

CONCEPTS AND ROLES

The Board of Education desires to provide a comprehensive, research-based curriculum that motivates every student to succeed. The district's educational program shall provide students with opportunities to attain the skills, knowledge, and abilities they need to be successful in school and develop to their full potential.

Strategies for improving the educational program shall take into consideration the needs of individual students and subpopulations of students. Students who are failing or at risk of failing to meet academic standards shall be provided with alternative programs and/or supplemental assistance designed to raise achievement.

Inasmuch as parents/guardians are critical partners in their children's education, parents/guardians shall be provided with opportunities to be meaningfully involved both in support of their children's education program at school and with learning at home.

The Board shall:

1. Establish standards of student achievement for core subjects at each grade level that are aligned with the district's vision for student learning, the specific needs and strengths of the students, the expectations of parents/guardians and the community, and available resources
2. Establish graduation requirements
3. Ensure that a process is in place, involving teachers, administrators, students, and parents/guardians, for the development and review of the district's curriculum
4. Adopt the district curriculum and courses of study to be offered
5. Adopt textbooks and other instructional materials
6. Support the professional staff's implementation of the curriculum by providing consistent policy direction, allocating resources based on educational program priorities, ensuring that collective bargaining agreements do not constrain the district's ability to achieve curricular goals, recognizing staff accomplishments, and including reasonable annual goals related to student learning in the Superintendent evaluation process
7. Provide a continuing program of professional development to keep instructional staff, administrators, and Board members updated about current issues and research pertaining to curriculum, instructional strategies, and student assessment

CONCEPTS AND ROLES (continued)

8. Review and evaluate the educational program on the basis of state and federal accountability measures, disaggregated student achievement data, and other indicators and ensure that evaluation results are used to improve programs, curriculum, and/or instructional practices as necessary to enhance student achievement
9. Communicate clear information about district instructional goals, programs, and progress in student achievement to the community and media

The Superintendent or designee shall:

1. Review research related to curriculum issues
2. Select and/or develop curricula for recommendation to the Board in accordance with the district's curriculum development and review process
3. Ensure the articulation of the curriculum between grade levels and with postsecondary education and the workplace
4. Determine the general methods of instruction to be used
5. Assign instructors and schedule classes for all curricular offerings
6. Recommend instructional materials to the Board and direct the purchase of approved materials and equipment
7. Evaluate and report to the Board on student achievement as demonstrated through testing and other types of appraisal, and recommend necessary changes in curriculum, programs, and instruction as indicated by student performance data

Comparability in Instruction

The district shall provide comparable educational opportunities for all students. Instruction in the core curriculum shall be in no way diminished when students receive supplementary services funded by special governmental programs. Services funded by any categorical program shall supplement, not supplant, the district-provided core curriculum and any services which may be provided by other categorical programs.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

CONCEPTS AND ROLES (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

51000-51007 *Legislative intent, educational program*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

3940 *Maintenance of effort*

4424 *Comparability of services*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6321 *Fiscal requirements/comparability of services*

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Maximizing School Board Leadership: Curriculum, 1996

WEB SITES

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

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

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

The Board of Education recognizes that content and performance standards are necessary to clarify for students, parents/guardians and staff what students are expected to know and be able to do at each grade level and in each area of study. The Board shall adopt high standards for student achievement that meet or exceed statewide standards and challenge all students to reach their full potential.

District standards shall be developed through a process that involves staff, students, parents/guardians and community members. Standards shall be based on a review of state model standards and an assessment of the skills that students will need in order to be successful in the workplace and in higher education, including basic skills, problem-solving abilities and conceptual thinking. Special care shall be taken to ensure the proper articulation of standards among district schools.

Staff shall continually assess students' progress toward meeting the standards and shall offer remedial assistance in accordance with Board policy. The standards shall also provide a basis for evaluating the instructional program, making decisions about curriculum and assessment, and, as required by law, evaluating teacher performance.

While desiring district standards to be specific and comprehensive, the Board does not intend that these standards be so extensive as to describe everything that will be taught in the classroom. Staff shall have sufficient time and flexibility to provide instruction that supplements the standards. Staff shall also have flexibility to determine the best instructional methods to use in preparing students to meet the standards.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that district standards are regularly reviewed and updated as necessary.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

44662 *Evaluation of certificated employees*

51003 *Statewide academic standards*

60605-60605.5 *Adoption of statewide academically rigorous content and performance standards*

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CDE: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

The Board of Education recognizes the necessity and value of parent involvement to support student success and academic achievement. The Board also recognizes that parents/guardians are their children's first and most influential teachers and that sustained parent involvement in the education of their children contributes greatly to student achievement and a positive school environment. The Board believes that respectful collaboration between parents and teachers is essential and supports the implementation of strategies to assure that collaboration. The Superintendent or designee shall work with staff and parents/guardians to develop meaningful opportunities at all grade levels for parents/guardians to be involved in district and school activities; advisory, decision-making, and advocacy roles; and activities to support learning at home.

Parents/guardians shall be notified of their rights to be informed about and to participate in their children's education and of the opportunities available to them to do so. In order to assure collaborative partnerships between parents and schools, the Board, working through the administration, is committed to:

1. Involving parents as partners in school governance including shared decision making.
2. Establishing effective two-way communication with all parents, respecting the diversity and differing needs of families.
3. Developing strategies and programmatic structures at schools to enable parents to participate actively in their children's education.
4. Providing support and coordination for school staff and parents to implement and sustain appropriate parent involvement from kindergarten through grade twelve.
5. Utilizing schools to connect students and families with community resources that provide educational enrichment and support.

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

Title I Schools

Each year the Superintendent or designee shall identify specific objectives of the district's parent involvement program for schools that receive Title I funding. He/she shall ensure that parents/guardians are consulted and participate in the planning, design, implementation, and evaluation of the parent involvement program. (Education Code 11503)

PARENT INVOLVEMENT (continued)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's parent involvement strategies are jointly developed with and agreed upon by parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs. Those strategies shall establish expectations for parent involvement and describe how the district will carry out each activity listed in 20 USC 6318. (20 USC 6318)

The Superintendent or designee shall consult with parents/guardians of participating students in the planning and implementation of parent involvement programs, activities, and regulations. He/she also shall involve parents/guardians of participating students in decisions regarding how the district's Title I funds will be allotted for parent involvement activities. (20 USC 6318)

Each school receiving Title I funds shall include the following in the Parent Involvement Plan:

1. Provide meaningful consultation with the parents of students served.
2. Plan and implement programs, activities, and procedures, as required under Title I, that involve parents in the education of their children.
3. Develop a parental involvement policy with the participation of parents. This policy becomes a part of the Local Educational Agency (LEA) Plan and establishes the district's expectations for parental involvement. The parental involvement policy describes how the LEA will:
 - a. Involve parents in helping to develop the LEA Plan.
 - b. Involve parents in the process of school review and improvement.
 - c. Provide schools with the assistance necessary to plan and implement effective parental involvement activities that will improve student academic achievement and school performance.
 - d. Build a school's capacity for strong parental involvement by:
 - (1) Helping parents understand the state academic content standards and state assessments
 - (2) Providing materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement
 - (3) Involving parents in school activities, especially academically related ones

PARENT INVOLVEMENT (continued)

- e. Educate teachers and other staff, with the assistance of parents, about:
 - (1) Recognizing the value and usefulness of parents' contributions
 - (2) Reaching out to, communicating with, and working with parents as equal partners
 - (3) Implementing and coordinating parent programs
 - (4) Building ties between parents and the school
 - f. Coordinate the parental involvement program with other programs, such as Head Start, Reading First, and public preschools.
 - g. Provide reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Title I as parents may request.
 - h. Conduct, with the help of parents, an annual evaluation of the parental involvement policy and its effectiveness in improving the academic quality of Title I schools.
 - i. Identify barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by Title I. Submit parents' comments to the California Department of Education if the LEA Plan is not satisfactory to parents.
4. Reserve one percent of the Title I funds for parental involvement activities if the LEA receives more than \$500,000, district shall:
- a. Involve parents in the decisions regarding how the parental involvement funds are spent.
 - b. Distribute 95 percent of the parental involvement funds to Title I schools.
5. Provide opportunities for full participation to parents with limited English proficiency, parents of migrant children, and parents with disabilities.
6. Include parents, when possible, as a part of school support teams designed to assist the district and schools in increasing student achievement.
7. Make available to parents an easy-to-understand annual School Accountability Report Card.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT (continued)

8. Notify parents when a teacher who does not meet the teacher requirements of NCLB has taught the child for four or more consecutive weeks.
9. Provide parents with timely information about schools in a language and format they can understand. The information shall include annual notification of:
 - a. The level of achievement of their child in each academic assessment required by state and federal laws
 - b. The names of schools identified by the state as Program Improvement (PI) schools
 - c. The parental option to transfer a child from a PI school to a non-PI school (Transportation is to be paid by the LEA according to local policy. If demand exceeds available funds, priority for this service goes to the lowest-achieving students.)
 - d. The supplemental educational services available in PI schools:
 - (1) Eligibility requirements for students to obtain supplemental educational services
 - (2) Names of approved providers and their qualifications
 - (3) Help available to parents in selecting a provider, if requested
 - (4) Assurance of fair and equitable procedures for serving students
 - (5) Privacy policies that protect the identity of the student
 - e. Information about English learners (if Title I funds are used to provide an educational language-instruction program):
 - (1) The reasons the child is identified as an English learner and where he/she will be placed
 - (2) The child's levels of English and academic achievement and how the levels were assessed
 - (3) A description of the programs available, the differences between them, and the methods of instruction

PARENT INVOLVEMENT (continued)

- (4) The ways in which the programs will meet the child's educational strengths and needs
 - (5) The ways in which the programs will help the child learn English and grade-level standards for promotion and graduation
 - (6) The exit requirements of the program, including the expected rate of transition to an English-language mainstream classroom, and the expected rate of graduation from high school
 - (7) The ways in which the programs will meet the objectives of an individualized education program for a child with disabilities
- f. The right of the parent to decline enrollment, request the child be moved from the program offered, or receive help in choosing another one
- g. The right to request the professional qualifications of their children's classroom teachers, including:
- (1) The teacher's qualifications to teach the subject matter
 - (2) The type of credential held
 - (3) The degree or graduate certificate held
 - (4) If services are provided by a paraprofessional, what type of services and the paraprofessional's qualifications

Legal Reference: (see next page)

PARENT INVOLVEMENT (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

11500-11506 Programs to encourage parent involvement

48985 Notices in languages other than English

51101 Parent rights and responsibilities

64001 Single plan for student achievement

LABOR CODE

230.8 Time off to visit child's school

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6311 Parental notice of teacher qualifications and student achievement

6312 Local educational agency plan

6314 Schoolwide programs

6316 School improvement

6318 Parent involvement

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28

35.104 Definitions, auxiliary aids and services

35.160 Communications

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Parent Involvement: Development of Effective and Legally Compliant Policies, Governance and Policy Services Policy Briefs, August 2006

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICIES

89-01 Parent Involvement in the Education of Their Children, rev. 1994

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION NON-REGULATORY GUIDANCE

Parental Involvement: Title I, Part A, April 23, 2004

WEB SITES

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

California Department of Education, Family, School, Community Partnerships:
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/pf>

California Parent Center: <http://parent.sdsu.edu>

California State PTA: <http://www.capta.org>

National Coalition for Parent Involvement in Education: <http://www.ncpie.org>

National PTA: <http://www.pta.org>

No Child Left Behind: <http://www.ed.gov/nclb>

Parent Information and Resource Centers: <http://www.pirc-info.net>

Parents as Teachers National Center: <http://www.parentsasteachers.org>

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

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

District Strategies for Title I Schools

To ensure that parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs are provided with opportunities to be involved in their children's education, the Superintendent or designee shall:

1. Involve parents/guardians of participating students in the joint development of the Title I local educational agency (LEA) plan pursuant to 20 USC 6312 and the process of school review and improvement pursuant to 20 USC 6316 (20 USC 6318)

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Establish a district-level committee including parent/guardian representatives from each school site to review and comment on the LEA plan in accordance with the review schedule established by the Board of Education
 - b. Invite input on the LEA plan from other district committees and school site councils
 - c. Communicate with parents/guardians through the district newsletter, web site, or other methods regarding the LEA plan and the opportunity to provide input
 - d. Provide copies of working drafts of the LEA plan to parents/guardians in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents/guardians can understand
 - e. Ensure that there is an opportunity at a public Board meeting for public comment on the LEA plan prior to the Board's approval of the plan or revisions to the plan
 - f. Ensure that school-level policies on parent involvement address the role of school site councils and other parents/guardians as appropriate in the development and review of school plans
2. Provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance (20 USC 6318)

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Assign person(s) in the district office to serve as a liaison to the schools regarding Title I parent involvement issues

PARENT INVOLVEMENT (continued)

- b. Provide training for the principal or designee of each participating school regarding Title I requirements for parent involvement, leadership strategies, and communication skills to assist him/her in facilitating the planning and implementation of parent involvement activities
 - c. Provide ongoing district-level workshops to assist school site staff and parents/guardians in planning and implementing improvement strategies, and seek input from parents/guardians in developing the workshops
 - d. Provide information to schools about the indicators and assessment tools that will be used to monitor progress
3. Build the capacity of schools and parents/guardians for strong parent involvement (20 USC 6318)

The Superintendent or designee shall: (20 USC 6318)

- a. Assist parents/guardians in understanding such topics as the state's academic content standards and academic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children
- b. Provide materials and training to help parents/guardians work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parent involvement
- c. Educate teachers, student services personnel, principals, and other staff, with the assistance of parents/guardians, in the value and utility of parent/guardian contributions and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents/guardians as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent/guardian programs, and build ties between parents/guardians and the schools
- d. To the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with public preschool, and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers or community liaisons, that encourage and support parents/guardians in more fully participating in their children's education
- e. Ensure that information related to school and parent/guardian programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents/guardians of participating students in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents/guardians can understand

PARENT INVOLVEMENT (continued)

- f. Provide other such reasonable support for parent involvement activities as parents/guardians may request
- g. Inform parents/guardians and parent organizations of the existence and purpose of parent information and resource centers in the state that provide training, information, and support to parents/guardians of participating students

In addition, the Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Involve parents/guardians in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training
- b. Provide necessary literacy training, using Title I funds if the district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training
- c. Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents/guardians to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions
- d. Train parents/guardians to enhance the involvement of other parents/guardians
- e. Arrange school meetings at a variety of times or, when parents/guardians are unable to attend such conferences, conduct in-home conferences between parents/guardians and teachers or other educators who work directly with participating students
- f. Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parent involvement
- g. Establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent involvement in Title I programs
- h. Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities
- i. Make referrals to community agencies and organizations that offer literacy training, parent education programs, and/or other services that help to improve the conditions of parents/guardians and families
- j. Provide a master calendar of district activities and district meetings
- k. Provide information about opportunities for parent involvement through the district newsletter, web site, or other written or electronic means

PARENT INVOLVEMENT (continued)

- l. Engage parent-teacher organizations to actively seek out and involve parents/guardians through regular communication updates and information sessions
 - m. To the extent practicable, provide translation services at school sites and at meetings involving parents/guardians as needed
 - n. Provide training and information to members of district and school site councils and advisory committees to help them fulfill their functions
 - o. Regularly evaluate the effectiveness of staff development activities related to parent involvement
 - p. Include expectations for parent/guardian outreach and involvement in staff job descriptions and evaluations
4. Coordinate and integrate Title I parent involvement strategies with public preschool, and other programs (20 USC 6318)

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Identify overlapping or similar program requirements
 - b. Involve district and school site representatives from other programs to assist in identifying specific population needs
 - c. Schedule joint meetings with representatives from related programs and share data and information across programs
 - d. Develop a cohesive, coordinated plan focused on student needs and shared goals
5. Conduct, with involvement of parents/guardians, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent involvement policy in improving the academic quality of the schools served by Title I (20 USC 6318)

The Superintendent or designee shall:

- a. Ensure that the evaluation include the identification of barriers to greater participation in parent involvement activities, with particular attention to parents/guardians who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background (20 USC 6318)

PARENT INVOLVEMENT (continued)

- b. Use the evaluation results to design strategies for more effective parent involvement and, if necessary, to recommend changes in the parent involvement policy (20 USC 6318)
- c. Assess the district's progress in meeting annual objectives for the parent involvement program, notify parents/guardians of this review and assessment through regular school communications mechanisms, and provide a copy to parents/guardians upon their request (Education Code 11503)

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Use a variety of methods, such as focus groups, surveys, and workshops, to evaluate the satisfaction of parents/guardians and staff with the quality and frequency of district communications
 - b. Gather and monitor data regarding the number of parents/guardians participating in district activities and the types of activities in which they are engaged
 - c. Recommend to the Board measures to evaluate the impact of the district's parent involvement efforts on student achievement
6. Involve parents/guardians in the activities of schools served by Title I (20 USC 6318)

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Include information about school activities in district communications to parents/guardians
- b. To the extent practicable, assist schools with translation services or other accommodations needed to encourage participation of parents/guardians with special needs
- c. Establish processes to encourage parent/guardian input regarding their expectations and concerns for their children

The district's Board policy and administrative regulation containing parent involvement strategies shall be incorporated into the LEA plan and distributed to parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs. (20 USC 6318)

PARENT INVOLVEMENT (continued)**School-Level Policies for Title I Schools**

At each school receiving Title I funds, a written policy on parent involvement shall be developed jointly with and agreed upon by parents/guardians of participating students. Such policy shall describe the means by which the school will: (20 USC 6318)

1. Convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents/guardians of participating students shall be invited and encouraged to attend, in order to inform parents/guardians of their school's participation in Title I and to explain Title I requirements and the right of parents/guardians to be involved
2. Offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, for which related transportation, childcare, and/or home visits may be provided as such services relate to parent involvement
3. Involve parents/guardians in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school's parent involvement policy and, if applicable, the joint development of the plan for schoolwide programs pursuant to 20 USC 6314

The school may use an existing process for involving parents/guardians in the joint planning and design of the school's programs provided that the process includes adequate representation of parents/guardians of participating students.

4. Provide the parents/guardians of participating students all of the following:
 - a. Timely information about Title I programs
 - b. A description and explanation of the school's curriculum, forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet
 - c. If requested by parents/guardians, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions related to their children's education, and, as soon as practicably possible, responses to the suggestions of parents/guardians
5. If the schoolwide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents/guardians of participating students, submit any parent/guardian comments when the school makes the plan available to the district

PARENT INVOLVEMENT (continued)

6. Jointly develop with the parents/guardians of participating students a school-parent compact that outlines how parents/guardians, the entire school staff, and students will share responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents/guardians will build a partnership to help students achieve state standards

This compact shall address:

- a. The school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables participating students to achieve the state's student academic achievement standards
 - b. Ways in which parents/guardians will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, such as monitoring attendance, homework completion, and television viewing; volunteering in the classroom; and participating, as appropriate, in decisions related to their children's education and the positive use of extracurricular time
 - c. The importance of communication between teachers and parents/guardians on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum:
 - (1) Parent-teacher conferences in elementary schools, at least annually, during which the compact shall be discussed as it relates to the student's achievement
 - (2) Frequent reports to parents/guardians on their children's progress
 - (3) Reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's classroom, and observation of classroom activities
7. Build the capacity of the school and parents/guardians for strong parent involvement by implementing the activities described in items #3a-f in the section "District Strategies for Title I Schools" above
 8. To the extent practicable, provide full opportunities for the participation of parents/guardians with limited English proficiency, parents/guardians with disabilities, and parents/guardians of migrant children, including providing information and school reports required under 20 USC 6311(h) in a format and language such parents/guardians can understand

If the school has a parent involvement policy that applies to all parents/guardians, it may amend that policy to meet the above requirements. (20 USC 6318)

PARENT INVOLVEMENT (continued)

Each school's parent involvement policy shall be made available to the local community and distributed to parents/guardians of participating students in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents/guardians can understand. (20 USC 6318)

Each school receiving Title I funds shall annually evaluate the effectiveness of its parent involvement policy. Such evaluation may be conducted during the process of reviewing the school's single plan for student achievement in accordance with Education Code 64001.

The principal or designee, jointly with parents/guardians of participating students, shall periodically update the school's policy to meet the changing needs of parents/guardians and the school. (20 USC 6318)

District Strategies for Non-Title I Schools

For each school that does not receive federal Title I funds, the Superintendent or designee shall, at a minimum:

1. Engage parents/guardians positively in their children's education by helping them develop skills to use at home that support their children's academic efforts at school and their children's development as responsible members of society (Education Code 11502, 11504)

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Provide or make referrals to literacy training and/or parent education programs designed to improve the skills of parents/guardians and enhance their ability to support their children's education
 - b. Provide information, in parent handbooks and through other appropriate means, regarding academic expectations and resources to assist with the subject matter
 - c. Provide parents/guardians with information about students' class assignments and homework assignments
2. Inform parents/guardians that they can directly affect the success of their children's learning, by providing them with techniques and strategies that they may use to improve their children's academic success and to assist their children in learning at home (Education Code 11502, 11504)

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Provide parents/guardians with information regarding ways to create an effective study environment at home and to encourage good study habits

PARENT INVOLVEMENT (continued)

- b. Encourage parents/guardians to monitor their children's school attendance, homework completion, and television viewing
 - c. Encourage parents/guardians to volunteer in their child's classroom and to participate in school advisory committees
3. Build consistent and effective communication between the home and school so that parents/guardians may know when and how to assist their children in support of classroom learning activities (Education Code 11502, 11504)

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Ensure that teachers provide frequent reports to parents/guardians on their children's progress and hold parent-teacher conferences at least once per year with parents/guardians of elementary school students
 - b. Provide opportunities for parents/guardians to observe classroom activities and to volunteer in their child's classroom
 - c. Provide information about parent involvement opportunities through district, school, and/or class newsletters, the district's web site, and other written or electronic communications
 - d. To the extent practicable, provide notices and information to parents/guardians in a format and language they can understand
 - e. Develop mechanisms to encourage parent/guardian input on district and school issues
 - f. Identify barriers to parent/guardian participation in school activities, including parents/guardians who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background
 - g. Encourage greater parent/guardian participation by adjusting meeting schedules to accommodate parent/guardian needs and, to the extent practicable, by providing translation or interpreter services, transportation, and/or child care
4. Train teachers and administrators to communicate effectively with parents/guardians (Education Code 11502, 11504)

PARENT INVOLVEMENT (continued)

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Provide staff development to assist staff in strengthening two-way communications with parents/guardians, including parents/guardians who have limited English proficiency or limited literacy
 - b. Invite input from parents/guardians regarding the content of staff development activities pertaining to home-school communications
5. Integrate parent involvement programs into school plans for academic accountability

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Include parent involvement strategies in school reform or school improvement initiatives
- b. Involve parents/guardians in school planning processes

SCHOOL CALENDAR

The Superintendent or designee shall recommend to the Board of Education a calendar for each school that will meet the requirements of law as well as the needs of the community, students and the work year as negotiated for represented personnel.

Each school calendar shall show the beginning and ending school dates, legal and local holidays, orientation meeting days, minimum days, vacation periods and other pertinent dates.

The district shall offer 180 days of instruction per school year.

Staff development days shall not be counted as instructional days.

Notification of the schedule of minimum days shall be sent to all parents/guardians at the beginning of the school year. If any minimum days are added to the schedule, the Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians of the affected students as soon as possible and at least one month before the scheduled minimum day. (Education Code 48980)

If a school will be used as a polling place on an election day, the Board shall determine whether to continue school in session, designate the day for staff training and development, or close the school to students and nonclassified staff. (Elections Code 12283)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

37200-37202 School calendar

37220-37223 Holidays

37252-37254.1 Summer school

37300-37307 Year-Round School Demonstration Project

37600-37672 Continuous school programs: year-round schools, especially:

37618 School calendar

37700-37711 Four-day week

41422 Schools not maintained for 175 days

41530-41532 Professional Development Block Grant

46200-46206 Incentives for longer instructional day and year

46300 Method of computing ADA

48980 Notice at beginning of term

REPEALED EDUCATION CODE FOR CATEGORICAL PROGRAMS

44579-44579.6 Instructional Time and Staff Development Reform Program

ELECTIONS CODE

12283 School closures, election days

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

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

Secretary of State's Office: <http://www.ss.ca.gov>

Policy
adopted:

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Santa Monica, California

SCHOOL DAY

The Board of Education shall fix the length of the school day subject to the provisions of law. (Education Code 46100)

The Superintendent or designee shall schedule class periods giving consideration to course requirements and curricular demands, availability of school facilities, the age and attention span of students, and legal requirements.

The Board encourages flexibility in scheduling so as to provide longer time blocks or class periods when appropriate and desirable to support student learning, provide more intensive study of core academic subjects or extended exploration of complex topics, and reduce transition time between classes.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

8970-8974 *Early primary program, including extended-day kindergarten*

37202 *Equal time in all schools*

37670 *Year-round schools*

46010 *Total days of attendance*

46100 *Length of schoolday*

46110-46119 *Kindergarten and elementary schools (day of attendance)*

46140-46147 *Junior high school and high school (day of attendance)*

46160-46162 *Alternative schedule - junior high and high school*

46170 *Minimum day - continuation schools*

46180 *Opportunity schools (minimum day)*

46190-46192 *Adult school (day of attendance)*

46200-46206 *Incentives for longer instructional day and year*

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION CORRESPONDENCE

Kindergarten Information, June 7, 2002

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

The Uses of Time for Teaching and Learning, October 1996

Extending Learning Time for Disadvantaged Students, August 1995

NATIONAL EDUCATION COMMISSION ON TIME AND LEARNING PUBLICATIONS

Prisoners of Time, April 1994

WEB SITES

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

Instruction

AR 6112(a)

SCHOOL DAY

Kindergarten

The regular school day for kindergarten students shall be at least 200 minutes, including recesses but excluding noon intermissions.

The minimum school day for kindergarten students shall be 180 minutes, including recesses but excluding noon intermissions. (Education Code 46115, 46117)

The maximum school day for kindergarten students shall be four hours (240 minutes), excluding recesses. (Education Code 46111)

The kindergarten school day may exceed four hours, excluding recess, if the district has established an early primary program pursuant to Education Code 8970-8974 and meets both of the following conditions: (Education Code 8973)

1. The Board of Education declares that the extended-day kindergarten program does not exceed the length of the primary school day.
2. The extended-day kindergarten program includes ample opportunity for both active and quiet activities within an integrated, experiential, and developmentally appropriate educational program.

Elementary Schools

The regular school day for students in elementary schools shall be at least:

1. 295 minutes for students in grades 1-3.
2. 300 minutes for students in grades 4-8.

The minimum school day for students in elementary schools shall be:

1. 230 minutes for students in grades 1-3 (Education Code 46112)
2. 240 minutes for students in grades 4-8 (Education Code 46113)

For students in grades 1-8, the minimum school day excludes both noon intermissions and recesses. (Education Code 46115)

The above minimum days do not apply to situations in grades 1-3 in which the Board has prescribed a shorter school day because of lack of school facilities requiring double sessions. (Education Code 46112, 46113)

SCHOOL DAY (continued)

Secondary Schools

The regular school day for students shall be at least 300 minutes in grades 6-8 and 360 minutes for grades 9-12.

The minimum school day for grades 6-12 students shall be 240 minutes unless otherwise provided by law. (Education Code 46141-46147)

The minimum school day shall be 180 minutes for students enrolled in a continuation high school, continuation education classes, opportunity school or classes, adult education classes, special day or Saturday vocational training program, or specified work experience program. (Education Code 46144, 46170, 46180, 46190)

Alternative Block Schedule for Middle and High Schools

The Board may authorize any student to attend fewer school days in any district middle school or high school as long as the student attends classes for at least 1,200 minutes during any five school day period or 2,400 minutes during any 10 school day period to accommodate career technical education, regional occupational center and program courses, or block or other alternative school class schedules. (Education Code 46160)

Prior to implementing the block schedule program in which students attend class for fewer school days, the Board shall consult in good faith in an effort to reach agreement with the certificated and classified employees of the school, with the parents/guardians of the students who would be affected by the change, and with the community at large. Such consultation shall include at least one public hearing for which the Board has given adequate notice to the employees and to the parents/guardians of affected students. (Education Code 46162)

CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of having students join together to celebrate events of cultural or historical significance or to acknowledge the contributions of outstanding individuals. Besides helping students to appreciate their pluralistic heritage, holidays, ceremonies, and observances can enhance their sense of community, instill pride in our country, and contribute to a positive school climate.

On days designated by the Board, staff shall provide students with appropriate commemorative exercises so that they may acquire the knowledge, skills, and principles essential for informed, responsible citizenship in a democratic society.

In every district elementary school each day during the school year at the beginning of the first regularly scheduled class or activity period at which the majority of the students of the school normally begin the school day, there shall be conducted appropriate patriotic exercises. The giving of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America shall satisfy the requirements of this section. Appropriate patriotic exercises also include, but are not limited to, songs, poems, quotations and discussions related to the development of citizenship in a democracy.

In every district secondary school there shall be conducted daily appropriate patriotic exercises. The giving of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America shall satisfy such requirement.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

37220-37223 *Saturdays and holidays*

44015.1 *Week of the School Administrator*

45203 *Paid holidays*

45460 *Classified Employee Week*

52720 *Daily performance of patriotic exercises in public schools*

52730 *Patriotic exercises, daily instruction*

GOVERNMENT CODE

430-439 *Display of flags*

3540-3549.3 *Meeting and negotiating*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 4

6 *Time and occasion for display of flag*

7 *Position and manner of display of flag*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 36

106 *Note Constitution Day and Citizenship Day*

COURT DECISIONS

West Virginia State Board of Education et al v. Barnette et al, 319 U.S. 624 (1943)

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Constitution Day: New Mandate for Districts Receiving Federal Funds, CSBA Advisory, August 2005

FEDERAL REGISTER

70 *Fed. Reg. 29727 Constitution Day and Citizenship Day (2005)*

WEB SITES

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

California Department of Education, *History/Social Science Instructional Materials:*

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/hs/im>

CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES

Patriotic Exercises

Each school shall conduct patriotic exercises daily. These patriotic exercises shall consist of the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance and may also include instruction that promotes understanding of the concepts of "pledge," "allegiance," "republic," and "indivisible" and understanding of the importance of the pledge as an expression of patriotism, love of country, and pride in the United States. (Education Code 52720, 52730)

Individuals may choose not to participate in the flag salute for personal reasons.

At elementary schools, such exercises shall be conducted at the beginning of each school day. (Education Code 52720)

At secondary schools, such exercises shall be conducted during the homeroom period.

Display of Flag

The flag of the United States and the flag of California shall be displayed during school days at the entrance or on the grounds of every school. At all times, the national flag shall be placed in the position of first honor. (Government Code 431, 436; 4 USC 6)

The national flag shall fly at half-staff on the following occasions: (4 USC 7)

1. For 30 days from the death of the President or a former President
2. For 10 days from the death of the Vice President, the Chief Justice or a retired Chief Justice, or the Speaker of the House of Representatives
3. From the day of death until internment of an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, a secretary of executive or military department, former Vice President, and the Governor of a state
4. On the day of death and the following day for a Member of Congress
5. On Peace Officers Memorial Day (May 15), unless that day is also Armed Forces Day

In addition, upon order of the President, the national flag shall be flown at half-staff upon the death of principal figures of the United States government and the Governor of a state, as a mark of respect to their memory. In the event of death of other officials or foreign dignitaries, the flag shall be displayed at half-staff according to presidential instructions or orders, or in accordance with recognized customs or practices not inconsistent with law. In the event of the death of a present or former official of the government of the state or the death of a member of the Armed Forces from the state who has died while serving on active duty, the Governor may proclaim that the flag be flown at half-staff. (4 USC 7)

Regulation
approved:

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Santa Monica, California

CLASSROOM INTERRUPTIONS

The Board of Education recognizes that class time should be dedicated to student learning. The Board believes that classroom interruptions which are not related to the educational program should be kept at an absolute minimum.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish administrative regulations to govern classroom interruptions.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

32212 Classroom interruptions

CLASSROOM INTERRUPTIONS

The principal or designee shall keep announcements made through intercom or public address systems to a minimum and limit announcements to specific times during the day. Announcements that apply only to teachers shall be distributed in writing.

The principal shall establish a fixed time for the delivery of messages to students, except in the case of emergencies.

School maintenance operations involving noise or classroom disruption shall be performed before or after school hours whenever possible.

School visitors and observers shall make appointments in advance.

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION

The Board of Education desires to provide a research-based, sequential curriculum which promotes high levels of student achievement and emphasizes the development of basic skills, problem solving, and decision making. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent or designee, the Board shall adopt a written district curriculum which describes, for each subject area and grade level, the content objectives which are to be taught in all district schools.

The district's curriculum shall be aligned with the district's vision and goals for student learning, Board policies, academic content standards, state curriculum frameworks, state and district assessments, graduation requirements, school and district improvement plans, and, when necessary, related legal requirements.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a process for curriculum development, selection, and/or adaptation which utilizes the professional expertise of teachers, principals, and district administrators representing various grade levels, disciplines, special programs, and categories of students as appropriate. The process also may provide opportunities for input from students, parents/guardians, representatives of local businesses and postsecondary institutions, and other community members.

The selection and evaluation of instructional materials shall be coordinated with the curriculum development and evaluation process.

When presenting a recommended curriculum for adoption, the Superintendent or designee shall provide research, data, or other evidence demonstrating the proven effectiveness of the proposed curriculum. He/she also shall present information about the resources that would be necessary to successfully implement the curriculum and describe any modifications or supplementary services that would be needed to make the curriculum accessible to all students.

The Board shall establish a review cycle for regularly evaluating the district's curriculum in order to ensure continued alignment with state and district goals for student achievement. At a minimum, these reviews shall be conducted whenever the State Board of Education adopts new or revised content standards or the curriculum framework for a particular subject or when new law requires a change or addition to the curriculum.

In addition, the Board may require a review of the curriculum in one or more subject areas as needed in response to student assessment results; feedback from teachers, administrators, or parent/guardians; new research on program effectiveness; or changing student needs.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

221.5 Equal opportunity

35160 Authority of governing boards

35160.1 Broad authority of school districts

51050-51057 Enforcement of courses of study

51200-51263 Required courses of study

51500-51540 Prohibited instruction

51720-51879.9 Authorized classes and courses of instruction

60000-60424 Instructional materials

GOVERNMENT CODE

3543.2 Scope of representation

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4000-4091 School improvement programs

4400-4426 Improvement of elementary and secondary education

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Maximizing School Board Leadership: Curriculum, 1996

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Content Standards for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade 12

Curriculum Frameworks for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade 12

WEB SITES

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

Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development: <http://www.ascd.org>

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

California Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development: <http://www.cascd.org>

California Department of Education, Curriculum and Instruction: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci>

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION**Curriculum Review Committee**

The Superintendent or designee may establish a curriculum review committee to evaluate and recommend curriculum for Board of Education approval. This committee shall consist of a majority of teachers and may also include administrators, other staff who have subject-matter expertise, parents/guardians, representatives of local businesses and postsecondary institutions, other community members, and students as appropriate. This committee may be the same committee charged with the evaluation and recommendation of instructional materials pursuant to Board policy and administrative regulation.

Curriculum Development/Selection Process

The Superintendent or designee shall research and identify available curriculum in the subject area(s) and grade level(s) scheduled for review. He/she may select a limited number of programs to present to the curriculum review committee for evaluation.

The committee shall recommend the curriculum that best meets the district's needs based on the following criteria and any additional factors deemed relevant by the committee:

1. Analysis of the effectiveness of the existing district curriculum for all students, including student achievement data disaggregated by grade level and student population
2. Alignment of the proposed curriculum with expectations established by the Board and the State Board of Education as to what students need to know and be able to do in the subject(s) and grade level(s) under consideration
3. Evidence of proven effectiveness of the proposed curriculum in raising student achievement, including the research and learning theory upon which the curriculum is based
4. Applicability and accessibility of the curriculum to all students, including, but not limited to, underperforming students, students with disabilities, English learners, and gifted and talented students
5. The estimated cost to purchase, adapt, and/or develop the curriculum
6. Resources required to implement the curriculum, such as time, facilities, instructional materials and technology, staffing, staff development, and funding
7. If the curriculum includes instructional materials, the extent to which the materials meet criteria established by law and the district
8. Any potential impact on other parts of the educational program

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION (continued)

If it is determined that available prepackaged curriculum is not cost effective or is inadequate to meet the needs of the district's students, the Superintendent or designee may adapt curriculum or develop new curriculum. Curriculum modification or development shall be performed by teachers, school administrators, and district administrators, with support and assistance, when available, from curriculum experts from the county office of education, postsecondary institutions, and/or curriculum or professional associations. Any modified or new curriculum shall be reviewed by the curriculum committee in accordance with the above criteria prior to being recommended to the Board.

Upon approval by the Board, a new curriculum may be implemented in a limited number of schools or classrooms on a pilot basis so that modifications may be made as necessary before implementing the curriculum districtwide.

Regulation
approved:

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Santa Monica, California

RECOGNITION OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND CUSTOMS

The Board of Education recognizes that students' education would be incomplete without an understanding of the role of religion in society. As appropriate for a particular course, teachers may objectively discuss the influences of various religions, using religious works and symbols to illustrate their relationship with culture, literature or the arts. The Board expects that such instruction will identify principles common to all religions and foster respect for the diversity of religions and customs in the world.

In order to respect each student's individual right to freedom of religious practice, religious indoctrination is clearly forbidden in the public schools. Instruction about religion shall not promote or denigrate the beliefs or customs of any particular religion or sect, nor should a preference be shown for one religious viewpoint over another. Staff members shall be highly sensitive to their obligation not to interfere with the religious development of any student in whatever tradition the student embraces.

Staff shall not endorse, encourage or solicit religious or anti-religious expression or activities among students during class time. As part of their official duties, staff shall not lead students in prayer or other religious activities. However, staff shall not prohibit or discourage any student from praying or otherwise expressing his/her religious belief as long as this does not disrupt the classroom.

Students may express their beliefs about religion in their homework, artwork and other class work if the expression is germane to the assignment. Such work shall be judged by ordinary academic standards.

While teaching about religious holidays is a permissible part of the educational program, celebrating religious holidays is not allowed in the public schools. School-sponsored programs shall not be, nor have the effect of being, religiously oriented or a religious celebration. School and classroom decorations may express seasonal themes that are not religious in nature.

Music, art, literature or drama programs having religious themes are permitted as part of the curriculum for school-sponsored activities and programs if presented in an objective manner and as a traditional part of the cultural and religious heritage. The use of religious symbols that are part of a religious holiday is permitted as a teaching aid or resource provided that such symbols are displayed as an example of cultural and religious heritage of the holiday and are temporary in nature.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

RECOGNITION OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND CUSTOMS (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

38130-38138 Civic Center Act

46014 Absences for religious purposes

51511 Religious matters properly included in courses of study

51938 Right of parent/guardian to excuse from sexual health instruction

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

4071-4074 Equal Access Act

6061 School prayer

7904 School prayer

COURT DECISIONS

Lassonde v. Pleasanton Unified School District, (2003, 9th Cir.) 320 F.3d 979

Cole v. Oroville Union High School District, (2000, 9th Cir.) 228 F.3d 1092

Lemon v. Kurtzman, (1971) 403 U.S. 602

Management Resources:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Guidance on Constitutionally Protected Prayer in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools, February 2003

Religion in the Public Schools: A Joint Statement of Current Law, April 1995

WEB SITES

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

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

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

RECOGNITION OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND CUSTOMS

Staff shall make every effort to schedule one-time events, such as examinations, school-sponsored trips, special laboratories, picture-taking days and class parties, to minimize conflicts with major religious holidays of all faiths.

Programs and Exhibits

When school programs and exhibits are in any way related to instruction about religion or religious holidays, the following guidelines shall be observed:

1. The principal or designee shall ensure that school-sponsored programs are presented in an objective manner, consistent with Board policy.
2. The principal or designee shall be kept informed of the program's development.
3. Program or exhibit planners shall take into consideration the diverse religious faiths represented in the community, student body and staff.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

To encourage students to challenge themselves academically and to enable students to be more competitive when applying for admission to postsecondary institutions, the Board of Education shall provide opportunities for college-level coursework that will prepare interested high school students to pass Advanced Placement (AP) examinations.

The Board supports the offering of AP courses at each high school. The Superintendent or designee shall recommend subject areas for AP courses at each school based on student interest and the availability of qualified certificated staff, instructional materials, and other resources. The Superintendent or designee shall also explore alternative methods of delivering AP courses, such as online courses or distance learning.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's educational program provides opportunities for students to acquire the skills necessary to successfully undertake AP coursework. To the extent possible, the Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with feeder middle schools in developing and implementing a preparation program.

All students who meet course prerequisites shall have equal access to AP courses.

Grades for AP courses shall be assigned in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation.

The Superintendent or designee shall make efforts to encourage students to participate in AP courses and to take end-of-course AP exams by creating support systems for AP students, such as resource centers and programs to recognize student accomplishments. In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall explore partnerships with colleges and universities to help encourage students to pursue postsecondary education.

To increase the capacity of district schools to offer these courses, the Superintendent or designee shall provide staff development and support to AP teachers. Such professional development may include, but not be limited to, opportunities for teachers to obtain course-specific information, as well as information on instructional methods and data-driven decisions; mentoring for prospective AP teachers; and opportunities for staff within the district to share course syllabi and practices.

The Board desires that every district AP course receive authorization to use the AP designation by the College Board. To that end, the Superintendent or designee shall coordinate the process for submitting courses for approval as part of the AP course audit.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48980 *Parental notifications*

52200-52212 *Gifted and talented education program*

52240-52244 *Advanced Placement program*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

3840 *Advanced Placement as program option for gifted and talented students*

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

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

Advancement Via Individual Determination: <http://www.avidcenter.org>

California Colleges.edu: <http://californiacolleges.edu>

California Department of Education, Advanced Placement Programs:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/gs/ps/apgen.asp>

College Board: <http://www.collegeboard.org/ap>

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

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

At the beginning of each school year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians on the availability of state funds to cover the costs of Advanced Placement examination fees pursuant to Education Code 52244. (Education Code 48980)

Any economically disadvantaged student, as defined in Education Code 52241, who is enrolled in an Advanced Placement course may apply to the Superintendent or designee to cover the costs of Advanced Placement examination fees minus five dollars which shall be paid by the student. (Education Code 52244)

MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION

To foster intercultural understanding, communication and respect in an increasingly diverse society, curriculum and instruction at all grade levels shall reflect the perspective and experiences of various cultural, ethnic, racial and social groups. The Board of Education desires that multicultural education be integrated across the curriculum into as many subjects as possible rather than providing isolated lessons on different cultures.

The district's comprehensive multicultural education program shall recognize the contributions of different groups of people to the history, life and culture of the local community, California, the United States and other nations. It may include but not be limited to instruction about the languages, cultural characteristics, significant events and individuals, and social, political and economic conditions of various ethnic groups.

While recognizing the unique aspects of different cultures and peoples, multicultural education shall also emphasize commonalities and challenge the stereotypes and biases that inhibit intergroup understanding. Multicultural education also shall be designed to contribute to the personal development of students through greater self-understanding, positive self-concept and pride in one's ethnic identity.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

60040 *Portrayal of cultural and racial diversity*

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

California Arts Project: www.ucop.edu/tcap

SEXUAL HEALTH AND HIV/AIDS PREVENTION INSTRUCTION

The Board of Education recognizes that the purpose of the district's sexual health and HIV/AIDS prevention instruction is to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to protect them from unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases and to encourage students to develop healthy attitudes concerning adolescent growth and development, body image, gender roles, sexual orientation, dating, marriage, and family. The Board therefore desires to provide a well-planned sequence of instruction on comprehensive sexual health and HIV/AIDS prevention.

The district's curriculum shall be aligned with the state's content standards, based on medically accurate and factual information, and designed to teach students to make healthy choices and reduce high-risk behaviors. The district's program shall comply with the requirements of law, Board policy, and administrative regulation and shall respect the rights of parents/guardians to supervise their children's education on these subjects and to impart values regarding human sexuality to their children.

The Superintendent or designee may appoint a coordinator and/or an advisory committee regarding the district's comprehensive sexual health program. The advisory committee shall represent a divergence of viewpoints and may participate in planning, implementing, and evaluating the district's comprehensive sexual health education program. The Board shall consider the advisory committee's recommendations when approving the district's program.

Parent/Guardian Consent

A parent/guardian may request in writing that his/her child be excused from participating in HIV/AIDS prevention or sexual health education. Students so excused by their parents/guardians shall be given an alternative educational activity. (Education Code 51240, 51939)

A student shall not be subject to disciplinary action, academic penalty, or other sanction if the student's parent/guardian declines to permit the student to receive the instruction. (Education Code 51939)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

SEXUAL HEALTH AND HIV/AIDS PREVENTION INSTRUCTION (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

220 Prohibition of discrimination

48980 Notice at beginning of term

51202 Instruction in personal and public health and safety

51210.8 Health education curriculum

51240 Excuse from instruction due to religious beliefs

51513 Materials containing questions about beliefs or practices

51930-51939 Comprehensive Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Education Act

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

1255.7 Parents surrendering physical custody of a baby

PENAL CODE

243.4 Sexual battery

261.5 Unlawful sexual intercourse

271.5 Parents voluntarily surrendering custody of a baby

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232h Protection of student rights

7906 Sex education

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Health Education Content Standards for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade 12, 2008

Health Framework for California Public Schools: Kindergarten through Grade 12, 2003

WEB SITES

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

American Academy of Pediatrics: <http://www.aap.org>

American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists: <http://www.acog.org>

American Public Health Association: <http://www.apha.org>

California Department of Education, Sex Education and HIV/STD Instruction:
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/se>

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

California Healthy Kids Resource Center: <http://www.californiahealthykids.org>

California Safe Schools Coalition: <http://www.casafeschools.org>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov>

National Academy of Sciences: <http://www.nationalacademies.org>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Surgeon General:
<http://www.surgeongeneral.gov>

U.S. Food and Drug Administration: <http://www.fda.gov>

SEXUAL HEALTH AND HIV/AIDS PREVENTION INSTRUCTION

Instruction and Materials

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's sexual health and HIV/AIDS prevention instruction and materials are: (Education Code 51933, 51934):

1. Age appropriate

Age appropriate refers to topics, messages, and teaching methods suitable to particular ages or age groups of children and adolescents, based on developing cognitive, emotional, and behavioral capacity typical for the age or age group.

2. Factually and medically accurate and objective

Medically accurate means verified or supported by research conducted in compliance with scientific methods and published in peer-reviewed journals, where appropriate, and recognized as accurate and objective by professional organizations and agencies with expertise in the relevant field, such as the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Public Health Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

3. Available on an equal basis to a student who is an English learner, consistent with the existing curriculum and alternative options for an English learner, as otherwise provided in the Education Code
4. Appropriate for use with students of all races, genders, sexual orientations, and ethnic and cultural backgrounds, and students with disabilities
5. Accessible to students with disabilities, including, but not limited to, the provision of a modified curriculum, materials, and instruction in alternative formats and auxiliary aids
6. Not teaching or promoting religious doctrine
7. Not reflecting bias or promoting prejudice against students in protected categories of discrimination pursuant to Education Code 220

Other district courses that may include subject matter related to that which is presented in either HIV/AIDS prevention or comprehensive sexual health instruction, shall not be subject to the requirements of Education Code 51930-51939 pertaining to instructional content, teacher training, and parental notification and consent, if such courses contain: (Education Code 51932)

1. Solely a description or illustration of human reproductive organs that may appear in a textbook adopted pursuant to law on physiology, biology, zoology, general science, personal hygiene, or health

SEXUAL HEALTH AND HIV/AIDS PREVENTION INSTRUCTION (continued)

2. Instruction or materials that discuss gender, sexual orientation, or family life and do not discuss human reproductive organs and their function

Additional Requirements for HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction

HIV/AIDS prevention instruction shall be offered at least once in junior high or middle school and once in high school. (Education Code 51934)

Instruction shall accurately reflect the latest information and recommendations from the United States Surgeon General, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the National Academy of Sciences. The district's curriculum shall satisfy the criteria listed in items #1-7 in the section entitled "Instruction and Materials" above and shall also include: (Education Code 51931, 51934)

1. Information on the nature of HIV/AIDS and its effects on the human body
2. Information on the manner in which HIV is and is not transmitted, including information on activities that present the highest risk of HIV infection
3. Discussion of methods to reduce the risk of HIV infection, including:
 - a. Emphasis that sexual abstinence, monogamy, the avoidance of multiple sexual partners, and abstinence from intravenous drug use are the most effective means for HIV/AIDS prevention
 - b. Statistics based upon the latest medical information citing the failure and success rates of condoms and other contraceptives in preventing sexually transmitted HIV infection
 - c. Information on other methods that may reduce the risk of HIV transmission from intravenous drug use
4. Discussion of the public health issues associated with HIV/AIDS
5. Information on local resources for HIV testing and medical care
6. Development of refusal skills to assist students in overcoming peer pressure and using effective decision-making skills to avoid high-risk activities
7. Discussion about societal views on HIV/AIDS, including stereotypes and myths regarding persons with HIV/AIDS and emphasizing compassion for persons living with HIV/AIDS

SEXUAL HEALTH AND HIV/AIDS PREVENTION INSTRUCTION (continued)

Additional Requirements for Sexual Health Instruction

The district's sexual health education curriculum shall satisfy the criteria listed in items #1-7 in the section entitled "Instruction and Materials" above as well as the following criteria: (Education Code 51931, 51933)

1. Instruction and materials shall encourage a student to communicate with his/her parents/guardians about human sexuality.
2. Instruction and materials shall teach respect for marriage and committed relationships.
3. Beginning in grade 7, instruction and materials shall teach that abstinence from sexual intercourse is the only certain way to prevent unintended pregnancy, teach that abstinence from sexual activity is the only certain way to prevent sexually transmitted diseases, and provide information about the value of abstinence while also providing medically accurate information on other methods of preventing pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.
4. Beginning in grade 7, instruction and materials shall provide information about sexually transmitted diseases. This instruction shall include how sexually transmitted diseases are and are not transmitted, the effectiveness and safety of all federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved methods of reducing the risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases, and information on local resources for testing and medical care for sexually transmitted diseases.
5. Beginning in grade 7, instruction and materials shall provide information about the effectiveness and safety of all FDA-approved contraceptive methods in preventing pregnancy, including, but not limited to, emergency contraception.
6. Beginning in grade 7, instruction and materials shall provide students with skills for making and implementing responsible decisions about sexual conduct.
7. Beginning in grade 7, instruction and materials shall provide students with information on the law concerning surrendering physical custody of a minor child 72 hours or younger, pursuant to Health and Safety Code 1255.7 and Penal Code 271.5.

Professional Development

The district's instruction shall be provided by instructors trained in the appropriate courses who are knowledgeable of the most recent medically accurate research on human sexuality, pregnancy, and sexually transmitted diseases. (Education Code 51932, 51933, 51934)

SEXUAL HEALTH AND HIV/AIDS PREVENTION INSTRUCTION (continued)

The Superintendent or designee shall cooperatively plan and conduct in-service training for all district personnel who provide HIV/AIDS prevention education, through regional planning, joint powers agreements, or contract services. (Education Code 51935)

In developing and providing in-service training, the Superintendent or designee shall cooperate and collaborate with the teachers who provide HIV/AIDS prevention education and with the California Department of Education (CDE). (Education Code 51935)

The district shall periodically conduct in-service training to enable district personnel to learn new developments in the scientific understanding of HIV/AIDS. In-service training shall be voluntary for district personnel who have demonstrated expertise or received in-service training from the CDE or federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (Education Code 51935)

The Superintendent or designee may expand HIV/AIDS in-service training to cover the topic of comprehensive sexual health education for district personnel teaching sexual health education to learn new developments in the scientific understanding of sexual health. (Education Code 51935)

Use of Consultants or Guest Speakers

The Superintendent or designee may contract with outside consultants with expertise in comprehensive sexual health or HIV/AIDS prevention education, including those who have developed multilingual curricula or curricula accessible to persons with disabilities, to deliver the instruction or to provide training for district personnel. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that any instruction provided by an outside speaker or consultant complies with Board policy, administrative regulation, and Education Code 51930-51939. (Education Code 51933, 51934, 51936)

Parent/Guardian Notification

At the beginning of each school year, or at the time of a student's enrollment, parents/guardians shall be notified about instruction in comprehensive sexual health education and HIV/AIDS prevention education, as well as research on student health behaviors and risks, planned for the coming year. The notice shall advise parents/guardians: (Education Code 48980, 51938)

1. That written and audiovisual educational materials to be used in comprehensive sexual health and HIV/AIDS prevention education are available for inspection
2. That parents/guardians may request in writing that their child not receive comprehensive sexual health or HIV/AIDS prevention education

SEXUAL HEALTH AND HIV/AIDS PREVENTION INSTRUCTION (continued)

3. That parents/guardians have a right to request a copy of Education Code 51930-51939
4. Whether the comprehensive sexual health or HIV/AIDS prevention education will be taught by district personnel or outside consultants

If the district chooses to use outside consultants or to hold an assembly with guest speakers to teach the comprehensive sexual health or HIV/AIDS prevention education, the notification shall include: (Education Code 51938)

- a. The date of the instruction
- b. The name of the organization or affiliation of each guest speaker
- c. Information stating the right of the parent/guardian to request a copy of Education Code 51933-51934

If the arrangements for instruction by outside consultants or guest speakers are made after the beginning of the school year, the district shall notify parents/guardians by mail or another commonly used method of notification no fewer than 14 days before the instruction is given. (Education Code 51938)

Parents/guardians shall be asked to sign and return to the school an acknowledgment that they have received the notification. If a parent/guardian wishes to excuse his/her child from instruction, he/she must provide a separate written request, as specified in Board policy.

CIVIC EDUCATION

The Board of Education recognizes that citizen involvement in civic and political institutions is essential to a democratic government and desires to provide a comprehensive civic education program to help students acquire the knowledge, skills, and principles essential for informed, responsible citizenship.

The Board shall approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent or designee, academic standards and curriculum in civics and government that are aligned with state academic standards and curriculum frameworks.

The Superintendent or designee shall determine specific courses within the K-12 curriculum in which civic education and government may be explicitly and systematically taught. He/she also shall encourage the integration of civic education into other subjects as appropriate.

The district's civic education program shall provide students with an understanding of the rights and responsibilities of citizens in American democracy and the workings of federal, state, and local governments. As appropriate, instruction should include an examination of fundamental American documents, including, but not limited to, the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, the Federalist Papers, and other significant writings and speeches.

To develop a sense of political effectiveness, instruction should develop students' understanding of the importance of civic participation in a democratic society. Service learning, extracurricular and cocurricular activities, class and school elections, and observation of local government processes may be used to reinforce classroom instruction by linking civic knowledge to practical experience and encouraging civic involvement.

Instruction also should promote a student's understanding of shared democratic principles and values, such as personal responsibility, justice, equality, respect for others, civic-mindedness, and patriotism, and enable students to make their own commitment to these civic values.

Constitution/Citizenship Day

Each year on or near September 17, in commemoration of Constitution and Citizenship Day, the district shall hold an educational program for students in grades K-12 pertaining to the United States Constitution which shall include exercises and instruction in the purpose, meaning, and importance of the Constitution, including the Bill of Rights. (Education Code 37221; P.L. 108-447, Sec. 111)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

CIVIC EDUCATION (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

233.5 *Teaching of principles*

33540 *Standards for government and civics instruction*

37221 *Commemorative exercises including anniversary of U.S. Constitution*

48205 *Absence from school for jury duty or precinct board service*

51210 *Courses of study, grades 1-6*

51220 *Courses of study, grades 7-12*

ELECTIONS CODE

12302 *Precinct boards, appointment of students*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6711-6716 *Education for Democracy Act*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 36

101-144 *Patriotic observances*

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

School Board Leadership: The Role and Function of California's School Boards, 1996

FEDERAL REGISTER

77 Fed. Reg. 29727 *Constitution Day and Citizenship Day*

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS

Essentials of Law-Related Education, rev. 2003

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

History-Social Science Content Standards

CENTER FOR CIVIC EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Education for Democracy: California Civic Education Scope & Sequence, 2003

National Standards for Civics and Government, 1994

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS (NAEP) PUBLICATIONS

1998 *Civics Report Card for the Nation, November 18, 1999*

WEB SITES

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

American Bar Association, Law-Related Education Projects: <http://www.abanet.org/publiced/lre>

American Political Science Association: <http://www.apsanet.org>

Bill of Rights Institute: <http://www.billofrightsinstitute.org>

California Association of Student Leaders: <http://www.casl1.org>

California Council for the Social Studies: <http://www.ccss.org>

Center for California Studies: <http://www.csus.edu/calst>

Center for Civic Education: <http://www.civiced.org>

Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement: <http://www.civicyouth.org>

Center for Youth Citizenship: <http://www.youthcitizenship.org>

Constitutional Rights Foundation: <http://www.crf-usa.org>

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), Civics Assessment:

<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/civics>

National Council for the Social Studies: <http://www.ncss.org>

SERVICE LEARNING/COMMUNITY SERVICE CLASSES

The Board of Education recognizes that service learning can enhance academic outcomes, help students develop the skills and knowledge necessary to become informed and responsible citizens, and aid in individual career development. Service learning experiences may also motivate students by providing them the opportunity to apply their studies to school and community needs and showing them that they can make a contribution to their community through involved citizenship.

Service Learning

The Board supports service learning instructional strategies as integral components of the district's curriculum. The Board encourages staff to collaborate with local public and nonprofit agencies in order to develop service learning activities that meet educational objectives, align with state and local academic standards, and address current community needs.

Community Service Classes

The district may offer community service classes which acquaint students in grades 7-12 with the history and importance of volunteer service and with a wide range of identified school and community needs. Students shall be offered volunteer opportunities which support and strengthen their understanding of academic instruction and help them recognize the relevance of what they are learning in school and how it relates to their community.

Notifications

Parents/guardians shall receive information about the service learning or community service opportunities offered by the district and their benefits for both the community and the student. The district shall ask parents/guardians to acknowledge this information and provide consent before their child participates in any off-campus service activities.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

SERVICE LEARNING/COMMUNITY SERVICES CLASSES (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

233.5 *Teaching of principles*

35160 *Authority of governing boards*

35160.1 *Broad authority of school districts*

37220.6 *Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning*

51210 *Areas of study, grades 1-6*

51220 *Areas of study, grades 7-12*

51745 *Independent study*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

12501-12682 *National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993*

COURT DECISIONS

Steirer et al v. Bethlehem School District, (1993) 987 F.2d 989

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

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

California Department of Education, Service Learning: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/cr/sl>

Learn and Serve America: <http://www.learnandserve.org>

National Service Learning Clearinghouse: <http://www.servicelearning.org>

Youth Service California: <http://www.yscal.org>

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS EDUCATION

The Board of Education believes that visual and performing arts are essential to a well-rounded educational program and should be an integral part of the course of study offered to students at all grade levels. The district's arts education program shall provide opportunities for appreciation, creation, and performance of the arts.

The Board shall adopt academic standards for dance, music, theatre, and visual arts that describe the skills, knowledge, and abilities that students shall be expected to possess at each grade level. The district's standards shall meet or exceed state content standards for each of these disciplines.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop a sequential curriculum for dance, music, theatre, and visual arts which is consistent with the state curriculum framework and includes the following strands:

1. Artistic perception: processing, analyzing, and responding to sensory information through the use of language and skills unique to each arts discipline
2. Creative expression: composing, arranging, and performing a work and using a variety of means to communicate meaning and intent in one's own original works
3. Historical and cultural context: understanding the historical contributions and cultural dimensions of an arts discipline
4. Aesthetic valuing: analyzing and critically assessing works of dance, music, theatre, and visual arts
5. Connections, relations, and applications: connecting, comparing, and applying what is learned in one arts discipline to learning in the other arts, other subject areas, and careers

The Board shall adopt standards-based instructional materials for visual and performing arts in accordance with applicable law, Board policy, and administrative regulation. In addition, the Board encourages teachers to incorporate a variety of media and technologies into lessons, presentations, and explorations in each of the arts disciplines.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide a standards-based professional development program designed to increase teachers' knowledge of and ability to teach the arts and to implement adopted instructional materials.

The Superintendent or designee shall encourage, as a supplement to teacher instruction, the integration of community arts resources into the educational program. Such resources may include opportunities for students to attend musical and theatrical performances, observe the works of accomplished artists, and work directly with artists-in-residence and volunteers. In addition, the Superintendent or designee may collaborate with community organizations to share resources and seek grant opportunities.

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS EDUCATION (continued)

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly evaluate and report to the Board regarding the implementation of arts education at each grade level and program effectiveness in enabling students to meet academic standards.

Arts and Music Block Grants

Any state funding received through arts and music block grants shall be used only for hiring additional staff, purchasing new materials, books, supplies, and equipment, and/or implementing or increasing staff development opportunities as needed to support standards-aligned arts and music instruction. (SB 77, Item 6110-265-0001, Statutes of 2007)

The Board shall distribute block grant funds to all district schools on the basis of an equal amount per student or the minimum school site allocation specified in the state budget, whichever is greatest. (SB 77, Item 6110-265-0001, Statutes of 2007)

However, the Board may allocate block grant funds for districtwide expenditures that support program purposes on behalf of all district schools. If the Board elects to do so, it shall adopt a resolution at a public meeting which specifies how the funds will be allocated among schools and for districtwide purposes and the reasons for those allocations. Prior to the public meeting, the Board shall inform school site councils, schoolwide advisory groups, or school support groups, as applicable, of the content of the proposed resolution and of the time and location where the resolution is proposed to be adopted. (SB 77, Item 6110-265-0001, Statutes of 2007)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS EDUCATION (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

8820-8830 *Arts Work Visual and Performing Arts Educational Program*

8950-8957 *California summer school of the arts*

32060-32066 *Toxic art supplies*

35330 *Field trips*

51210 *Course of study, grades 1-6*

51220 *Course of study, grades 7-12*

51225.3 *Graduation requirements*

58800-58805 *Specialized secondary programs*

60200-60206 *Instructional materials, elementary schools*

60400-60411 *Instructional materials, high schools*

99200-99206 *Subject matter projects*

UNCODIFIED STATUTE

SB 77, Ch. 171, *Statutes of 2007, Item 6110-265-0001 Arts and music block grant*

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Maximizing School Board Leadership: Curriculum Development, 1996

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Visual and Performing Arts Framework for California Public Schools: Kindergarten through Grade 12, 2004

Visual and Performing Arts Content Standards, January 2001

Arts Education Program Toolkit: A Visual and Performing Arts Program Assessment Process, 2001

WEB SITES:

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

Arts Education Partnership: <http://aep-arts.org>

California Alliance for Arts Education: <http://www.artsed411.org>

California Arts Council: <http://www.cac.ca.gov>

California Art Education Association: <http://www.caea-arteducation.org>

California Association for Music Education: <http://www.calmusiced.com>

California Dance Education Association: <http://www.cdeadance.org>

California Department of Education, Visual and Performing Arts: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/vp>

California Educational Theatre Association: http://www.cetoweb.org/ceta_pages

The California Arts Project: <http://csmp.ucop.edu/tcap>

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Board of Education recognizes the positive benefits of physical activity on student health and academic achievement. The Board desires to provide a physical education program that supports the district's coordinated student wellness program, provides an adequate amount of moderate to vigorous physical activity, builds interest and proficiency in movement skills, and encourages students' lifelong fitness through physical activity. Besides promoting high levels of personal achievement and a positive self-image, physical education activities should teach students how to cooperate in the achievement of common goals.

The Board shall approve the components of the physical education program. The district's program shall be aligned with state model content standards and curriculum frameworks for physical education and shall provide a developmentally appropriate sequence of instruction including, at appropriate grade levels, the effects of physical activity upon dynamic health, the mechanics of body movement, aquatics, gymnastics and tumbling, individual and dual sports, rhythms and dance, team sports, and combatives such as self-defense and fencing.

The district's program shall provide equal opportunities for participation in physical education instruction regardless of gender.

An appropriate alternative activity or exemption from the physical education class shall be provided for a student with disabilities in accordance with his/her individualized education program or Section 504 accommodation plan.

Physical education staff shall appropriately adjust the amount or type of physical exercise required of students during air pollution episodes, hot weather, or other inclement conditions or as needed to accommodate individual student health needs.

The district's physical education program shall be provided by appropriately credentialed teachers. Continuing professional development shall be offered to physical education teachers and to classroom teachers serving as instructors of physical education in order to enhance the quality of instruction and the variety of activities offered.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually administer the physical fitness test designated by the State Board of Education to students in grades 5, 7, and 9. (Education Code 60800)

The Superintendent or designee shall annually report to the Board the results of the physical fitness testing for each school and applicable grade level.

The Superintendent or designee shall report the aggregate results of the physical fitness testing in the annual school accountability report card required by Education Code 33126 and 35256. (Education Code 60800)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (continued)

Temporary Exemptions

The Superintendent or designee may grant a temporary exemption from physical education under either of the following conditions: (Education Code 51241)

1. The student is ill or injured and a modified program to meet his/her needs cannot be provided.
2. The student is enrolled for one-half time or less.

Permanent Exemptions

The Superintendent or designee may grant a permanent exemption from physical education to a student under any of the following conditions: (Education Code 51241)

1. The student is age 16 years or older and has been enrolled in grade 10 for one or more academic years.
2. The student is enrolled as a postgraduate student.
3. The student is enrolled in a juvenile home, ranch, camp, or forestry camp school with scheduled recreation and exercise.

Other Exemptions

The Superintendent or designee may grant an exemption from physical education under the following special circumstances:

1. The student in grades 10-12 attends a regional occupational center or program and attendance in physical education courses results in hardship because of the travel time involved. (Education Code 52316)
2. The student is in high school and is engaged in a regular school-sponsored interscholastic athletic program carried on wholly or partially after regular school hours. (Education Code 51242)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

33126 *School accountability report card*

33350-33354 *CDE responsibilities re: physical education*

35256 *School accountability report card*

49066 *Grades; physical education class*

51210 *Course of study, grades 1-6*

51220 *Course of study, grades 7-12*

51222 *Physical education*

51223 *Physical education, elementary schools*

51241 *Temporary or permanent exemption from physical education*

51242 *Exemption from physical education for athletic program participants*

52316 *Excuse from attending physical education classes*

60800 *Physical performance test*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

1040-1048 *Physical performance test*

3051.5 *Adapted physical education for individuals with exceptional needs*

10060 *Criteria for high school physical education programs*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

794 *Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

1751 *Note Local wellness policy*

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

53 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 230 (1970)*

Management Resources: (see next page)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (continued)

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Physical Education and California Schools, Policy Brief, rev. October 2007

Monitoring for Success: Student Wellness Policy Implementation Monitoring Report and Guide, 2007

Student Wellness: A Healthy Food and Physical Activity Policy Resource Guide, rev. April 2006

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROGRAM ADVISORIES

0418.89 Physical Education, April 18, 1989

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Physical Education Model Content Standards for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade 12, January 2005

Physical Education Framework for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade 12, 1996

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES PUBLICATIONS

School Idea and Resource Mini Kit, 2000

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION PUBLICATIONS

School Health Index for Physical Activity and Healthy Eating: A Self-Assessment and Planning Guide for Elementary and Middle/High Schools, 2000

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE BOARDS OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Fit, Healthy and Ready to Learn, 2000

WEB SITES

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

California Department of Education, Physical Fitness Testing: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/pf>

California Department of Health Services, School Health Connections:
<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/cdic/shc/default.htm>

California Healthy Kids Resource Center: <http://www.californiahealthykids.org>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov>

Educational Data System, California physical fitness: <http://www.eddata.com/projects/current/cpf>

FITNESSGRAM[®], Cooper Institute: <http://www.fitnessgram.net>

Healthy People 2010: <http://www.healthypeople.gov>

National Association for Sports and Physical Education: <http://www.aahperd.org/naspe>

National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE): <http://www.nasbe.org>

National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.org>

The California Endowment: <http://www.calendow.org>

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Instructional Time

Instruction in physical education shall be provided for a total period of time of not less than 200 minutes each 10 school days for students in grades 1-6 and not less than 400 minutes each 10 school days for students in grades 7-12. (Education Code 51210, 51222)

Students in grades 10-12 who have been granted a two-year or permanent exemption from physical education pursuant to Education Code 51241(b)(1) or (c) shall not be permitted to attend fewer total hours of courses and classes than they would have attended if enrolled in a physical education course. (Education Code 51241)

Students in a regional occupational program or center who are exempted from physical education pursuant to Education Code 52316 shall have a minimum school day of 180 minutes. (Education Code 52316)

Physical Fitness Testing

During the month of February, March, April, or May, students in grades 5, 7, and 9 shall be administered the physical fitness test designated by the State Board of Education. (Education Code 60800)

The Superintendent or designee may provide a make-up date for students who are unable to take the test based on absence or temporary physical restriction or limitations, such as students recovering from illness or injury. (5 CCR 1043)

On or before November 1 of each school year, the Superintendent may designate an employee to serve as the district's physical fitness test coordinator and so notify the test contractor. The test coordinator shall serve as the liaison between the district and California Department of Education for all matters related to the physical fitness test. His/her duties shall be those specified in 5 CCR 1043.4, including, but not limited to, overseeing the administration of the test and the collection and return of all test data to the test contractor. (5 CCR 1043.4)

Students shall be provided with their individual results after completing the physical performance testing. The test results may be provided in writing or orally as the student completes the testing. (Education Code 60800; 5 CCR 1043.10)

Each student's scores on the physical performance test shall be included in his/her cumulative record. (5 CCR 1044)

Testing Variations

All students may be administered the state's physical fitness test with the following test variations: (5 CCR 1047)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (continued)

1. Extra time within a testing day
2. Test directions that are simplified or clarified

All students may have the following test variations if they are regularly used in the classroom: (5 CCR 1047)

1. Audio amplification equipment
2. Separate testing for individual students provided that they are directly supervised by the test examiner
3. Manually Coded English or American Sign Language to present directions for test administration

Students with a physical disability and students who are physically unable to take all of the test shall undergo as much of the test as their physical condition will permit. (Education Code 60800; 5 CCR 1047)

Students with disabilities may be provided the following accommodations if specified in their individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 plan: (5 CCR 1047)

1. Administration of the test at the most beneficial time of day to the student after consultation with the test contractor
2. Administration of the test by a test examiner to the student at home or in the hospital
3. Any other accommodation specified in the student's IEP or Section 504 plan for the physical fitness test

Identified English learners may be allowed the following additional test variations if regularly used in the classroom: (5 CCR 1048)

1. Separate testing with other English learners, provided that they are directly supervised by the test examiner
2. Test directions translated into their primary language, and the opportunity to ask clarifying questions about the test directions in their primary language

Regulation
approved:

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Santa Monica, California

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH EDUCATION

The Board of Education believes that health education should foster the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that students need in order to lead healthy lives and avoid high-risk behaviors. The district's health education program shall be part of a coordinated school health system which supports the well-being of students and is linked to district and community services and resources.

Goals for the district's health education program shall be designed to promote student wellness and shall include, but not be limited to, goals for nutrition education and physical activity.

The district shall provide a planned, sequential, research-based, and developmentally appropriate health education curriculum for students in grades K-12 which is aligned with the state's content standards and curriculum framework. The Superintendent or designee shall determine the grade levels and subject areas in which health-related topics will be addressed, in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

As appropriate, the Superintendent or designee shall involve school administrators, teachers, school nurses, health professionals representing various fields of health care, parents/guardians, community-based organizations, and other community members in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the district's health education program. Health and safety professionals may be invited to provide related instruction in the classroom, school assemblies, and other instructional settings.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide professional development as needed to ensure that health education teachers are knowledgeable about academic content standards and effective instructional methodologies.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide periodic reports to the Board regarding the implementation and effectiveness of the district's health education program which may include, but not be limited to, a description of the district's program and the extent to which it is aligned with the state's content standards and curriculum framework, the amount of time allotted for health instruction at each grade level, and student achievement of district standards for health education.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH EDUCATION (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

8850.5 Family relationships and parenting education
35183.5 Sun protection
49413 First aid training
49430-49436 Pupil Nutrition, Health and Achievement Act of 2001
49490-49494 School breakfast and lunch programs
49500-49505 School meals
51202 Instruction in personal and public health and safety
51203 Instruction on alcohol, narcotics and dangerous drugs
51210 Areas of study
51210.8 State content standards for health education
51220.5 Parenting skills; areas of instruction
51260-51269 Drug education
51513 Personal beliefs
51880-51881.5 Health education, legislative findings and intent
51890-51891 Comprehensive health education programs
51913 District health education plan
51920 Inservice training, health education
51930-51939 Comprehensive sexual health and HIV/AIDS prevention education
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
11800-11801 District health education plan

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Asthma Management in the Schools, Policy Brief, March 2008
Monitoring for Success: Student Wellness Policy Implementation Monitoring Report and Guide, 2007
Physical Education and California Schools, Policy Brief, rev. October 2007
Promoting Oral Health for California's Students: New Roles, New Opportunities for Schools, Policy Brief, March 2007
Sun Safety in Schools, Policy Brief, July 2006
Student Wellness: A Healthy Food and Physical Activity Policy Resource Guide, rev. April 2006

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

National Health Education Standards: Achieving Excellence, 2007

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Health Education Content Standards for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2008

Health Framework for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2003

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>
American Association for Health Education: <http://www.aahperd.org>
American School Health Association: <http://www.ashaweb.org>
California Association of School Health Educators: <http://www.cashe.org>
California Department of Education, Health Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/he>
California Department of Public Health: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov>
California Healthy Kids Resource Center: <http://www.californiahealthykids.org>
California Subject Matter Project, Physical Education-Health Project: <http://csmpp.ucop.edu/cpehp>
Center for Injury Prevention Policy and Practice: <http://www.cipp.org>
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov>
National Center for Health Education: <http://www.nche.org>
National Hearing Conservation Association: <http://www.hearingconservation.org>

Policy
adopted:

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Santa Monica, California

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH EDUCATION

Content of Instruction

The district's health education program shall include instruction at the appropriate grade levels in the following content areas:

1. Alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs
2. Human growth, development, and sexual health
3. Injury prevention and safety

Instruction related to injury prevention and safety may include, but is not limited to, first aid, protective equipment such as helmets, prevention of brain and spinal cord injuries, violence prevention, topics related to bullying and harassment, and Internet safety.

4. Mental, emotional, and social health
5. Nutrition and physical activity
6. Personal and community health

Instruction in personal and community health may include, but is not limited to, oral health, personal hygiene, sun safety, hearing protection, transmission of germs and communicable diseases, symptoms of common health problems and chronic diseases such as asthma and diabetes, emergency procedures, and the effect of behavior on the environment.

Within each of the above content areas, instruction shall be designed to assist students in developing:

1. An understanding of essential concepts related to enhancing health
2. The ability to analyze internal and external influences that affect health
3. The ability to access and analyze health information, products, and services
4. The ability to use interpersonal communication skills, decision-making skills, and goal-setting skills to enhance health
5. The ability to practice behaviors that reduce risk and promote health
6. The ability to promote and support personal, family, and community health

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH EDUCATION (continued)

Exemption from Health Instruction

Upon written request from a parent/guardian, a student shall be excused from any part of health instruction that conflicts with his/her religious training and beliefs, including personal moral convictions. (Education Code 51240)

Students so excused shall be given an alternative educational activity.

Involvement of Health Professionals

Health care professionals, health care service plans, health care providers, and other entities participating in a voluntary initiative with the district are prohibited from communicating about a product or service in a way that is intended to encourage persons to purchase or use the product or service. However, the following activities may be allowed: (Education Code 51890)

1. Health care or health education information provided in a brochure or pamphlet that contains the logo or name of a health care service plan or health care organization, if provided in coordination with the voluntary initiative
2. Outreach, application assistance, and enrollment activities relating to federal, state, or county-sponsored health care insurance programs

READING/LANGUAGE ARTS INSTRUCTION

The Board of Education recognizes that reading and other language arts constitute the basic foundation for learning in other areas of study. Students should develop an appreciation for literature and for reading as a means to acquire knowledge. They also should develop oral and written language skills that enable them to effectively communicate with others.

The Board desires to offer a comprehensive, balanced reading/language arts program that ensures all students have the skills necessary to read fluently and for meaning. The program shall integrate reading, writing, speaking, and listening activities in order to build effective communication skills.

For each grade level, the Board shall adopt academic standards in reading, speaking, and writing, including spelling and grammar, that meet or exceed state standards. The district's program also shall be aligned with the state framework for reading/language arts instruction.

Teachers are encouraged to use a variety of instructional strategies to accommodate the needs of beginning readers and the varying abilities of more advanced readers.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide professional development opportunities that are designed to provide instructional staff with knowledge about how students develop language skills, the ability to analyze students' developing literacy, and the ability to draw from a variety of instructional strategies and materials.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's reading/language arts program offers sufficient access to textbooks and other instructional materials of varying levels of difficulty, including fiction and nonfiction works, so that students are continually reading at an appropriate level. In addition, technology should be available to support all areas of literacy.

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly provide the Board with data from state and district reading assessments and program evaluations to enable the Board to monitor program effectiveness.

Grades K-3

The goal of the district's early literacy program shall be to ensure that students are able to read fluently and at grade level by the end of third grade. To reach this goal, the Superintendent or designee shall design a balanced and comprehensive reading/language arts program with the following components:

1. Explicit skill development for beginning readers that includes phonemic awareness, phonics and decoding skills, and sufficient practice and repetition of these skills
2. A strong literature, language, and comprehension program that includes a balance of oral and written language

READING/LANGUAGE ARTS INSTRUCTION (continued)

3. Ongoing diagnosis of students' skills
4. An early intervention program that provides assistance to students at risk of reading failure

Grades 4-12

The Board recognizes that reading/language arts instruction is an integral component of the curriculum at all grade levels. Continuous progress in fluency and comprehension shall be the goal of reading/language arts instruction in grades 4-12.

The program in these grades shall promote reading for subject matter comprehension, developing understanding of progressively more advanced reading material, analyzing and discussing a variety of reading materials, increasing the frequency of reading, developing more complex writing skills with attention to composition and vocabulary, and developing other communications skills.

When students in these grades do not have fully developed reading/language arts skills, the Superintendent or designee shall make resources available to assist them in reaching a reading level sufficient to meet the demands of grade-level material. Staff at all grade levels and in every subject shall take responsibility for supporting and expanding students' literacy skills.

Supplementary Reading Instruction for Grades K-4

When state funding is available, the Board may offer students in grades K-4 increased instructional opportunities before or after school and/or outside the regular school session to assist those students who are experiencing difficulty learning to read and to increase the reading skills and reading enjoyment of all students.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

READING/LANGUAGE ARTS INSTRUCTION (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

41505-41508 *Pupil Retention Block Grant*
41530-41532 *Professional Development Block Grant*
44277 *Professional growth activities*
44735 *Teaching as a Priority Block Grant*
44755-44757.5 *Teacher Reading Instruction Development Program, K-3*
51210 *Areas of study, grades 1-6*
51220 *Areas of study, grades 7-12*
51700-51702 *Reading First*
53000-53006 *Comprehensive Reading Leadership Program*
60119 *Sufficiency of textbooks and instructional materials*
60200.4 *Fundamental skills*
60350-60352 *Core reading program instructional materials*
60605 *State-adopted content and performance standards in core curricular areas*
99220-99221 *California Reading Professional Development Institutes*
99230-99242 *Mathematics and Reading Professional Development Program (AB 466 trainings)*

REPEALED EDUCATION CODE FOR CATEGORICAL PROGRAMS

53025-53032 *Intensive reading program for grades K-4*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

9535 *Purchase of nonadopted core reading program instructional materials*
11980-11985 *Mathematics and Reading Professional Development Program (AB 466 trainings)*
11991-11991.2 *Reading First achievement index*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6361-6368 *Reading First Program*
6371-6376 *Early Reading First Program*
6381-6381k *Even Start Family Literacy Program*
6383 *Improving literacy through school libraries*

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Every Child a Reader, 1995

English-Language Arts Framework for California Public Schools

English-Language Arts Content Standards for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve

Recommended Literature: Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GUIDANCE

Guidance for the Reading First Program, April 2002

WEB SITES

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

California Department of Education, Reading/Language Arts: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ca/rl>

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