

MATHEMATICS INSTRUCTION

The Board of Education desires to offer a rigorous mathematics program that provides a strong foundation in basic mathematical skills and prepares students to apply mathematics in real life. The Superintendent or designee shall develop grade-level curricula that offer a balanced instructional program, including but not limited to:

1. Basic mathematical skills: quantification, basic facts, sorting and classification, and computational skills including addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions, decimals, squares and square roots
2. Conceptual understanding: knowledge and application of facts and definitions, identification of principles, understanding of relationships among mathematical concepts, recognition and application of signs, symbols and terms
3. Problem solving: use of mathematical concepts, skills, tools and reasoning strategies to formulate and solve problems in a variety of situations

The mathematics program shall develop such knowledge and skills in the subject areas of numbers, measurement, geometry, functions, statistics and probability, logic, algebra and discrete mathematics. Students should know, understand and demonstrate concepts through their application to classroom and real-life situations.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all students have many opportunities to take the full range of mathematics course options.

The Board shall establish specific content and performance standards in mathematical skills, concepts and problem-solving ability for each grade level. Students at risk of failing to meet performance standards shall receive additional assistance and intervention.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that certificated staff have opportunities to participate in professional development activities designed to increase their knowledge and skills in effective mathematics teaching practices.

Students shall have access to sufficient instructional materials, including manipulatives and technology, to support a balanced mathematics program.

*Legal Reference:*EDUCATION CODE*51210 Areas of study, grades 1 through 6**51220 Areas of study, grades 7 through 12**Management Resources:*CDE PUBLICATIONS*Improving Mathematics Achievement for All California Students: The Report of the California Mathematics Task Force, 1995**Mathematics Framework for California Public Schools, 1992*

Policy
adopted:

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Santa Monica, California

SCIENCE INSTRUCTION

The Board of Education believes that science education should focus on giving students an understanding of key scientific concepts and a capacity for scientific ways of thinking. Students should become familiar with the natural world and the interrelation of science, mathematics and technology. As part of their science instruction, students should learn how to apply scientific knowledge and ways of thinking for individual and social purposes.

As a matter of principle, science teachers are professionally bound to limit their teaching to content that meets the criteria of scientific fact, hypothesis and theory as these terms are used in natural sciences. A scientific fact is an understanding based on confirmable observations and is subject to test and rejection. A scientific hypothesis is an attempt to frame a question as a testable proposition. A scientific theory organizes and explains a range of natural phenomena on the basis of facts and hypotheses. Scientific theories are constantly subject to testing, modification and refutation as new evidence and new ideas emerge.

Philosophical and religious theories are based, at least in part, on faith, and are not subject to scientific test and refutation. Such beliefs shall not be discussed in science classes, but may be addressed in the social science and language arts curricula.

*Legal Reference:*EDUCATION CODE*51210 Areas of study, grades 1 through 6**51220 Areas of study, grades 7 through 12**Management Resources:*CDE PUBLICATIONS*Science Framework for California Public Schools, 1990*SBE POLICIES*Policy Statement on the Teaching of Natural Sciences, January 13, 1989*

COURSES OF STUDY

The Board of Education recognizes that a well-articulated sequence of courses fosters academic progress and provides for the best possible use of instructional time. The district's course of study shall provide students with opportunities to attain the skills, knowledge, and abilities they need to be successful in school, college, and/or the workplace.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish processes for ensuring the articulation of courses across grade levels within the district and, as necessary, shall work with representatives of appropriate area districts to ensure articulation of courses between elementary and secondary schools.

Elementary Grades

The Board shall adopt a course of study for elementary grades that sufficiently prepares students for the secondary school course of study.

Secondary Grades

The district shall offer all otherwise qualified students in secondary grades a course of study that, upon graduation from high school, prepares them to meet the requirements and prerequisites for admission to California public colleges and universities and/or attain entry-level employment skills in business or industry. (Education Code 51228)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all otherwise qualified students have a timely opportunity, within the four years before graduation, to enroll in each course necessary to fulfill the requirements and prerequisites for admission to California public colleges and universities prior to graduation from high school. (Education Code 51228)

In addition, the course of study for high school students shall include instruction in skills and knowledge for adult life and career technical training. (Education Code 51224)

The Superintendent or designee shall develop a process by which courses are submitted to the University of California (UC) for review and certification in order to meet university admission criteria. He/she shall maintain an accurate list of all current district high school courses that have been so certified and shall ensure that the list is provided annually to each student in grades 9-12 and that updated lists are made readily available. (Education Code 66204)

At the beginning of each school year, the Superintendent or designee shall provide written notice to parents/guardians of students in grades 9-12 that, to the extent possible, shall not exceed one page in length and that includes all of the following: (Education Code 51229)

1. A brief explanation of the college admission requirements

COURSES OF STUDY (continued)

2. A list of the current UC and California State University (CSU) web sites that help students and their families learn about college admission requirements and that list high school courses that have been certified by UC as satisfying the requirements for admission to UC and CSU
3. A brief description of what career technical education is, as defined by the California Department of Education (CDE)
4. The Internet address for the portion of the web site of the CDE where students can learn more about career technical education
5. Information about how students may meet with school counselors to help them choose courses that will meet college admission requirements and/or enroll in career technical education courses

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

33319.3 *Driver education; CDE materials on road rage*

33540 *Government and civics instruction in interaction with government agencies*

48980 *Parental notifications*

51202 *Instruction in personal and public health and safety*

51203 *Instruction on alcohol, narcotics and restricted dangerous drugs*

51204 *Course of study designed for student's needs*

51204.5 *History of California; contributions of men, women and ethnic groups*

51210-51212 *Areas of study for grades 1-6*

51220-51229 *Course of study for grades 7-12*

51241 *Exemption from physical education*

51911-51921 *Comprehensive health educational plans*

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

51940 *Curriculum for brain and spinal cord injury prevention*

53278-53280 *Supplemental School Counseling Program*

66204 *Certification of high school courses as meeting university admission criteria*

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

11032 *Definition of dangerous drugs*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

10020-10049 *Automobile driver education and training*

10060 *Physical education program*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6101-6251 *School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1994*

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

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

California Career Resource Network: <http://www.californiacareers.info>

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

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

University of California, Certified Course Lists: <http://doorways.ucop.edu/list>

University of California, College Prep Online Courses and Services: <http://www.uccp.org>

Policy
adopted:

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Santa Monica, California

COURSES OF STUDY

Grades 1-6

Courses of study for grades 1 through 6 shall include the following:

1. English: knowledge and appreciation of language and literature, and the skills of speaking, reading, listening, spelling, handwriting, and composition (Education Code 51210)
2. Mathematics: concepts, operational skills and problem solving (Education Code 51210)
3. Social sciences: age-appropriate instruction drawing upon the disciplines of anthropology, economics, geography, history, political science, psychology, and sociology, including instruction in: (Education Code 51210)
 - a. The history, resources, development, and government of California and the United States

Instruction shall include the early history of California and a study of the role and contributions of men and women, black Americans, American Indians, Mexicans, Asians, Pacific Island people, and other ethnic groups to the economic, political, and social development of California and the United States, with particular emphasis on portraying the role of these groups in contemporary society. (Education Code 51204.5)
 - b. The development of the American economic system, including the role of the entrepreneur and labor
 - c. The relations of persons to their human and natural environments
 - d. Eastern and western cultures and civilizations
 - e. Contemporary issues
 - f. The wise use of natural resources
4. Science: biological and physical aspects, with emphasis on experimental inquiry and the place of humans in ecological systems (Education Code 51210)
5. Visual and performing arts: instruction in dance, music, theatre, and visual arts aimed at developing aesthetic appreciation and creative expression (Education Code 51210)
6. Health: principles and practices of individual, family, and community health (Education Code 51210)

COURSES OF STUDY (continued)

The adopted course of study shall provide instruction at the appropriate grade levels and subject areas in: (Education Code 51202)

- a. Personal and public safety and accident prevention, including instruction in emergency first aid, hemorrhage control, treatment for poisoning, resuscitation techniques, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation when appropriate equipment is available
- b. Fire prevention
- c. The protection and conservation of resources, including the necessity for the protection of our environment
- d. Venereal disease
- e. The effects of alcohol, narcotics, drugs, and tobacco upon the human body
- f. Prenatal care
- g. Violence as a public health issue
7. Physical education, with emphasis on physical activities conducive to health and vigor of body and mind (Education Code 51210)
8. Career awareness exploration

Grades 7-12

Courses of study for grades 7 through 12 shall include the following:

1. English: knowledge and appreciation of literature, language and composition, and the skills of reading, listening, and speaking (Education Code 51220)
2. Social sciences: age-appropriate instruction drawing upon the disciplines of anthropology, economics, geography, history, political science, psychology and sociology, with instruction in: (Education Code 51220)
 - a. The history, resources, development, and government of California and the United States, including:
 - (1) Early California history, and the role and contributions of both men and women, black Americans, American Indians, Mexicans, Asians, Pacific Island people and other ethnic groups to the economic, political and social development of California and the nation, with particular emphasis on the role of these groups in contemporary society (Education Code 51204.5)

COURSES OF STUDY (continued)

- (2) World War II and the American role in that war and the Vietnam War, including the "Secret War" in Laos and role of Southeast Asians in that war
 - b. The American legal system, the operation of the juvenile and adult criminal justice systems, and the rights and duties of citizens under the criminal and civil law and the state and federal constitutions

This course may include participation in a teen court or peer court program. (Education Code 51220.2)
 - c. The development of the American economic system, including the role of the entrepreneur and labor
 - d. The relations of persons to their human and natural environments, including the wise use of natural resources (Education Code 51221)
 - e. Eastern and western cultures and civilizations
 - f. Human rights issues, with particular attention to the study of the inhumanity of genocide, slavery, and the Holocaust
 - g. Contemporary issues
3. Foreign language(s): understanding, speaking, reading, and writing, beginning not later than grade 7 (Education Code 51220)
 4. Physical education: with emphasis on physical activities conducive to health and vigor of body and mind, as required by Education Code 51222 (Education Code 51220)
 5. Science: physical and biological aspects; emphasis on basic concepts, theories, and processes of scientific investigation and on the place of humans in ecological systems; appropriate applications of the interrelation and interdependence of the sciences (Education Code 51220)
 6. Mathematics: mathematical understandings, operational skills and problem-solving procedures; algebra (Education Code 51220, 51224.5)
 7. Visual and performing arts: dance, music, theatre, and visual arts, with emphasis upon development of aesthetic appreciation and creative expression (Education Code 51220)
 8. Applied arts: consumer and homemaking education, industrial arts, general business education, or general agriculture (Education Code 51220)

COURSES OF STUDY (continued)

9. Career technical/vocational-technical education: in the occupations and in the numbers appropriate to the personnel needs of the state and community served and relevant to the career desires and needs of students (Education Code 51220)
10. HIV/AIDS prevention (Education Code 51934)
11. Personal and public safety, accident prevention and health, including instruction in: (Education Code 51202, 51203)
 - a. Emergency first aid, hemorrhage control, treatment for poisoning, resuscitation techniques, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation when appropriate equipment is available
 - b. Fire prevention
 - c. The protection and conservation of resources, including the necessity for the protection of our environment
 - d. Venereal disease
 - e. The effects of alcohol, narcotics, drugs, and tobacco upon the human body and upon prenatal development
 - f. Prenatal care
 - g. Violence as a public health issue

In addition, the course of study for grade 7 and/or 8 may include parenting skills and education that address at least all of the following: (Education Code 51220.5)

1. Child growth and development
2. Parental responsibilities
3. Household budgeting
4. Child abuse and neglect issues
5. Personal hygiene
6. Maintenance of healthy relationships
7. Teen parenting issues

COURSES OF STUDY (continued)

8. Self-esteem

High schools may offer automobile driver education that includes instruction in:

1. Vehicle Code provisions and other relevant state laws (Education Code 51220)
2. Proper acceptance of personal responsibility in traffic (Education Code 51220)
3. Appreciation of the causes, seriousness and consequences of traffic accidents (Education Code 51220)
4. Knowledge and attitudes necessary for the safe operation of motor vehicles (Education Code 51220)
5. The safe operation of motorcycles (Education Code 51220)
6. The dangers involved in consuming alcohol or drugs in connection with the operation of a motor vehicle (Education Code 51220.1)
7. The rights and duties of a motorist pertaining to pedestrians and the rights and duties of pedestrians pertaining to traffic laws and traffic safety (Education Code 51220.4)

CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES

The Board of Education believes that students should have opportunities to discuss controversial issues which have political, social or economic significance and which the students are mature enough to investigate and address. The study of a controversial issue should help students learn how to gather and organize pertinent facts, discriminate between fact and fiction, draw intelligent conclusions and respect the opinions of others.

The Board expects teachers to exercise caution and discretion when deciding whether or not a particular issue is suitable for study or discussion in any particular class. Teachers should not spend class time on any topic which they feel is not suitable for the class or related to the established course of study.

The Board also expects teachers to ensure that all sides of a controversial issue are impartially presented, with adequate and appropriate factual information. Without promoting any partisan point of view, the teacher should help students separate fact from opinion and warn them against drawing conclusions from insufficient data. The teacher shall not suppress any student's view on the issue as long as its expression is not malicious or abusive toward others.

Teachers sponsoring guest speakers shall either ask them not to use their position or influence on students to forward their own religious, political, economic or social views or shall take active steps to neutralize whatever bias has been presented.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

51510 Prohibited study or supplemental materials

51511 Religious matters properly included in courses of study

51530 Prohibition and definition re advocating or teaching communism with intent to indoctrinate

51933 Sex education courses

60040 Portrayal of cultural and racial diversity

60044 Prohibited instructional materials

60045 Required to be accurate, objective, current, and suited to needs and comprehension at respective grade levels

CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES

Controversial issues may be discussed in the classroom, provided that:

1. The issue is related to the course of study and provides opportunities for critical thinking, for developing tolerance, and for understanding conflicting points of view.
2. The issue has a meaningful relationship to matters of concern to the students.
3. Available information about the issue is sufficient to allow alternative points of view to be discussed and evaluated on a factual basis.
4. All sides of the issue are given a proper hearing, using established facts as primary evidence.
5. The issue has points of view which can be understood and defined by the students.
6. The teacher does not use his/her position to forward his/her own religious, political, economic or social bias. The teacher may express a personal opinion if he/she identifies it as such and does not express the opinion for the purpose of persuading students to his/her point of view.
7. Discussion or study of the issue is instigated by the students or by the established curriculum, but not by a source outside of the schools.
8. The discussion does not reflect adversely upon persons because of their race, sex, color, creed, national origin, ancestry, handicap or occupation.
9. The oral or written presentation does not violate state or federal law.

The Superintendent or designee shall have the authority to judge whether the above conditions are being met.

EXTRACURRICULAR AND COCURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Board of Education recognizes that extracurricular and cocurricular activities enrich the educational and social development and experiences of students. The district shall encourage and support student participation in extracurricular and cocurricular activities without compromising the integrity and purpose of the educational program.

No extracurricular or cocurricular program or activity shall be provided or conducted separately and no district student's participation in extracurricular and cocurricular activities shall be required or refused based on the student's gender, sexual orientation, ethnic group identification, race, ancestry, national origin, religion, color, or mental or physical disability. Requirements for participation in extracurricular and cocurricular activities shall be limited to those that are essential to the success of the activity. (5 CCR 4925)

Any complaint regarding the district's extracurricular and cocurricular programs or activities shall be filed in accordance with BP/AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures.

No student shall be prohibited from participating in extracurricular and cocurricular activities related to the educational program because of inability to pay fees associated with the activity.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible to participate in extracurricular and cocurricular activities, students in grades 7 through 12 must demonstrate satisfactory educational progress in the previous grading period including but not limited to: (Education Code 35160.5)

1. Maintenance of a minimum of 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale
2. Maintenance of minimum progress toward meeting high school graduation requirements

The Superintendent or designee may grant ineligible students a probationary period of not more than one semester. Students granted probationary eligibility must meet the required standards by the end of the probationary period in order to remain eligible for participation.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide the necessary assistance to help ineligible students achieve the academic standards required by law.

The Superintendent or designee may revoke a student's eligibility for participation in extracurricular and cocurricular activities when the student's poor citizenship is serious enough to warrant loss of this privilege.

EXTRACURRICULAR AND COCURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (continued)

Annual Policy Review

The Board shall annually review this policy and implementing regulations.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35145 *Public meetings*

35160.5 *District policy rules and regulations; requirements; matters subject to regulation*

35179 *Interscholastic athletics; associations or consortia*

48930-48938 *Student organizations*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

350 *Fees not permitted*

4900-4965 *Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs receiving state financial assistance*

5531 *Supervision of extracurricular activities of pupils*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

2000h-2-2000h-6 *Title IX, 1972 Education Act Amendments*

COURT DECISIONS

Hartzell v. Connell, (1984) 35 Cal. 3d 899

Management Resources:

CDE LEGAL ADVISORIES

001.90 *Access to School-Related Activities and Events by Disabled Students, LO: 3-0*

409.87 *Requirements for Pupil Participation in Extracurricular and Cocurricular activities, AB 2613, CIL: 86/87-11*

WEB SITES

California Association of Directors of Activities: <http://www.cada1.org>

EXTRACURRICULAR AND COCURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Definitions

Extracurricular activities are those programs that have all of the following characteristics: (Education Code 35160.5)

1. The program is supervised or financed by the school district.
2. Students participating in the program represent the school district.
3. Students exercise some degree of freedom in the selection, planning or control of the program.
4. The program includes both preparation for performance and performance before an audience or spectators.

Extracurricular activities are not part of the regular school curriculum, are not graded, do not offer credit and do not take place during classroom time. (Education Code 35160.5)

Cocurricular activities are programs that may be associated with the curriculum in a regular classroom. (Education Code 35160.5)

An activity is not an extracurricular or cocurricular activity if either of the following conditions applies: (Education Code 35160.5)

1. It is a teacher-graded or required program or activity for a course which satisfies the entrance requirements for admission to the California State University or the University of California.
2. It is a program that has as its primary goal the improvement of academic or educational achievement of students.

Eligibility Requirements

The grade point average used to determine eligibility shall be based on grades of the last previous grading period during which the student attended class at least a majority of the time. (Education Code 35160.5)

When a student becomes ineligible to participate in the upcoming school year, or when he/she is subject to probation, the principal or designee shall provide written notice to the student and his/her parents/guardians. The principal shall also consult with the student's teacher(s) in deciding on a program of remediation to improve the student's academic progress.

Regulation
approved:

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Santa Monica, California

ATHLETIC COMPETITION

The Board of Education recognizes that the athletic program constitutes an integral component of the educational program and helps to build a positive school climate. The athletic program also promotes the physical, social, and emotional well-being and character development of participating students. The athletic program shall be designed to meet students' interests and abilities and be varied in scope to attract wide participation.

Nondiscrimination and Equivalent Opportunities in the Athletic Program

The district's athletic program shall be free from discrimination and discriminatory practices in accordance with state and federal law. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that equivalent athletic opportunities are provided for both sexes.

Any complaint regarding the district's athletic program shall be filed in accordance with the district's uniform complaint procedures.

Sportsmanship

The Board values the quality and integrity of the athletic program and the ethical well-being and character development of the student athletes. Student athletes, coaches, parents/guardians, spectators, and others are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play during all athletic competitions. They shall also abide by the core principles of trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship and the Codes of Conduct, as adopted by the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) in its publication "Pursuing Victory with Honor."

Students and staff may be subject to disciplinary action for improper conduct.

California Interscholastic Federation

The Board maintains membership in the CIF and requires that interscholastic athletic activities be conducted in accordance with Board policy, administrative regulation, and CIF bylaws and rules. The Superintendent or designee shall have responsibility for the district's interscholastic athletic program, while the principal or designee at each participating school shall be responsible for the site-level decisions, as appropriate.

The Board shall annually designate an employee from each high school to serve as a representative to the local CIF league. Appointees shall represent the district in performing all duties required by the CIF league. In making this selection, the Board shall consider the employee's understanding of the district's goals for interscholastic and extracurricular activities, knowledge of the athletic programs, awareness of the implications of league decisions for the school and the district, and individual interpersonal communication and leadership skills.

ATHLETIC COMPETITION (continued)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district representatives to the CIF report regularly to the Board on league, section, and statewide issues, as well as activities and prospective actions related to athletics.

Student Eligibility

The first priority of student athletes shall be a commitment to their education and performing well in the classroom.

Eligibility requirements for participation in the district's interscholastic athletic program are the same as those set by the district for participation in extracurricular and cocurricular activities.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that students participating interscholastic athletic governed by the CIF satisfy CIF eligibility requirements.

Health and Safety

The Board desires to give student health and safety the highest consideration in planning and conducting athletic activities. Universal precautions shall be observed when injuries occur.

Students shall have a medical clearance before participating in the interscholastic athletic program. Care shall be taken to ensure that all athletic trainings and competitions are conducted in a manner that will not overtax the physical capabilities of the participants. When appropriate, protective equipment shall be used to prevent or minimize injuries.

Coaches and appropriate district employees shall take every possible precaution to ensure that athletic equipment is kept in safe and serviceable condition.

Supervision

All athletic teams shall be supervised by qualified coaches to ensure that student athletes receive appropriate instruction and guidance related to safety, health, training, and preparation for competition. Athletic events shall be officiated by qualified personnel.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

ATHLETIC COMPETITION (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sex

270-271 Athletes' Bill of Rights

17580-17581 Football equipment

32221.5 Required insurance for athletic activities

33353-33353.5 California Interscholastic Federation; implementation of policies, insurance program

33354 CDE authority over interscholastic athletics

35160.5 District policies; rules and regulations

35161 Powers and duties generally

35179 Interscholastic athletics

48900 Grounds for suspension and expulsion

48930-48938 Student organizations

49020-49023 Athletic programs; legislative intent, equal opportunity

49030-49034 Performance-enhancing substances

60850-60859 High school exit examination

PENAL CODE

245.6 Hazing

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs

5531 Supervision of extracurricular activities of students

5590-5596 Employment of noncertificated coaches

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1681-1688 Discrimination based on sex or blindness, Title IX

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

106.31-106.42 Discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities prohibited

COURT DECISIONS

Kahn v. East Side Union High School District, (2004) 31 Cal.4th 990t

Hartzell v. Connell, (1984) 35 Cal. 3d 899

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

A School Board Member's Guide to CIF and Interscholastic Sports, 1997

CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION PUBLICATIONS

A Guide to Equity (Equity Handbook)

Pursuing Victory with Honor, 1999

California Interscholastic Federation Constitution and Bylaws, 1996-97

WEB SITES

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

California Department of Education, Equal Opportunity and Access: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/eo>

California Interscholastic Federation: <http://www.cifstate.org>

National Federation of State High School Associations: <http://www.nfhs.org>

National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment: <http://www.nocsae.org>

ATHLETIC COMPETITION

Nondiscrimination and Equivalent Opportunities in the Athletic Program

No person shall on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, gender, ethnic group identification, race, ancestry, national origin, religion, color, or mental or physical disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, be denied equivalent opportunity in, or otherwise be discriminated against in interscholastic, intramural, or club athletics. (5 CCR 4920)

The Superintendent or designee may provide single-sex teams where selection for the teams is based on competitive skills. (34 CFR 106.41; 5 CCR 4921)

When a school provides only one team in a particular sport for members of one sex, but provides no team in the same sport for members of the other sex, and athletic opportunities in the total program for that sex have been previously limited, members of the excluded sex shall be allowed to try out and compete with the team. The same standards for eligibility shall be applied to every student trying out for a team, regardless of sex, sexual orientation, or other protected group status. (5 CCR 4921)

When determining whether equivalent opportunities are available to both sexes in athletic programs, the Superintendent or designee shall consider, among other factors: (5 CCR 4922)

1. Whether the selection of sports and levels of competition offered effectively accommodate the interests and abilities of both sexes

To help ensure that the district's athletic program effectively accommodates the interests and abilities of both sexes in athletics, the district shall use the following criteria: (Education Code 230)

- a. Whether the interscholastic-level participation opportunities for male and female students are provided in numbers substantially proportionate to their respective enrollments
 - b. When the members of one sex have been and are underrepresented among interscholastic athletes, whether the district can show a history and a continuing practice of program expansion that is demonstrably responsive to the developing interests and abilities of the members of that sex
 - c. When the members of one sex are underrepresented among interscholastic athletes and the district cannot show a history and a continuing practice of program expansion as required in item #b above, whether the district can demonstrate that the interests and abilities of the members of that sex have been fully and effectively accommodated by the present program
2. The provision and maintenance of equipment and supplies

ATHLETIC COMPETITION (continued)

3. Scheduling of games and practice times, selection of the season for a sport, and location of the games and practices
4. Travel and per diem allowances
5. Opportunities to receive coaching and academic tutoring
6. Assignment and compensation of coaches and tutors
7. Provision of locker rooms and practice and competitive facilities
8. Provision of medical and training facilities and services
9. Provision of housing and dining facilities and services
10. Publicity
11. Provision of necessary funds

Parental Notifications

Before a student participates in interscholastic athletic activities, the Superintendent or designee shall send a notice to the student's parents/guardians which:

1. Contains information about the procedures for filing a discrimination complaint that arises out of an interscholastic athletic activity, including the name of the district's Title IX Coordinator
2. Includes a copy of the Athletes' Bill of Rights pursuant to Education Code 271
3. Explains that there is an element of risk associated with all athletic competitions and that the district cannot guarantee that students will not be injured, despite a commitment to provide for every participant's health and welfare
4. Provides information about insurance protection pursuant to Education Code 32221.5
5. Requests parental permission for the student to participate in the program and, if appropriate, be transported by the district to and from competitions
6. States the Board of Education's expectation that students adhere strictly to all safety rules, regulations, and instructions, as well as rules and guidelines related to conduct and sportsmanship

ATHLETIC COMPETITION (continued)

7. Includes a copy of the local California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) league rules
8. Includes information about the CIF bylaw and district policy requiring any student athlete and his/her parent/guardian to sign a statement that the student will not use steroids or dietary supplements banned by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency

Regulation
approved:

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Santa Monica, California

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AND EQUAL ACCESS

The Board of Education believes that student groups or clubs reinforce the instructional program, give students experience in civics and government, and provide social and recreational activities. Student groups also serve to honor outstanding student achievement and enhance school spirit and students' sense of belonging. Prior to meeting on school grounds, all student groups shall be authorized by the principal or designee in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation.

The Board encourages students to pursue interests and clubs which may not directly relate to the district's curriculum and, to that end, has created a limited open forum.

All student-initiated groups shall be given equal access to meet on school premises during noninstructional time without regard to their religious, political, philosophical, or other speech content. The Board shall ensure that: (20 USC 4071, 4072)

1. The meeting shall be voluntary and student-initiated.
2. There shall be no sponsorship of the meeting by the school or staff. The term *sponsorship* means that school staff are promoting, leading, or participating in a meeting. The assignment of a teacher, administrator, or other school employee to a meeting for custodial purposes shall not constitute sponsorship of the meeting.
3. Employees of the school shall be present at religious meetings only in a nonparticipatory capacity.
4. The meeting shall not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school.
5. Nonschool persons shall not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities of student groups.

All student clubs or groups shall have equal access to the school media to announce meetings, including the public address system, the school newspaper, bulletin boards, and school web site. However, the principal or designee may issue a disclaimer that such activities are not school-sponsored.

All noncurriculum-related student groups shall be given equal access to meeting space, school equipment, and supplies.

No school shall deny equal access or a fair opportunity to meet, or otherwise discriminate against, any group officially affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America, or with any other youth group listed as a patriotic society in Title 36 of the United States Code, for reasons based on the membership or leadership criteria or oath of allegiance to God and country. (20 USC 7905)

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AND EQUAL ACCESS (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

52 Designation of secondary schools

53 Designation of high schools

200-262.3 Prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sex

38130-38138 Civic Center Act

48900 Hazing

48907 Student exercise of free expression

48930-48938 Student organizations

48950 Freedom of speech

49020-49023 Athletic programs

PENAL CODE

627-627.10 Access to school premises

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

2 Definitions

5531 Supervision of extracurricular activities of students

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

4071-4074 Equal Access Act

7904 School prayer

7905 Boy Scouts equal access

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 36

20101-240112 Patriotic organizations

COURT DECISIONS

Prince v. Jacoby, (2001) 303 F.3d 1074

Culbertson et al. v. Oakridge School District, (2002) 258 F.3d 1061

Good News Club et al. v. Milford Central School, (2001) 121 S.Ct. 2093

Ceniceros v. Board of Trustees of the San Diego Unified School District, (1997) 106 F.3d 878

Board of Education of Westside Community School District v. Mergens By and Through Mergens (1989, 8th Cir.) 867 F.2d 1076

Perumal et al v. Saddleback Valley Unified School District, (1988) 198 Cal. App. 3d 64

Student Coalition for Peace v. Lower Merion School District Board of Directors, (1985) 776 F.2d. 431

Hartzell v. Connell, (1984) 35 Cal. 3d 899

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

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

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AND EQUAL ACCESS

Because the district has established a limited open forum, the principal or designee shall not deny any student-initiated school group access to school facilities during noninstructional time on the basis of religious, political, philosophical, or any other content of speech to be addressed at such meetings. (20 USC 4071)

Such meetings shall not interfere with regular school activities. The Superintendent or designee shall identify the noninstructional time period(s) set aside for meetings of student groups either before or after actual classroom instruction times.

Meetings may also be held during the lunch period.

Meetings held within the limited open forum shall entail no expenditure of public funds beyond the incidental cost of providing the meeting space. (20 USC 4071)

Students shall leave the meeting place in a clean, orderly, and secure condition after their meetings. The Superintendent or designee may deny the use of facilities to any group that he/she believes will materially disrupt the school program or threaten the health and safety of students and staff. (20 USC 4071)

Authorization for Student Groups

Any student wishing to create either a curriculum- or noncurriculum-related student group shall first request authorization from the principal or designee. The group shall provide the principal or designee with the following information:

1. Name of the organization and names of student contacts
2. A statement of the organization's purposes, objectives, and activities
3. A copy of the proposed bylaws of the student group, including a description of how officers will be selected, as well as the bylaws of any off-campus organization with which the group may be affiliated
4. The name of the proposed faculty advisor, if any
5. The proposed dates, times, and location of meetings
6. Any special equipment to be used
7. A description of the qualifications for membership, if any
8. If a curriculum-related group, a statement of the relation of the club to the curriculum and/or instructional program

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AND EQUAL ACCESS (continued)

The principal or designee may establish school rules governing the meetings of curriculum-related groups, such as attendance or grade requirements. Such rules may vary depending on the group, such as whether or not academic credit is given for participation in the group.

Role of Staff Adviser

For any curriculum-related student group, the staff adviser shall provide guidance and teaching to students to ensure that the group's activities are aligned to the district's goals and objectives and shall provide supervision and leadership of the group. The principal shall have final authority in determining the assignment and role of the staff adviser.

For noncurriculum-related student groups, a staff adviser may be assigned voluntarily to observe meetings for purposes of maintaining order and protecting student safety. Staff advisers and other school employees shall not promote, lead, or participate in the meetings. (20 USC 4071, 4072)

A school employee may refuse to attend a meeting of a student group if the content of the speech at the meeting is contrary to the employee's beliefs. (20 USC 4071)

Hazing

Any student who engages in hazing may be subject to discipline including, but not limited to, suspension or expulsion. *Hazing* means a method of initiation or pre-initiation into a student organization or body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by the district, which is likely to cause serious bodily injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to a former, current, or prospective student. (Education Code 48900)

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

The Board of Education recognizes that personal contact between students of different countries and cultures promotes global awareness and international understanding. To that end, the Board welcomes the enrollment of international exchange students and further encourages district students to take any opportunities that they may have to participate in such programs and study in another country.

With Board approval, a district school may establish a sister-school relationship with a school in another country.

International Student Exchange Programs

To enroll in a district school, an international exchange student must be participating in an exchange program registered with the California Attorney General's Office, designated by the U.S. Department of State and accepted for listing on the Council for Standards for International Educational Travel's Advisory List.

When necessary because of overcrowding within district schools or limited district resources, the Superintendent or designee may limit the number of international exchange students to be accepted at any district high school during any school year.

The district shall not incur any financial obligations when sending and/or receiving international exchange students. Program sponsors shall provide assurance of their responsibility for health/accident/liability insurance, the student's home placement, and the resolution of any related personal difficulties which may arise.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish district criteria for issuing regular or honorary diplomas to international exchange students. The principal or designee shall refer to these criteria when assisting international exchange students in selecting classes and cocurricular activities based on the student's individual qualifications, needs and interests.

District staff shall provide relevant counseling to district students who wish to study in a foreign country. District credit for courses successfully completed in the foreign country shall be granted in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35160 Authority of governing boards

35160.1 Broad authority of school districts

51225.5 Honorary diplomas; foreign exchange students

GOVERNMENT CODE

12620-12630 International Student Exchange Visitor Placement Organizations

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 22

62.25 Secondary school students, exchange visitor program

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

California Attorney General's Office: <http://www.caag.state.ca.us>

California Interscholastic Federation: <http://www.cifstate.org>

Council on Standards for International Educational Travel: <http://www.csiet.org>

U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs: <http://exchanges.state.gov>

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement: <http://www.ice.gov>

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

Admission

In order to approve the admission of an international exchange student, the Superintendent or designee must receive a written request for enrollment before the end of the preceding school year. Enrollment shall be for one year only.

All international exchange students shall meet state and district immunization requirements.

Athletics

International exchange students shall be eligible for participation in interscholastic sports in accordance with state bylaws of the California Interscholastic Federation as well as applicable section bylaws.

Diplomas

International exchange students may be considered for a diploma if they have satisfactorily completed the district's graduation requirements.

International exchange students who are not eligible for a regular diploma may receive an honorary diploma, provided they have completed at least one semester of full-time enrollment and achieved at least a 2.0 grade point average.

At the discretion of the principal or designee, international exchange students who do not meet requirements for a regular or an honorary diploma may, at the end of their visit, be given a letter certifying the time period for which they were enrolled.

ASSEMBLIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

The Board of Education believes that assemblies and special events should promote a positive school climate and be related to the district's educational program. Assemblies may provide information that supplements the district's curriculum or may showcase student achievement in academics, athletics, music, art, drama, or other extracurricular or cocurricular activities.

The principal shall ensure that speakers and community resources featured in school assemblies and special events are carefully selected and represent a balanced viewpoint. Prospective speakers shall agree to present material of educational relevance that is appropriate to the maturity of the audience, with no statements that are obscene, vulgar, or that incite violence.

The principal shall schedule assemblies and special events so as to maximize the effectiveness of instructional time and to satisfy the requirements of law and negotiated agreements.

During the assembly, students shall show respect to all performers and speakers. Students who disrupt the program shall lose the privilege of attending the assembly and may be subject to disciplinary action.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

37200-37202 School calendar

37220-37223 Holidays

46010 Total days of attendance

46100 Length of schoolday

48980 Notice at beginning of term

51202 Instruction in personal and public health and safety

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

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The Board of Education desires to prepare each student to obtain a diploma of high school graduation in order to provide students with opportunities for postsecondary education and/or employment.

In order to be graduated from high school, a student must meet the following requirements:

1. Earn 220 semester credits in Grades 9-12; each course is valued at five credits, a year equals two courses (10 credits).
2. Pass four years of English in Grades 9-12 in an integrated reading and writing curriculum. This requirement is equal to 40 semester credits.
3. Effective with the 2007 graduating class, pass three years of mathematics with at least two years (20 credits) to be taken in Grades 9-12. Up to 10 semester credits for Algebra I taken in the 7th or 8th grade may be applied to meet this requirement. This requirement is equal to 30 semester credits.

Beginning in the 2003-04 school year, at least one mathematics course, or a combination of two mathematics courses, shall meet or exceed state academic content standards for Algebra I. If any student completes coursework in grades 7 through 12 that meets or exceeds state academic content standards for algebra, those courses shall apply toward satisfying this mathematics requirement. (Education Code 51224.5)

4. Pass two years of science in Grades 9-12; one year must be a life science; one year must be a physical science. This requirement is equal to 20 semester credits.
5. Pass three years of social studies in Grades 9-12 including two courses of World History, two courses of U.S. History or its equivalent; one course of Economics; one course of U.S. Government. This requirement is equal to 30 semester credits.
6. Pass one year of visual or performing arts, speech, debate, foreign language or American Sign Language. This requirement is equal to 10 semester credits.
7. Pass one course of Health, to be taken in the 9th grade, preferably. This requirement is equal to five semester credits.
8. Pass four courses of Physical Education, two of which are to be taken in Grade 9. This requirement is equal to 20 semester credits.
9. All courses used to satisfy graduation requirements shall be approved by the Board, and reviewed and re-adopted at least every four years. Additional graduation requirements must be approved by the Board.

Unless otherwise noted, these requirements are effective with the graduation class of 2007.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (continued)

Because the prescribed course of study may not accommodate the needs of some students, the Board shall provide alternative means for the completion of prescribed courses in accordance with law.

* Graduation requirements listed above equal 155 semester credits. 65 semester credits are available for elective courses.

Standards of Proficiency for Classes Prior to 2004

To receive a high school diploma, district students also must achieve at least minimum proficiency in reading comprehension, writing and mathematics. The Board shall adopt proficiency standards in these areas and any others it deems appropriate. All adopted proficiency standards shall correspond with the goals of the course of study required for graduation.

Student progress toward proficiency in basic skills shall be assessed in English once during grades 7-9 and twice during grades 10 and 11. A separate assessment shall be made of the student's proficiency in each skill area.

Remedial instruction shall be provided to any student who does not show adequate progress toward mastery of basic skills. This instruction may be provided in summer school and shall offer the student numerous opportunities to achieve mastery.

When a student does not show adequate progress, the Superintendent or designee shall inform a student's parent/guardian in writing that the student shall not receive a high school diploma unless the prescribed standards are met.

High School Exit Exam for the Classes of 2006 and Later

Beginning in the 2005-2006 school year, each student completing grade 12 shall have successfully passed the state exit examination in language arts and mathematics as a condition of high school graduation. (Education Code 60851)

Supplemental instruction shall be offered to any student who does not demonstrate "sufficient progress," as defined in Board policy, toward passing the exit examination. (Education Code 37252, 60851)

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly report to the Board regarding the number of students who have fulfilled all local and state graduation requirements except for passage of the exit examination and the resources that have been offered to such students.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (continued)**Certification of Completion**

Students who have passed all the district's course requirements by the end of their senior year but are unable to pass the high school examination shall receive a "Certificate of Completion."

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly report to the Board regarding the number of students receiving a "Certificate of Completion" and the resources that have been offered to such students.

*Legal Reference:*EDUCATION CODE

- 35186 Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures
- 37252 Supplemental instructional programs
- 37254 Supplemental instruction based on failure to pass exit exam by end of grade 12
- 37254.1 Required student participation in supplemental instruction
- 47612 Enrollment in charter school
- 48200 Compulsory attendance
- 48412 Certificate of proficiency
- 48430 Continuation education schools and classes
- 48645.5 Acceptance of coursework
- 51224 Skills and knowledge required for adult life
- 51224.5 Algebra instruction
- 51225.3 Requirements for graduation
- 51225.5 Honorary diplomas; foreign exchange students
- 51228 Graduation requirements
- 51240-51246 Exemptions from requirements
- 51250-51251 Assistance to military dependents
- 51410-51412 Diplomas
- 51420-51427 High school equivalency certificates
- 51450-51455 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma
- 51745 Independent study restrictions
- 52378 Supplemental school counseling program
- 56390-56392 Recognition for educational achievement, special education
- 60850-60859 High school exit examination
- 66204 Certification of high school courses as meeting university admissions criteria

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

- 1600-1651 Graduation of pupils from grade 12 and credit toward graduation

COURT DECISIONS

- O'Connell v. Superior Court (Valenzuela), (2006) 141 Cal.App.4th 1452

*Management Resources:*CSBA PUBLICATIONS

- Preparing for the High Stakes of the High School Exit Exam: An Examination of Certificates of Completion, Policy Advisory, September 2005

WEB SITES

- CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>
- California Department of Education, California High School Exit Examination:
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/hs>

Policy
adopted:

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Santa Monica, California

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for graduation and specified alternative means for completing the prescribed course of study shall be made available to students, parents/guardians, and the public. (Education Code 51225.3)

Students shall not be required to have resided within the district for any minimum length of time as a condition of high school graduation. (Education Code 51411)

If a student successfully completes the district's graduation requirements while attending a juvenile court school or nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency, the district shall issue the student a diploma from the school the student last attended. (Education Code 48645.5)

ALTERNATIVE CREDITS TOWARD GRADUATION

In order to meet individual student needs and encourage all students to complete their high school education, the Board of Education desires to provide flexibility in the completion of prescribed courses in accordance with law.

With the active involvement of parents/guardians, administrators, teachers, and students, the Board shall adopt alternative means for students to complete the prescribed course of study required for high school graduation. These alternative means shall be made available to students, parents/guardians, and the public. (Education Code 51225.3)

Students may fulfill any course requirement for graduation through the following:

1. Supervised work experience or other outside school experience in accordance with Education Code 51760.3 and 5 CCR 1635 (Education Code 51225.3)
2. Career technical education classes offered in high school (Education Code 51225.3)
3. Courses offered by regional occupational centers or programs (Education Code 51225.3)
4. Interdisciplinary study (Education Code 51225.3)
5. Independent study (Education Code 51225.3)
6. Credit earned at a postsecondary institution (Education Code 48800, 51225.3)
7. Private instruction in accordance with 5 CCR 1631
8. Correspondence instruction from a California university or college accredited for teacher training in accordance with 5 CCR 1633 (Education Code 51740-51741)
9. Military service and training in accordance with 5 CCR 1634 (Education Code 51440)
10. For credit toward the district's physical education requirement, participation in district interscholastic athletic programs carried on wholly or partially after regular school hours (Education Code 51242)

A student shall be eligible to satisfy graduation requirements in this manner only if the interscholastic program entails a comparable amount of time and physical activity.

11. For credit toward the district's foreign language requirement, foreign language studies successfully completed in a private school in accordance with 5 CCR 1632 (Education Code 51243)

ALTERNATIVE CREDITS TOWARD GRADUATION (continued)

Upon receiving advance, written application by the student or his/her parent/guardian, the Superintendent or designee shall determine whether completion of the proposed alternative means would satisfy course requirements for graduation and what documentation shall be required, if any, to verify the student's successful completion. The Superintendent or designee shall make the final determination as to whether the student's completion of an alternative means is sufficient to satisfy the district's graduation requirements.

As appropriate, the Superintendent or designee shall determine the grade to be assigned to students for the completion of any of the above alternative means. When a grade is assigned by a private school, postsecondary institution, or other educational institution for completion of coursework, that same grade shall be awarded by the district provided that the Superintendent or designee has determined the alternative course to be substantially equivalent to a district course.

*Legal Reference:*EDUCATION CODE*35160 Authority of governing boards**35160.1 Broad authority of school districts**48412 Certificate of proficiency**48645.5 Course credit, juvenile court schools**48800-48802 Attendance at community college; advanced education**51220 Areas of study; grades 7-12**51225.3 Requirements for graduation**51240-51246 Exemptions from requirements**51420-51427 General Educational Development test**51440 Veterans' education, evaluation and credit toward high school graduation**51740-51741 Authority to provide instruction by correspondence**51745-51749.3 Independent study**51760-51769.5 Work experience education**52300-52499.66 Career technical education*VEHICLE CODE*12814.6 Teen driver's act*CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5*1600-1635 Alternative credit**10070-10075 Work experience education**11500-11508 Regional occupational centers and programs**11520-11523 Proficiency examination and certificate**11700-11703 Independent study*UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20*2301-2414 Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006**Management Resources:*WEB SITES*California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>*

Policy
adopted:

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Santa Monica, California

ALTERNATIVE CREDITS TOWARD GRADUATION**Definitions**

A *semester period* is one period of 40 to 60 minutes of instructional time per week throughout one semester of at least 17 weeks, or a minimum of 12 clock hours of instructional time provided during the academic year or in summer school. While the content to be covered is planned within these time frames, a student may be granted one semester period of credit even though the student spends less than the aforementioned amount of time in completing the necessary work. (5 CCR 1600)

Private Instruction

A student who is regularly enrolled and in attendance at a high school shall receive credit toward high school graduation for private instruction under the following conditions: (5 CCR 1631)

1. The instruction entails fields and subjects included in the high school's courses of study and curricula.
2. The student demonstrates his/her capabilities at the beginning and at the end of the period of private instruction by examination(s) given under the school's supervision, thereby showing that he/she has made progress in learning satisfactory to the school.

Correspondence Instruction

Prior to registering for a correspondence course, the student or his/her parent/guardian shall obtain verification from the Superintendent or designee that the course is essentially equivalent to the high school curriculum and meets district graduation requirements. The number of semester credits assigned to the course shall be determined before the student begins coursework.

The district shall grant credit toward graduation for correspondence instruction if all of the following conditions are met: (Education Code 51740, 51741; 5 CCR 1633)

1. The correspondence instruction is provided by the University of California, or other university or college in California accredited for teacher training, in subjects included within or related to the student's course of study.
2. The student is, for good reason, unable to take the course of study offered in the school.
3. The Superintendent or designee determines the number of semester periods to be credited for successful completion of a particular correspondence course.
4. No more than 40 total semester periods of correspondence instruction are credited to a student towards graduation.

ALTERNATIVE CREDITS TOWARD GRADUATION (continued)

Military Service and Training

Credit toward graduation shall be granted for military service and training received while in the military service of the United States, within the maximum limits established in 5 CCR 1634. A person is eligible for this credit if he/she is either: (Education Code 51440; 5 CCR 1634)

1. A former member of the Armed Forces who is a California resident and who has received an honorable discharge
2. A member of the Armed Forces who is a California resident and was a California resident on the date he/she entered the Armed Forces

The Superintendent or designee shall keep a permanent record of the credit allowed for military service or training. (5 CCR 1634)

Private Foreign Language Instruction

The district shall grant credit for foreign language studies successfully completed in a private school and shall apply the credit toward meeting any foreign language requirement prescribed for grades 9-12, provided that all of the following conditions are met: (Education Code 51243-51245; 5 CCR 1632)

1. The courses are in languages designated in Education Code 51244.
2. The student is regularly enrolled or applying to the district in grades 9-12.
3. The student or his/her parent/guardian applies in writing for the credit, specifies the private school attended and the amount and level of credit requested, and submits a transcript or other documents from the private school showing that the student successfully completed the course.
4. The amount of credit sought equals at least one semester's work.
5. The principal or designee determines that the student's achievement is equivalent to that expected of a student of comparable ability taking the same or similar instruction in district schools. This determination shall be based upon the private school's report of a test developed by the private school in cooperation with the district or, if the private school is located outside the district, the principal or designee may use a test given by a public school or other evidence which he/she deems appropriate.

Regulation
approved:

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Santa Monica, California

CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY/HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY

The Board of Education desires that every student have the opportunity to earn a high school diploma through successful completion of class work and examination. However, when a student is unable to do so, the Board encourages completion of an alternative program that allows him/her to obtain an equivalent certificate.

Eligible persons may obtain a certificate of proficiency or a high school equivalency certificate in accordance with law, Board policy and administrative regulation.

The Superintendent or designee shall make information available to interested persons regarding the eligibility and examination requirements of each program.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48400-48403 *Persons subject to compulsory continuation education*

48410 *Persons exempt from continuation classes*

48412 *Certificate of proficiency; examination fees*

48413 *Enrollment in continuation classes*

48414 *Reenrollment in district*

51420-51427 *High school equivalency certificate*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

11520-11523 *Proficiency examination and certificate*

11530-11532 *High school equivalency certificate (GED)*

Management Resources:

CDE PUBLICATIONS

Adult Education Handbook for California, 1997

WEB SITES

CDE, GED Office: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ged>

CDE, High School Proficiency: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/statetests/chspe>

CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY/HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY**Certificate of Proficiency**

The principal of each school maintaining grades 11 and 12 shall distribute to each student in those grades an announcement explaining the California High School Proficiency Examination (CHSPE). When announcements from the California Department of Education (CDE) or its contractor are received, this information shall be distributed early enough to enable interested students to register for the test to be given in the fall of that year. (5 CCR 11523)

Any student may take the CHSPE if he/she meets one of the following conditions: (Education Code 48412)

1. Is age 16 or older
2. Has been enrolled in the 10th grade for one school year or longer
3. Will complete one school year of enrollment in 10th grade at the end of the semester during which the CHSPE will be administered

If a student receives the proficiency certificate, the district shall indicate the student's accomplishment and the date of the proficiency certificate award on the student's official transcript. (5 CCR 11521)

Upon request, the Superintendent or designee shall provide a form for obtaining parent/guardian consent for exemption from compulsory school attendance by students ages 16 and 17 who have demonstrated proficiency. The form shall contain at least the following information: (5 CCR 11522)

1. A general explanation of the student's rights of exemption from compulsory attendance and of re-enrollment in the public schools
2. The date of issuance of the certificate of proficiency
3. The signature of the parent/guardian and the date
4. The signature of the school administrator who has personally confirmed the authenticity of the parent/guardian's signature and the date

If a student age 16 or 17 terminates his/her enrollment after receiving the high school proficiency certificate, he/she may re-enroll in the district with no adverse consequences. If he/she subsequently terminates enrollment again, he/she may be denied re-enrollment until the beginning of the following semester. (Education Code 48414)

CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY/HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY (continued)

High School Equivalency Certificate/GED

Any person is eligible to take the General Educational Development test leading to a high school equivalency certificate if he/she is a resident of California or a member of the armed forces assigned to duty in California and meets any one of the following criteria: (Education Code 51420; 5 CCR 11532)

1. Is 18 years of age or older, or within 60 days of his/her 18th birthday, regardless of enrollment status
2. Is not currently enrolled in school and is within 60 days of when he/she would have graduated from high school had he/she remained in school and followed the usual course of study
3. Is 17 years of age, has been out of school for at least 60 consecutive days, and provides a letter of request for the test from the military, a postsecondary educational institution, or a prospective employer
4. Is 17 years of age, has accumulated fewer than 100 units of high school credit, is confined to a state or county hospital or to an institution maintained by a state or county correctional facility, and meets other criteria listed in 5 CCR 11532

Regulation
approved:

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Santa Monica, California

RECIPROCITY OF ACADEMIC CREDIT

To determine whether students transferring into the district have met district course requirements, the Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures to evaluate the comparability of courses and/or students' understanding of course content. Such procedures shall include methods for determining the number of years of school attendance, the specific courses completed by the student and the value of credits earned.

The district shall accept for credit full or partial coursework satisfactorily completed by students while attending a public school, a juvenile court school or nonpublic nonsectarian school or agency. (Education Code 48645.5)

Pending evaluation of the transferring student's academic performance, the student shall be placed at the grade level reached prior to enrollment in the district. Within 30 days of enrollment, the principal or designee shall complete the evaluation and determine the student's appropriate grade placement.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35160 Authority of governing boards

35160.1 Broad authority of school districts

47612.5 Charter schools operations, general requirements

48011 Admission from kindergarten or other school

48645.5 Coursework completed in public school, juvenile court school or nonpublic nonsectarian school

51225.3 Requirements for graduation

51228 Minimum curriculum standards

60605 Academic content and performance standards; assessments

60641-60649 Standardized Testing and Reporting Program

64001 Single plan for student achievement

RECIPROCITY OF ACADEMIC CREDIT**Definitions**

An "accredited" school is one that has received accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) or other statewide or regional commissions or, in the case of a school outside California, by the equivalent governmental or other regional accrediting agency in that jurisdiction.

Transfers from Accredited Schools

Students transferring into the district from an accredited school shall receive full academic credit for previously completed courses when the sending district verifies that the student has satisfactorily completed those courses.

Transfers from Non-Accredited Schools

When a student transfers from any non-accredited private, public, alternative, home or charter school, academic credit shall be subject to approval by the principal or designee at the enrolling school. Credits transferred from these schools shall be fully accepted when there is evidence that the course work completed is equivalent to similar courses offered in this district.

The principal or designee at the enrolling school shall be responsible for determining which of the student's credits are equivalent to district requirements. Guidelines for determining equivalency shall be developed by representative certificated staff familiar with the district's academic standards and graduation requirements.

In determining equivalency, the principal and/or designated certificated staff representative may consider one or more of the following:

1. A review of the description of academic content and time requirements of the course work completed by the student compared to academic content and time requirements at the enrolling school
2. An examination of the student's portfolio of work, papers, completed projects, graded tests or other documents demonstrating the student's level of skill and knowledge
3. An opportunity for the student to demonstrate skill by his/her performance on appropriate course-challenging examinations, comprehensive final examinations and/or other culminating exercises used at the enrolling school
4. Verification by teacher observation, once the student has been placed in a course, that the student has reached a level of preparation consistent with his/her placement in that course

RECIPROCITY OF ACADEMIC CREDIT (continued)

Appeals/Due Process

If a student's parent/guardian disagrees with the school site staff's judgment on grade-level placement, course placement and/or equivalency of academic credit, the parent/guardian may appeal to the Superintendent or designee.

Within 10 working days of notification of placement or credit determination, the parent/guardian may request, in writing, a conference with the Superintendent or designee to review the school site staff's decision.

The Superintendent or designee shall schedule a conference within 10 working days of the parent/guardian's request. This meeting may include the principal or designee, representatives of the school's certificated staff, and the student's parents/guardian. It shall be the parent/guardian's responsibility to present evidence that the facts do not support the school staff's decision on the student's placement and/or transferability of prior credits.

The Superintendent or designee's decision shall be final.

DIFFERENTIAL GRADUATION AND COMPETENCY STANDARDS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The Individualized Education Program (IEP) team shall determine the appropriate standards and assessments, as well as the accommodations, that may be required for students with disabilities.

No student shall be classified as eligible for differential standards of proficiency for the purpose of circumventing the legal requirement to maintain academic eligibility for extracurricular or cocurricular activities. (Education Code 35160.5)

High School Diploma and Certificate of Educational Achievement/ Completion

Beginning in 2005-2006, a student with disabilities may be awarded a high school diploma upon satisfactory completion of the course of study specified in his/her IEP and upon completion of the high school exit exam. The high school exit exam shall be administered in accordance with requirements and accommodations as specified in the student's IEP.

All students subject to the requirements of the high school exit exam shall receive "adequate notice" as specified in law and Board policy. (Education Code 48980, 60850)

Instead of a high school diploma, a student with disabilities may be awarded a certificate or document of educational achievement or completion if the student has met one of the following requirements: (Education Code 56390)

1. Satisfactorily completed a prescribed alternative course of study approved by the Board of Education of the district in which the student attended school or the district with jurisdiction over the student as identified in his/her IEP
2. Satisfactorily met his/her goals and objectives during high school as identified in his/her IEP
3. Satisfactorily attended high school, participated in the instruction as prescribed in his/her IEP, and met the objectives of the statement of transition services

In accordance with Education Code 56391, a student with disabilities who meets any of the criteria specified above shall be eligible to participate in any graduation ceremony and any school activity related to graduation in which a graduating student of similar age without disabilities would be eligible to participate.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

**DIFFERENTIAL GRADUATION AND COMPETENCY STANDARDS FOR
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES (continued)**

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35160.5 *Extracurricular and cocurricular activities; differential standards*

48980 *Parental notifications*

56000 *Education of individuals with exceptional needs*

56341 *Individualized education program team*

56345 *Elements of the IEP*

56390-56393 *Certificate of completion, special education*

60850-60856 *High school exit exam*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

3070 *Graduation*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1412 *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

300.1-300.818 *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*

Management Resources:

FEDERAL REGISTER

Rules and Regulations, August 14, 2006, Vol. 71, Number 156, pages 46539-46845

CDE COMMUNICATIONS

2001.0314 *Proficiency Standards and High School Exit Exam*

WEB SITES

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

US Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services:

<http://www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS>