not a standard treatment for a student's medical or psychiatric condition in order to control the student's behavior or restrict the student's freedom of movement

2. Use locked seclusion, unless it is in a facility otherwise licensed or permitted by state law to use as a locked room

3. Use a physical restraint technique that obstructs a student's respiratory airway or impairs a student's breathing or respiratory capacity, including a technique in which a staff member places pressure on the student's back or places his/her body weight against the student's torso or back

4. Use a behavioral restraint technique that restricts breathing, including, but not limited to, the use of a pillow, blanket, carpet, mat, or other item to cover a student's face

5. Place a student in a facedown position with the student's hands held or restrained behind the student's back

6. Use a behavioral restraint for longer than is necessary to contain the behavior that poses a clear and present danger of serious physical harm to the student or others

Limited Use of Seclusion or Restraint

Staff shall avoid the use of seclusion and behavioral restraint of students whenever possible. Seclusion or behavioral restraint may be used only to control student behavior that poses a clear and present danger of serious physical harm to the student or others, which cannot be prevented by a response that is less restrictive. (Education Code 49005.4, 49005.6, 49005.8)

(cf. 5131.4 - Student Disturbances)
(cf. 5131.7 - Weapons and Dangerous Instruments)

If a student is put in seclusion, the student shall be under constant, direct observation of a staff member. Such observation may be through a window or another barrier through which the staff member is able to make direct eye contact with the student, but shall not be made through indirect means such as a security camera or closed-circuit television. (Education Code 49005.8)
USE OF SECLUSION AND RESTRAINT (continued)

If a student is restrained, staff shall afford the student the least restrictive alternative and the maximum freedom of movement, and shall use the least number of restraint points, while ensuring the physical safety of the student and others. (Education Code 49005.8)

If a prone restraint technique is used on a student, a staff member shall observe the student for any signs of physical distress throughout the use of the restraint. Whenever possible, the staff member monitoring the student shall not be involved in restraining the student. (Education Code 49005.8)

Reports

The Superintendent or designee shall annually collect data on the number of times that seclusion, mechanical restraint, and physical restraint were used on students and the number of students subjected to such techniques. The data shall be disaggregated by race/ethnicity and gender, and reported for students with a Section 504 plan, students with an individualized education program, and all other students. This report shall be submitted to the California Department of Education no later than three months after the end of each school year, and shall be available as a public record pursuant to Government Code 6250-6270. (Education Code 49006)

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)
(cf. 3580 - District Records)
(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)
(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
49001  Prohibition against corporal punishment
49005-49006.4  Seclusion and restraint
56520-56525  Behavioral interventions, students with disabilities, especially:
56521.1  Emergency interventions when behavior poses threat to student or others
56521.2  Prohibited interventions

GOVERNMENT CODE
6250-6270  California Public Records Act

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
1400-1482  Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29
794  Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Management Resources:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
WEB SITES
California Department of Education: http://www.cde.ca.gov

Regulation approved:  PALMDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT
                            Palmdale, California
Students

BP 5131.5(a)

VANDALISM AND GRAFFITI

The Board of Trustees desires to enhance student learning by striving to provide an environment where students and staff can feel safe and secure and can take pride in their school. To that end, the Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies for preventing graffiti and vandalism on school grounds, including collaborating with local law enforcement and city and county officials, as appropriate, to help develop a coordinated response to graffiti and vandalism in the community.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)
(cf. 3515 - Campus Security)
(cf. 3515.3 - District Police/Security Department)
(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)
(cf. 5136 - Gangs)
(cf. 5138 - Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation)

Students and staff are encouraged to report any graffiti or vandalism to the principal or designee for investigation. The principal or designee shall determine whether the incident necessitates an investigation pursuant to the district's sexual harassment, hate-motivated behavior, or nondiscrimination grievance procedure.

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)
(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)
(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)

As appropriate, the principal or designee may contact local law enforcement in instances when the graffiti is repetitive, identifies particular targets or groups, identifies the perpetrator, and/or contains incitements to violence, threats, or intimidation. Photographs or other evidence of the vandalism or graffiti shall be preserved as necessary for investigation by the district or law enforcement and as evidence in any district disciplinary proceedings.

The principal or designee shall ensure that graffiti on school grounds is removed and covered as soon as possible, and if practicable before the beginning of the school day.

A student who commits an act of vandalism or graffiti on school grounds shall be subject to disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, suspension or expulsion in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation. If reparation for damages is not made, the district also may withhold the student's grades, diploma, and/or transcripts in accordance with law.

(cf. 3515.4 - Recovery for Property Loss or Damage)
(cf. 5125.2 - Withholding Grades, Diploma or Transcripts)
(cf. 5131 - Conduct)
(cf. 5144 - Discipline)
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

Legal Reference: (see next page)
VANDALISM AND GRAFFITI (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
48900  Grounds for suspension or expulsion
48904  Willful misconduct, limit of liability of parent or guardian
48904.3  Withholding grades, diplomas, or transcripts of pupils causing property damage or injury

CIVIL CODE
51.7  Right to be free from violence
52.1  Discrimination liability
1714.1  Liability of parent or guardian for act of willful misconduct by a minor

GOVERNMENT CODE
53069.5  Reward for information

PENAL CODE
594.1  Aerosol containers of paint
594.2  Intent to commit vandalism or graffiti
594.6  Vandalism or graffiti, community service
640.5  Graffiti; facilities or vehicles of governmental entity
640.6  Graffiti

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
305  Student responsible for care of property

Management Resources:

WEB SITES
CSBA:  http://www.csba.org
California Department of Education:  http://www.cde.ca.gov

Policy adopted:  PALMDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT
Palmdale, California
ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

The Board of Trustees believes that the use of alcohol or other drugs adversely affects a student's ability to achieve academic success, is physically and emotionally harmful, and has serious social and legal consequences. The Superintendent or designee shall develop comprehensive programs and activities to foster safe, healthy, and drug-free environments that support academic achievement.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 4020 - Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace)
(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

The district's alcohol and drug prevention and intervention programs may be coordinated with other school and community-based services and programs and may promote the involvement of parents/guardians. The Superintendent or designee may collaborate with the county office of education, community-based organizations, health providers, law enforcement agencies, local child welfare agencies, postsecondary institutions, businesses, and other public and private entities in program planning, implementation, and evaluation.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)
(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)
(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

Prevention and intervention programs and activities may include, but are not limited to: (20 USC 7118)

1. Evidence-based drug and violence prevention activities and programs that educate students against the use of alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, smokeless tobacco products, and electronic cigarettes

(cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)

2. Professional development and training for school staff, specialized instructional support personnel, and interested community members on drug prevention, education, early identification, intervention mentoring, recovery support services, and, where appropriate, rehabilitation referral

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

3. School-based mental health services, including early identification of drug use and referrals to counseling services, and/or partnerships with public or private health care entities that have qualified mental and behavioral health professionals

(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)
**ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS** (continued)

4. Programs and activities that provide mentoring and school counseling to all students, including students who are at risk of drug use and abuse

**Instruction**

The district shall provide science-based preventative instruction which has been proven effective in helping students avoid the use of alcohol and other drugs.

(cf. 6142.1 - Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction)
(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)
(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

All instruction and related materials shall consistently state that unlawful use of alcohol or other drugs is prohibited. Instruction shall not include any message on responsible use of drugs or alcohol when such use is illegal. (Health and Safety Code 11999.2)

The district shall offer staff development activities for staff who implement the comprehensive drug and alcohol prevention and intervention program.

**Intervention, Referral, and Student Assistance Programs**

The Superintendent or designee shall inform school staff, students, and parents/guardians about early warning signs which may indicate alcohol and other drug use and about appropriate agencies offering intervention programs, counseling, referral, and other student assistance programs.

The Board strongly encourages any student who is using alcohol or drugs to discuss the matter with his/her parent/guardian or with any staff member. Students who disclose their use of alcohol or other drugs when seeking help from an intervention or recovery program shall not be disciplined for such use.

(cf. 5141.52 - Suicide Prevention)

**Enforcement/Discipline**

Students shall not possess, use, or sell alcohol or other drugs and related paraphernalia on school grounds or at school-sponsored activities.

(cf. 3513.3 - Tobacco-Free Schools)
(cf. 3513.4 - Drug and Alcohol Free Schools)
(cf. 5131 - Conduct)
(cf. 5131.61 - Drug Testing)
(cf. 5131.63 - Steroids)
(cf. 5145.11 - Questioning and Apprehension by Law Enforcement)
(cf. 5145.12 - Search and Seizure)
ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS (continued)

The Superintendent or designee shall clearly communicate to all students, staff, and parents/guardians the district's policies, regulations, and school rules related to the use of alcohol and other drugs.

Any student found by the Board to be selling a controlled substance listed in Health and Safety Code 11053-11058 shall be expelled in accordance with BP/AR 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process. A student found to have committed another drug or alcohol offense, including possession or intoxication, shall be referred to appropriate behavioral interventions or student assistance programs, and may be subject to discipline on a case-by-case basis.

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)
(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

Program Evaluation

The Board and Superintendent shall agree upon performance measures that will be used to monitor and determine the effectiveness of district programs in reducing drug and alcohol use. The Superintendent or designee shall periodically report to the Board on the effectiveness of district activities in achieving identified objectives and outcomes. (20 USC 7116)

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
   44049 Known or suspected alcohol or drug abuse by student
   44645 In-service training anabolic steroids
   48900 Suspension or expulsion (grounds)
   48900.5 Suspension, limitation on imposition; exception
   48901 Smoking or use of tobacco prohibited
   48901.5 Prohibition of electronic signaling devices
   48902 Notification of law enforcement authorities; civil or criminal immunity
   48909 Narcotics or other hallucinogenic drugs
   48915 Expulsion; particular circumstances
   49602 Confidentiality of pupil information
   51202 Instruction in personal and public health and safety

Legal Reference continued: (see next page)
ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS (continued)

Legal Reference: (continued)

EDUCATION CODE (continued)
51203 Instruction on alcohol, narcotics and restricted dangerous drugs
51210 Areas of study
51220 Areas of study, grades 7 to 12
51260-51269 Drug education
60041 Instructional materials
60110-60115 Instructional materials on alcohol and drug education
BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE
25608 Alcohol on school property; use in connection with instruction
HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE
11032 Narcotics, restricted dangerous drugs and marijuana
11053-11058 Standards and schedules
11353.6 Juvenile Drug Trafficking and Schoolyard Act
11357 Unauthorized possession of marijuana; possession in school or on school grounds
11361.5 Destruction of arrest or conviction records
11372.7 Drug program fund; uses
11802 Joint school-community alcohol abuse primary education and prevention program
11999-11999.3 Alcohol and drug program funding; no unlawful use
124175-124200 Adolescent family life program
PENAL CODE
13860-13864 Suppression of drug abuse in schools
VEHICLE CODE
13202.5 Drug and alcohol related offenses by person under age of 21, but aged 13 or over;
WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE
828 Disclosure of information re minors
828.1 Disclosure of criminal records; protection of vulnerable staff & students
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
5812 National education goals
7101-7122 Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants

Management Resources:

WEB SITES
California Department of Education, Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Prevention: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/at
California Healthy Kids: http://www.californiahealthykids.org
Office of Safe and Healthy Students: https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oese/oshs
ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

Instruction

The curriculum of all elementary and secondary schools shall include instruction on the effects upon the human body, as determined by science, of tobacco, alcohol, narcotics, dangerous drugs as defined in Health and Safety Code 11032, and other dangerous substances. Instruction shall be sequential in nature and suited to meet the needs of students at their respective grade level. (Education Code 51203, 51260)

(cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)

In grades 1-6, instruction in drug education should be given in health courses required by Education Code 51210. (Education Code 51260)

In grades 7-12, instruction in drug education shall be conducted in health courses and in any other appropriate area of study required by Education Code 51220. (Education Code 51260)

(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)

Secondary school instruction shall also include a study of the effects of alcohol and other drugs upon prenatal development. (Education Code 51203)

(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

Instruction shall be provided by appropriately trained instructors who have demonstrated competencies, as determined by the principal or designee, in the following areas: (Education Code 51260)

1. The ability to interact with students in a positive way
2. Knowledge of the properties and effects of tobacco, alcohol, narcotics, dangerous drugs, and shared drug apparatus
3. Effective teaching skills and competency in helping students to express opinions responsibly and to become aware of their values as they affect drug-use decisions

Intervention

District staff shall intervene whenever students use alcohol or other illegal drugs while on school property or under school jurisdiction. Staff members who have a reasonable suspicion that a student may be under the influence of alcohol or drugs shall immediately notify the principal or designee.

If the principal or designee, in his/her professional capacity or in the course of his/her employment, knows, observes or suspects that a student may be under the influence of alcohol or drugs, he/she may notify the parent/guardian. (Education Code 44049)
ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS  (continued)

School staff shall not disclose confidential information provided during counseling by a student 12 years of age or older. A school counselor may report such information to the principal or parent/guardian only when he/she believes that disclosure is necessary to avert a clear and present danger to the health, safety or welfare of the student or other persons living in the school community. The school counselor shall not disclose such information to the parent/guardian if he/she believes that the disclosure would result in a clear and present danger to the student's health, safety or welfare. (Education Code 44049, 49602)

(cf. 5022 - Student and Family Privacy Rights)
(cf. 5141 - Health Care and Emergencies)
(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)
The Board of Trustees recognizes the serious health risks presented by tobacco use and desires to ensure that, through adoption of consistent policies, district students are made aware of those risks and, to the extent possible, protected from them. The Superintendent or designee shall establish a coordinated school health system which includes a comprehensive behavioral health education component that teaches students the knowledge, skills, and attitudes they need in order to lead healthy lives and avoid high-risk behaviors, such as tobacco use.

(cf. 5141.23 - Asthma Management)

The Superintendent or designee shall provide prevention, intervention, and cessation education, information, activities, and/or referrals to district students and shall ensure consistent enforcement of district policies prohibiting student possession and use of tobacco products.

Prohibition Against Tobacco Use

Students shall not possess, smoke, or use tobacco or any product containing tobacco or nicotine while on campus, while attending school-sponsored activities, or while under the supervision and control of district employees. (Education Code 48900, 48901)

Smoking means inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying of any lighted or heated cigar, cigarette, pipe, tobacco, or plant product intended for inhalation, whether natural or synthetic, in any manner or form, and includes the use of an electronic smoking device that creates aerosol or vapor or of any oral smoking device for the purpose of circumventing the prohibition of smoking. (Business and Professions Code 22950.5; Education Code 48901)

Tobacco products include: (Business and Professions Code 22950.5; Education Code 48901)

1. A product containing, made, or derived from tobacco or nicotine that is intended for human consumption, whether smoked, heated, chewed, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, snorted, sniffed, or ingested by any other means, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, little cigars, chewing tobacco, pipe tobacco, or snuff

2. An electronic device that delivers nicotine or other vaporized liquids to the person inhaling from the device, including, but not limited to, an electronic cigarette, cigar, pipe, or hookah

3. Any component, part, or accessory of a tobacco product, whether or not sold separately
TOBACCO (continued)

These prohibitions do not apply to a student's possession or use of his/her own prescription products. However, student possession or use of prescription products in school shall be subject to the district's policy and regulation for addressing the administration of medications on campus. (Education Code 48900)

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

Prevention Instruction

The district shall provide developmentally appropriate tobacco-use prevention instruction for students at selected grade levels from K-12 pursuant to Education Code 51202. Such instruction shall be aligned with state content standards and the state curriculum framework for health education and with any requirements of state and/or federal grant programs in which the district participates.

(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)
(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

Intervention/Cessation Services

The district may provide or refer students to counseling, intensive education, and other intervention services to assist in the cessation of tobacco use. Such intervention services shall be provided as an alternative to suspension for tobacco possession.

(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)
(cf. 5146 - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)
(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

Program Planning

The district's tobacco-use prevention and intervention program shall be based on an assessment of tobacco-use problems in district schools and the community, an examination of existing services and activities in the community, and a determination of high-risk student populations that are most in need of district services.

The Superintendent or designee shall coordinate with the local health department and county office of education in program planning and implementation. He/she may establish an advisory council including students, parents/guardians, district staff, representatives of the local health department and community organizations, law enforcement professionals, and/or others with demonstrated expertise in tobacco prevention and cessation.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Councils)
(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)
The Superintendent or designee also shall coordinate the district's tobacco-use prevention and intervention program with other district efforts to reduce students' use of illegal substances and to promote student wellness.

(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)
(cf. 5131.6 - Alcohol and Other Drugs)
(cf. 5131.63 - Steroids)

The Superintendent or designee shall select tobacco-use prevention programs based on the model program designs identified by the California Department of Education (CDE) and may adapt the model to meet district needs. (Health and Safety Code 104420)

The Superintendent or designee shall not accept for distribution any materials or advertisements that promote the use or sale of tobacco products. He/she also shall not accept tobacco-use prevention or intervention funds or materials from the tobacco industry or from any entity which is known to have received funding from the tobacco industry.

(cf. 1325 - Advertising and Promotion)
(cf. 3290 - Gifts, Grants and Bequests)
(cf. 6161.1 - Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials)

Program Evaluation

To evaluate the effectiveness of the district's program and ensure accountability, the Superintendent or designee shall biennially administer the California Healthy Kids Survey or other appropriate student survey at selected grade levels in order to assess student attitudes toward tobacco and student use of tobacco. He/she also shall annually report to the Board, and to the CDE if required, the data specified in Health and Safety Code 104450.

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)
(cf. 5022 - Student and Family Privacy Rights)
(cf. 6162.8 - Research)

The results of program evaluations shall be used to refine program goals and objectives and make changes as needed to strengthen program implementation.

Legal Reference: (see next page)
TOBACCO (continued)

Legal Reference:

**EDUCATION CODE**
- 8900 Suspension or expulsion (grounds)
- 48900.5 Suspension, limitation on imposition; exception
- 48901 Smoking or use of tobacco prohibited
- 51202 Instruction in personal and public health and safety
- 60041 Instructional materials, portrayal of effects of tobacco use

**BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE**
- 22950.5 Stop Tobacco Access to Kids Enforcement Act; definitions

**HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE**
- 104350-104495 Tobacco-use prevention education
- 104559 Tobacco use prohibition
- 119405 Unlawful to sell or furnish electronic cigarettes to minors

**PENAL CODE**
- 308 Minimum age for tobacco possession

**CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 17**
- 6800 Definition, health assessment
- 6844-6847 Child Health and Disability Prevention program; health assessments

**UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20**
- 7111-7122 Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants

**CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 21**
- 1140.1-1140.34 Unlawful sale of cigarettes and smokeless tobacco to minors

**ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS**

Management Resources:

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS**
- TUPE Acceptance of Funds Guidance
- Health Education Content Standards for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2008
- Health Framework for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2003
- Getting Results: Part II California Action Guide to Tobacco Use Prevention Education, 2000

**WEST ED PUBLICATIONS**
- Guidebook for the California Healthy Kids Survey

**WEB SITES**
- CSBA: http://www.csba.org
- California Department of Education, Tobacco-Use Prevention Education: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/at/tupe.asp
- California Department of Public Health, Tobacco Control: http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/tobacco
- California Healthy Kids Resource Center: http://www.californiahealthykids.org
- California Healthy Kids Survey: http://www.wested.org/hks
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Smoking and Tobacco Use: http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco
- U.S. Surgeon General: http://www.surgeongeneral.gov

Policy adopted: PALMDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Palmdale, California
TOBACCO

Tobacco-Use Prevention Education Program

The district's tobacco-use prevention program shall provide students in grades 6-12 instruction which addresses the following topics: (Health and Safety Code 104420)

1. Immediate and long-term undesirable physiologic, cosmetic, and social consequences of tobacco use
2. Reasons that adolescents say they smoke or use tobacco
3. Peer norms and social influences that promote tobacco use
4. Refusal skills for resisting social influences that promote tobacco use

(cf. 5131.6 - Alcohol and Other Drugs)
(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)
(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

As appropriate, the district shall provide or refer students in grades 7-12 to tobacco-use intervention and cessation activities. (Health and Safety Code 104420)

(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)
(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)
(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

These services shall be directed toward current users and shall be voluntary for students who desire assistance in ceasing the use of tobacco.

In addition to targeting students who currently use tobacco, the district's program shall target students most at risk for beginning to use tobacco as identified through a local needs assessment.

The district shall provide or refer every pregnant and parenting minor enrolled in the district to tobacco-use prevention services. Such services may be integrated with existing programs for pregnant and parenting minors and shall include: (Health and Safety Code 104460)

1. Referral to perinatal and related support services
2. Outreach services and assessment of smoking status
3. Individualized counseling and advocacy services
4. Motivational messages
5. Cessation services, if appropriate
TOBACCO (continued)

6. Incentives to maintain a healthy lifestyle

7. Follow-up assessment

8. Maintenance and relapse prevention services

(cf. 5146 - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)
WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS

The Board of Trustees recognizes that students and staff have the right to a safe and secure campus free from physical and psychological harm and desires to protect them from the dangers presented by firearms and other weapons.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 3515.3 - District Police/Security Department)
(cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)
(cf. 5131 - Conduct)
(cf. 5138 - Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation)

Possession of Weapons

The Board prohibits any student from possessing weapons, imitation firearms, or other dangerous instruments, as defined in law and administrative regulation, in school buildings, on school grounds or buses, at school-related or school-sponsored activities away from school, or while going to or coming from school.

Under the power granted to the Board to protect the safety of students, staff, and others on district property and to maintain order and discipline in the schools, any school employee is authorized to confiscate any prohibited weapon, imitation firearm, or dangerous instrument from any student on school grounds.

(cf. 4158/4258/4358 - Employee Security)

Unless he/she has obtained prior written permission as specified below, a student possessing or threatening others with any weapon, dangerous instrument, or imitation firearm shall be subject to suspension and/or expulsion in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulations.

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)
(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Individuals with Disabilities))

The principal or designee shall notify law enforcement authorities when any student possesses a firearm, explosive, or other prohibited weapon or dangerous instrument without permission, sells or furnishes a firearm, or commits any act of assault with a firearm or other weapon. (Education Code 48902; Penal Code 245, 626.9, 626.10; 20 USC 7961)

(cf. 3515.2 - Disruptions)

Possession of Pepper Spray

To prevent potential misuse that may harm students or staff, students are prohibited from carrying tear gas or tear gas weapons such as pepper spray on campus or at school activities.
WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS (continued)

Reporting of Dangerous Objects

The Board encourages students to promptly report the presence of weapons, injurious objects, or other suspicious activity to school authorities. The identity of a student who reports such activity shall remain confidential to the extent permitted by law.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

The Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies designed to facilitate student reporting of the presence of injurious objects on school grounds, such as tip hotlines, electronic transmissions, or other methods that preserve the student's anonymity. Incident reports and records shall not identify the student who reported the possession. The Superintendent or designee also shall inform staff, students, and parents/guardians that students who report the presence of injurious objects on school campuses are to be protected and their identity shielded.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
35291  Governing board to prescribe rules for discipline of the schools
48900  Grounds for suspension/expulsion
48902  Notification of law enforcement authorities
48915  Required recommendation for expulsions
48916  Readmission
49330-49335  Injurious objects

PENAL CODE
245  Assault with deadly weapon
417.4  Imitation firearm; drawing or exhibiting
626.9  Gun-Free School Zone Act of 1995
626.10  Dirks, daggers, knives, razor or stun gun; bringing or possessing in school
653k  Switchblade knife
16100-17350  Definitions
22810-23025  Tear gas weapon (pepper spray)
25200-25225  Firearms, access to children
30310  Prohibition against ammunition on school grounds

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
6301-7941  No Child Left Behind Act, especially:
7961  Gun-Free Schools Act

Management Resources: (see next page)
WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS (continued)

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION COMMUNICATIONS
0401.01 Protecting Student Identification in Reporting Injurious Objects

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
Guidance Concerning State and Local Responsibilities Under the Gun-Free Schools Act, January 2004

WEB SITES
CSBA: http://www.csba.org
California Department of Education, Safe Schools: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss
National Alliance for Safe Schools: http://www.safeschools.org
National School Safety Center: http://www.schoolsafety.us
U.S. Department of Education, Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools: http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osdfs

Policy adopted:  PALMDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT
Palmdale, California
Students

AR 5131.7(a)

WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS

Prohibited weapons and dangerous instruments include, but are not limited to: (Education Code 48915, 49330; Penal Code 626.10, 16100-17350, 30310)

1. Firearms: pistols, revolvers, shotguns, rifles, "zip guns," "stun guns," tasers, and any other device capable of propelling a projectile by the force of an explosion or other form of combustion

2. Ammunition or reloaded ammunition

3. Knives, razor blades, and box cutters: any dirks, daggers, ice picks, or other weapons with a fixed, sharpened blade fitted primarily for stabbing, weapons with a blade fitted primarily for stabbing, weapons with a blade longer than two and one-half inches, folding knives with a blade that locks into place, and razors with an unguarded blade

4. Explosive and/or incendiary devices: pipe bombs, time bombs, cap guns, containers of inflammable fluids, and other hazardous devices

5. Any instrument that expels a metallic projectile, such as a BB or a pellet, through the force of air pressure, carbon dioxide pressure, or spring action, or any spot marker gun

6. Any other dangerous device, instrument, or weapon, including those defined in Penal Code 12020, including a blackjack, slingshot, billy, nunchaku, sandclub, sandbag, metal knuckles, or any metal plate with three or more radiating points with one or more sharp edges designed for use as a weapon

7. Any imitation firearm, defined as 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

Any employee may take any weapon or dangerous instrument from the personal possession of a student while the student is on school premises or under the authority of the district. (Education Code 49331, 49332)

(cf. 5145.12 - Search and Seizure)

In determining whether to take possession of the weapon or dangerous instrument, the employee shall use his/her own judgment as to the dangerousness of the situation and, based upon this analysis, shall take one of the following actions:

1. Confiscate the object and deliver it to the principal immediately

2. Immediately notify the principal, who shall take appropriate action
WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS  (continued)

3.  Immediately notify the local law enforcement agency and the principal

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 3515.3 - District/Police Security Department)
(cf. 4158/4258/4358 - Employee Security)

When informing the principal about the possession of a weapon or dangerous instrument, the employee shall report the name(s) of persons involved, witnesses, location, and the circumstances of the possession.

The principal shall report any possession of a weapon or dangerous instrument to the student's parents/guardians by telephone or in person, and shall follow this notification with a letter.

The employee shall retain possession of the instrument until the risk of its use as a weapon has dissipated or, upon the request of the student's parent/guardian, until the parent/guardian appears and personally takes possession.  (Education Code 49331, 49332)
MOBILE COMMUNICATION DEVICES

The Governing Board recognizes that 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. The Board permits limited use of mobile communication devices on campus in accordance with law and the following policy.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)
(cf. 5131.4 - Student Disturbances)
(cf. 5131.9 - Academic Honesty)
(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)
(cf. 5141.52 - Suicide Prevention)
(cf. 6163.4 - Student Use of Technology)

Students may use cell phones, smart watches, pagers, or other mobile communication devices on campus during noninstructional time as long as the device is utilized in accordance with law and any rules that individual school sites may impose.

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: (Education Code 48901.5, 48901.7)

1. In the case of an emergency, or in response to a perceived threat of danger

2. 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

3. When a licensed physician or surgeon determines that the possession or use is necessary for the student's health and well-being

4. When the possession or use is required by the student's individualized education program

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

Smartphones and other mobile communication devices shall not be used in any manner which infringes on the privacy rights of any other person.

When a school official reasonably suspects that a search of a student's mobile communication device will turn up evidence of the student's violation of the law or school rules, such a search shall be conducted in accordance with BP/AR 5145.12 - Search and Seizure.

(cf. 5145.12 - Search and Seizure)
(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)
MOBILE COMMUNICATION DEVICES  (continued)

When a student uses a mobile communication device in an unauthorized manner, the student may be disciplined and a district employee may confiscate the device. The employee shall store the device securely until it is returned to the student or turned over to the principal or designee, as appropriate.

A student may also be subject to discipline, in accordance with law, Board policy, or administrative regulation, for off-campus use of a mobile communication device which poses a threat or danger to the safety of students, staff, or district property or substantially disrupts school activities.

The Superintendent or designee shall inform students that the district will not be responsible for a student's mobile communication device which is brought on campus or to a school activity and is lost, stolen, or damaged.

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE
200-262.4  Prohibition of discrimination
32280-32289  Comprehensive safety plan
35181  Governing board authority to set policy on responsibilities of students
35291-35291.5  Rules
44807  Duty concerning conduct of students
48900-48925  Suspension and expulsion, especially:
48901.5  Regulation of possession or use of electronic signaling devices
48901.7  Limitation or prohibition of student use of cell phones
51512  Prohibition against electronic listening or recording device in classroom without permission
CIVIL CODE
1714.1  Liability of parents and guardians for willful misconduct of minor
PENAL CODE
288.2  Harmful matter with intent to seduce
313  Harmful matter
647  Use of camera or other instrument to invade person's privacy; misdemeanor
653.2  Electronic communication devices, threats to safety
VEHICLE CODE
23123-23124  Prohibitions against use of electronic devices while driving
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
300-307  Duties of students
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
1681-1688  Discrimination based on sex or blindness
COURT DECISIONS

Management Resources:
CSBA PUBLICATIONS
Safe Schools: Strategies for Governing Boards to Ensure Student Success, 2011
Cyberbullying: Policy Considerations for Boards, Policy Brief, July 2007
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
Bullying at School, 2003
MOBILE COMMUNICATION DEVICES (continued)

Management Resources (continued)

WEB SITES
CSBA: http://www.csba.org
California Department of Education, Safe Schools Office: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss
Center for Safe and Responsible Internet Use: https://www.ewa.org/organization/center-safe-and-
responsible-internet-use
National School Safety Center: http://www.schoolsafety.us
ACADEMIC HONESTY

The Board of Trustees believes that academic honesty and personal integrity are fundamental components of a student's education and character development. The Board expects that students will not cheat, lie, plagiarize or commit other acts of academic dishonesty.

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)
(cf. 6162.6 - Use of Copyrighted Materials)

Students, parents/guardians, staff and administrators shall be responsible for creating and maintaining a positive school climate that encourages honesty. Students found to have committed an act of academic dishonesty shall be subject to district and school-site discipline rules.

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)
(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

The Superintendent or designee may establish a committee comprised of students, parents/guardians, staff, administrators and members of the public to develop standards of academic honesty, measures of preventing dishonesty, and specific consequences for acts of dishonesty. Any recommendations for discipline shall be incorporated into the school's site level discipline rules.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committee)

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE
35291-35291.5 Rules
DRESS AND GROOMING

The Governing Board believes that appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive learning environment. The Board expects students to wear clothing that is suitable for the school activities in which they participate. Students shall not wear clothing that presents a health or safety hazard or causes a substantial disruption to the educational program.

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

District and school rules pertaining to student attire shall be included in student handbooks, may be posted in school offices and classrooms, and may be periodically reviewed with all students as necessary.

Students shall not be prohibited from dressing in a manner consistent with their gender identity or gender expression or with their religious or cultural observance.

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)
(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

In addition, the dress code shall not discriminate against students based on hair texture and protective hairstyles, including, but not limited to, braids, locks, and twists. (Education Code 212.1)

The principal or designee is authorized to enforce this policy and shall inform any student who does not reasonably conform to the dress code. The dress code shall not be enforced in a manner that discriminates against a particular viewpoint or results in a disproportionate application of the dress code based on students' gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, household income, or body type or size.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 0415 - Equity)
(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)

School administrators, teachers, and other staff shall be notified of appropriate and equitable enforcement of the dress code.

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

When practical, students shall not be directed to correct a dress code violation during instructional time or in front of other students.

Repeated violations or refusal to comply with the district's dress code may result in disciplinary action.

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)
DRESS AND GROOMING (Continued)

Gang-Related Apparel

The principal, staff, and parents/guardians at a school may establish a reasonable dress code that prohibits students from wearing gang-related apparel when there is evidence of a gang presence that disrupts or threatens to disrupt the school's activities. Such a proposed dress code shall be presented to the Board, which shall approve the plan upon determining that it is necessary to protect the health and safety of the school environment. The dress code policy may be included in the school's comprehensive safety plan. (Education Code 35183)

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 5136 - Gangs)

When determining specific items of clothing that may be defined as gang apparel, the school shall ensure that the determination is free from bias based on race, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, or other protected characteristics.

Uniforms

The Board may approve a school-initiated dress code requiring students at the school to wear a school uniform whenever the Board determines that such a dress code will promote student achievement, a positive school climate, and/or student safety.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures whereby parents/guardians may choose to have their children exempted from the school uniform policy. Students shall not be penalized academically, otherwise discriminated against, or denied attendance to school if their parents/guardians so decide. (Education Code 35183)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that resources are identified to assist economically disadvantaged students in obtaining uniforms. (Education Code 35183)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
212.1 Nondiscrimination based on race or ethnicity
220 Nondiscrimination
32281 School safety plans
35183 School dress codes; uniforms
35183.5 Sun-protective clothing
48907 Student exercise of free expression
49066 Grades; effect of physical education class apparel

COURT DECISIONS
Jacobs v. Clark County School District (2008) 26 F. 3d 419

Policy adopted: PALMDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Palmdale, California
**DRESS AND GROOMING**

In cooperation with teachers, students, and parents/guardians, the principal or designee may establish school rules governing student dress and grooming which are consistent with law, Board policy, and administrative regulations. These school dress codes shall be regularly reviewed.

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

The following guidelines shall apply to all regular school activities:

1. Clothing, jewelry, and personal items shall be free of writing, pictures, or any other insignia which is vulgar, lewd, obscene, profane, or sexually suggestive or which promotes the use of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, or other illegal activity.

2. Appropriate shoes must be worn at all times.

3. Hats, caps, and other head coverings shall not be worn indoors.

4. Clothes shall be sufficient to conceal undergarments. See-through tops and bare abdomens are prohibited.

The dress code shall be modified as appropriate to accommodate a student's religious or cultural observance, health condition, or other circumstance deemed necessary by the principal or designee. In addition, the principal or designee may impose dress requirements to accommodate the needs of special school activities, physical education classes, athletic activities, and other extracurricular and cocurricular activities.

(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)
(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)
(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)
(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

No grade of a student participating in a physical education class shall be adversely affected if the student does not wear standardized physical education apparel because of circumstances beyond the student's control. (Education Code 49066)

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

Students shall be allowed to wear sun-protective clothing, including but not limited to hats, for outdoor use during the school day. (Education Code 35183.5)

(cf. 5141.7 - Sun Safety)
DRESS AND GROOMING (continued)

Gang-Related Apparel

At individual schools that have a dress code prohibiting gang-related apparel at school or school activities, the principal, staff, and parents/guardians participating in the development of the school safety plan shall define "gang-related apparel" and shall limit this definition to apparel that reasonably could be determined to threaten the health and safety of the school environment if it were worn or displayed on a school campus. (Education Code 32282)

Because gang-related symbols are constantly changing, definitions of gang-related apparel shall be reviewed at least once each semester and updated whenever related information is received. As necessary, the school shall collaborate with law enforcement agencies to update definitions of gang-related apparel.

Uniforms

In schools that require a schoolwide uniform, the principal, staff, and parents/guardians of the school shall jointly select the specific uniform to be worn. (Education Code 35183)

At least six months before a school uniform policy is implemented, the principal or designee shall notify parents/guardians of this policy. (Education Code 35183)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

Parents/guardians shall also be informed of their right to have their child exempted.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish criteria for determining student eligibility for financial assistance when purchasing uniforms.

Students who participate in a nationally recognized youth organization shall be allowed to wear organization uniforms on days when the organization has a scheduled meeting. (Education Code 35183)
The Board of Trustees desires to keep district schools free from the threats or harmful influence of any groups or gangs which exhibit drug use, violence or disruptive behavior. The Superintendent or designee shall take steps to deter gang intimidation of students and staff and confrontations between members of different gangs. He/she shall exchange information and establish mutually supportive efforts with local law enforcement authorities.

(cf. 5131.4 - Student Disturbances)
(cf. 5131.7 - Weapons and Dangerous Instruments)

The Superintendent or designee shall provide inservice training which helps staff to identify gangs and gang symbols, recognize early manifestations of disruptive activities, and respond appropriately to gang behavior. Staff shall be informed about conflict management techniques and alerted to intervention measures and community resources.

The Board realizes that students become involved in gangs for many reasons, such as peer pressure, the need for a sense of belonging, and lack of refusal skills. Age-appropriate gang violence prevention education shall start with students in the early elementary grades and may start in kindergarten.

To further discourage the influence of gangs, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that school rules of conduct and any school dress code prohibiting gang-related apparel are enforced consistently. If a student exhibits signs of gang affiliation, staff shall so inform the parent/guardian.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 5132 - Dress and Grooming)
(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

Legal Reference:

**EDUCATION CODE**
32282 School safety plans
35183 Gang-related apparel
48907 Student exercise of free expression
51264 Educational inservice training: CDE guidelines
51265 Gang violence and drug and alcohol abuse prevention inservice training
51266-51266.5 Model gang and substance abuse prevention curriculum

**PENAL CODE**
186.22 Participation in criminal street gang
13826-13826.7 Gang violence suppression

**UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20**
7101-7122 Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants
GANGS

Prevention and Intervention Measures

In order to discourage the influence of gangs, school staff shall take the following measures:

1. Any student displaying behavior, gestures, apparel or paraphernalia indicative of gang affiliation shall be referred to the principal or designee.
   a. The student's parent/guardian shall be contacted and may be asked to meet with school staff.
   b. The student may be sent home to change clothes if necessary.

(cf. 5132 - Dress and Grooming)

2. Staff members shall be provided with the names of known gang members.

3. Students who seek help in rejecting gang associations may be referred to community-based gang suppression and prevention organizations.

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

4. Any gang graffiti on school premises shall be removed, washed down or painted over as soon as discovered.
   a. Daily checks for graffiti shall be made throughout the campus.
   b. Graffiti shall be photographed before it is removed. These photographs shall be shared with local law enforcement authorities and used in future disciplinary or criminal action against the offenders.

(cf. 3515 - Campus Security)
(cf. 5131.5 - Vandalism and Graffiti)

5. Classroom and after-school programs at each school shall be designed to enhance individual self-esteem, provide positive reinforcement for acceptable behavior, and foster interest in a variety of constructive activities. These programs shall also:
   a. Explain the dangers of gang membership
   b. Provide counseling for targeted at-risk students
   c. Include lessons or role-playing workshops in gang avoidance skills and nonviolent conflict resolution, including communication skills, anger management, ethnic/cultural tolerance, and mediation skills
GANGS (continued)

d. Assign individual gang members to cooperative learning groups in which they may work toward common goals with students who are not members of their gang

e. Provide school-to-career instruction

f. Provide positive interaction with local law enforcement staff

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

Gang prevention lessons may be taught jointly by teachers and law enforcement staff.

6. Staff shall actively promote membership in authorized student organizations which can provide students companionship, safety, and a sense of purpose and belonging, including:

a. Positive sports and cultural activities and affiliations with the local community

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)
(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

b. Structured, goal-oriented community service projects

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

Community Outreach

Gang prevention classes or counseling offered for parents/guardians shall address the following topics:

1. The dangers of gang membership

2. Warning signs which may indicate that children are at risk of becoming involved with gangs

3. The nature of local gang apparel and graffiti

4. Effective parenting techniques

5. Conflict resolution techniques
GANGS (continued)

Community programs shall address:

1. The scope and nature of local gang problems
2. Strategies by which each segment of the community may alleviate gang problems

Regulation approved: PALMDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT
Palmdale, California
POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE

The Board of Trustees desires to provide an orderly, caring and nondiscriminatory learning environment in which all students can feel comfortable and take pride in their school and their achievements. Positive Behavior Support strategies will be used to promote safe, respectful and responsible behavior among all students.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 5132 - Dress and Grooming)
(cf. 5144 - Discipline)
(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression: Publications Code)
(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)
(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

The Board expects staff to teach and model for students the meaning of equality, human dignity, and mutual respect, and to employ Positive Behavior Support and cooperative learning strategies that foster positive interactions in the classroom among students from diverse backgrounds. The district shall provide instruction and counseling designed to promote positive racial and ethnic identity, help students understand diverse cultures, teach them to think critically about racial and other forms of bias and show them how to deal with discriminatory behavior in appropriate ways.

(cf. 6141 - Curriculum Development and Evaluation)
(cf. 6141.6 - Multicultural Education)
(cf. 6161.1 - Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials)

Students shall have opportunities to voice their concerns about school policies and practices and to share responsibility for solving problems that affect their school. The Superintendent or designee may initiate student courts, campus beautification projects, buddy systems, vandalism prevention campaigns, and other similar programs. Staff shall support, encourage and reward success and achievement, participation in community projects and positive student behavior. This will be promoted as staff endeavor to achieve a minimum ratio of four to one (4 : 1) positive to corrective interactions with all students daily.

(cf. 5126 - Awards for Achievement)
(cf. 5131.4 - Campus Disturbances)
(cf. 5136 - Gangs)
(cf. 6142.4 - Learning through Community Service)

The schools shall model and promote nonviolent conflict resolution techniques in order to encourage attitudes and behaviors that foster harmonious relations. As part of this effort, students shall be taught the skills necessary to reduce violence, including communication skills, anger management, bias reduction and mediation skills. Staff shall receive training that implements and supports conflict resolution techniques, and training in conflict resolution techniques shall be available to parents/guardians and volunteers.

Legal Reference: (see next page)
POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
233-233.8 Hate violence prevention
32280-32289 School safety plans
32295.5 Teen court programs
35181 Governing board policy on responsibilities of students
35291-35291.5 Rules
44807 Teachers’ duty concerning conduct of students
48900-48925 Suspension and expulsion

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS
Cyberbullying: Policy Considerations for Boards, Policy Brief, July 2007
Protecting Our Schools: Board of Trustees Strategies to Combat School Violence, rev. 1999
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
Bullying at School, 2003
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
Preventing Bullying: A Manual for Schools and Communities, 1998
WEB SITES
CSBA: http://www.csba.org
California Department of Education, Learning Support: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls
National School Safety Center: http://www.schoolsafety.us
U.S. Department of Education, Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools:
http://www.ed.gov/offices/OESE/SDFS
Students

BP 5138(a)

CONFLICT RESOLUTION/PEER MEDIATION

To promote student safety and contribute to the maintenance of a positive school climate, the Board of Trustees encourages the development of school-based conflict resolution programs designed to help students learn constructive ways of handling conflict. The Board believes that such programs can reduce violence and promote communication, personal responsibility and problem-solving skills among students.

Conflict resolution strategies shall be considered as part of each school's comprehensive safety plan and incorporated into other district discipline procedures as appropriate. Conflict resolution programs shall not supplant the authority of staff to take appropriate action as necessary to prevent violence, ensure student safety, maintain order in the school, and institute disciplinary measures.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)
(cf. 5144 - Discipline)
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)
(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))
(cf. 6159.4 - Behavioral Interventions for Special Education Students)

Schoolwide programs may include curriculum in conflict resolution, including, but not limited to, instruction in effective communication and listening, critical thinking, problem-solving processes and the use of negotiation to find mutually acceptable solutions. In addition, the curriculum may address students' ethical and social development, respect for diversity, and interpersonal and behavioral skills.

(cf. 6141 - Curriculum Development and Evaluation)

Conflict resolution programs may incorporate peer mediation strategies in which selected students are specially trained to work with their peers in resolving conflicts.

Students' participation in any peer mediation program shall be voluntary and kept confidential by all parties involved.

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)
(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

In developing a conflict resolution and/or peer mediation program, school-site teams shall address, as appropriate:

1. The grade levels and courses in which the conflict resolution curriculum shall be delivered

(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

2. Staff development related to the implementation of the curriculum and modeling of appropriate behaviors and communication skills
CONFLICT RESOLUTION/PEER MEDIATION  (continued)

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

3. The selection of peer mediators involving, to the extent possible, a cross-section of students in terms of grade, gender, race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status, and including some students who exhibit negative leadership among peers

4. Training and support for peer mediators, including training in mediation processes and in the skills related to understanding conflict, communicating effectively and listening

5. The process for identifying and referring students to the peer mediation program

6. The types of conflicts suitable for peer mediation

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)
(cf. 5131.1 - Bus Conduct)
(cf. 5131.4 - Student Disturbances)
(cf. 5136 - Gangs)
(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)
(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)
(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

7. Scheduling and location of peer mediation sessions

8. Methods of obtaining and recording agreement from all disputants

9. The appropriate involvement of parents/guardians, the community and staff, including counseling/guidance and security staff

(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)
(cf. 3515.3 - District Police/Security Department)
(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)
(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

10. Communications to students, parents/guardians and staff regarding the availability of the program

11. Methods of following up with students to determine the effectiveness of the process

12. Development of assessment tools to periodically evaluate the success of the program including, but not limited to, measurements of whether there has been a reduction in violence at the school and whether the school's suspension rates have fallen since the program has been introduced

Legal Reference: (see next page)
CONFLICT RESOLUTION/PEER MEDIATION  (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
32280-32288 School safety plans
32295.5 Teen court programs
35291-35291.5 Rules
44807 Duty concerning conduct of students
CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION
Article 1, Section 28(c) Right to safe schools

Management Resources:

WEB SITES
U.S. Department of Education, Office of Safe and Healthy Students:
https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oese/oshes
California Department of Education, Safe Schools and Violence Prevention Office:
http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss