OXNARD SCHOOL DISTRICT

1051 South "A" Street • Oxnard, California 93030 • 805/385-1501



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Ms. Monica Madrigal Lopez, President Mrs. Debra M. Cordes, Member Mr. Denis O'Leary, Member Mrs. Veronica Robles-Solis, Member Ms. Jarely Lopez, Member

ADMINISTRATION

Karling Aguilera-Fort, Ed.D. District Superintendent Vacant Assistant Superintendent, Business & Fiscal Services Vacant Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources & Support Services Dr. Anabolena DeGenna Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services

AGENDA SPECIAL BOARD MEETING Tuesday, July 14, 2020

> 4:00 p.m. Closed Session to Follow

REGULAR (VIRTUAL) MEETING - ONLINE ONLY DUE TO COVID-19 SHELTER IN PLACE ORDER- VIA ZOOM

To watch and provide public comment, join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device: Please click this URL to join. <u>https://zoom.oxnardsd.org</u>

> Or join by phone: Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location) US: +1 669 900 6833 Webinar ID: 972 3672 0185

***NOTE:** In accordance with requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act and related federal regulations, individuals who require special accommodation, including but not limited to an American Sign Language interpreter, accessible seating or documentation in accessible formats, should contact the Superintendent's office at least two days before the meeting date.

Note: No new items will be considered after 10:00 p.m. in accordance with Board Bylaws, BB 9323 - Meeting Conduct

Watch the meeting live: osdtv.oxnardsd.org

Broadcasted by Charter Spectrum, Channel 20 & Frontier Communications, Channel 37

Section A: PRELIMINARY

A.1. Call to Order and Roll Call (4:00 PM)

The President of the Board will call the meeting to order. A roll call of the Board will be conducted.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Lopez____, Robles-Solis___, O'Leary___, Cordes ___, Madrigal Lopez____

A.2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Dr. Karling Aguilera-Fort will lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A.3. District's Vision and Mission Statement

The District's Mission and Vision Statement will be read in English and Spanish by Board President, Monica Madrigal Lopez.

A.4. Adoption of Agenda (Superintendent)

Moved: Seconded: Vote:

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Lopez _____, Robles-Solis ____, O'Leary ____, Cordes ____, Madrigal Lopez ____

A.5. Closed Session – Public Participation/Comment (Limit three minutes per person per topic)

Instructions on How to Comment on ZOOM Via Web or Phone are Available at: https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362663 -Joining-a-meeting-by-phone. https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/205566129 -Raise-Hand-In-Webinar.

Persons wishing to address the Board of Trustees on any agenda item identified in the Closed Session agenda may do so. Public Comment shall be limited to fifteen (15) minutes per subject with a maximum of three (3) minutes per speaker.

The Board will now convene in closed session to consider the items listed under Closed Session.

A.6. Closed Session

 Pursuant to Sections 54957.6 and 3549.1 of the Government Code: Conference with Labor Negotiator: Agency Negotiators: OSD Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources & Support Services, and Garcia Hernandez & Sawhney, LLP Association(s): OEA, CSEA, OSSA; and All Unrepresented Personnel-Administrators, Classified Management, Confidential

- 2. Pursuant to Section 54957 of the Government Code the Board will consider personnel matters, including:
 - Public Employee Evaluation
 - Superintendent
 - Public Employee Appointment/Recommendation:
 - Interim Assistant Superintendent, Business & Fiscal Services
 - Interim Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

A.7. Reconvene to Open Session

A.8. Report Out of Closed Session

The Board will report on any action taken in closed session or take action on any item considered in closed session, including expulsion of students.

Section B: PUBLIC COMMENT/HEARINGS

B.1. Public Comment (3 minutes per speaker) / Comentarios del Público (3 minutos para cada ponente)

Instructions on How to Comment on ZOOM Via Web or Phone are Available at: https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362663 - Joining-a-meeting-by-phone. https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/205566129 - Raise-Hand-In-Webinar.

Members of the public may address the Board on any matter within the Board's jurisdiction at this time or at the time that a specific agenda item is being considered. Comments should be limited to three (3) minutes. Please know this meeting is being video-recorded and televised. The Board particularly invites comments from parents of students in the District.

Las instrucciones para comentar en ZOOM vía video conferencia o por teléfono están disponibles en: https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362663 - Joining-a-meeting-by-phone. https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/205566129 - Raise-Hand-In-Webinar.

Los miembros del público podrán dirigirse a la Mesa Directiva sobre cualquier asunto que corresponda a la jurisdicción de la Mesa Directiva en este periodo o cuando este punto figure en el orden del día y sea analizado. Los comentarios deben limitarse a tres (3) minutos. Tenga presente que esta reunión está siendo grabada y televisada. La Mesa Directiva invita en particular a los padres y alumnos del distrito a que presenten sus comentarios.

Section D: ACTION ITEMS

D.1. Adoption of Instructional Model for Opening of School Year 2020-2021 (Aguilera-Fort/DeGenna)

The Board of Trustees will receive a presentation on the recommendation for the instructional model for the opening of school year 2020-2021. It is the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services, that the Board of Trustees approve the recommended instructional model for the opening of

school year 2020-2021 as presented.

Public Comment:		
Presentation:		
Moved:		
Seconded:		
Board Discussion:		
Vote:		
ROLL CALL VOTE:		

Lopez____, Robles-Solis___, O'Leary___, Cordes ___, Madrigal Lopez____

Section F: BOARD POLICIES

F.1. Approve 2nd Reading - BP 6157 Distance Learning and BP/AR 6158 Independent Study (DeGenna) As a result of COVID 19 and to meet the needs of the community, the district is bringing BP/AR 6158 - Independent Study, and BP 6157 - Distance Learning forward for Second Reading. It is the recommendation of the Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services that the Board of Trustees approve and adopt BP 6157 Distance Learning and BP/AR 6158 Independent Study as presented.

Public Comment:		
Presentation:		
Moved:		
Seconded:		
Board Discussion:		
Vote:		

ROLL CALL VOTE: Lopez ____, Robles-Solis ___, O'Leary ___, Cordes ___, Madrigal Lopez ____

Section G: CONCLUSION

G.1. Superintendent's Announcements (3 minutes)

A brief report will be presented concerning noteworthy activities of district staff, matters of general interest to the Board, and pertinent and timely state and federal legislation.

G.2. Trustees' Announcements (3 minutes each speaker)

The trustees' report is provided for the purpose of making announcements, providing conference and visitation summaries, coordinating meeting dates, identifying board representation on committees, and providing other information of general interest.

G.3. ADJOURNMENT

Moved: Seconded: Vote:

Time Adjourned

ROLL CALL VOTE: Lopez ____, Robles-Solis ___, O'Leary ___, Cordes ___, Madrigal Lopez ____

Karling Aguilera-Fort, Ed. D. District Superintendent and Secretary to the Board of Trustees

This notice is posted in conformance with the provisions of Chapter 9 of the Government Code, in the front of the Educational Services Center; 1051 South A Street, Oxnard, California by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, July 13, 2020.



OXNARD SCHOOL DISTRICT

1051 South "A" Street • Oxnard, California 93030 • 805/385-1501 • www.oxnardsd.org

Oxnard School District Encourages Remote, Online Public Participation For Oxnard School District's Board Meetings

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Oxnard School District is committed to public input and participation in school district governance in a manner that is consistent with shelter in place guidance provided by public health officials. The District highly encourages remote, online participation in order to promote the safety and health of our community.

The Oxnard School District has taken the following steps to utilize technology to facilitate public participation during our upcoming board meetings in order to comply with public health guidance during the COVID-19 pandemic:

- 1. **Watch the meeting live**. The Oxnard School District Board meeting will be live streamed on the District's website at <u>www.osdtv.oxnardsd.org</u> and will also be shown on the following cable TV channels: Charter Spectrum Cable- Channel 20 and Frontier communication Channel 37
- 2. Public comment in advance. We encourage members of the public to submit public comment in advance of the meeting. Public comment may be emailed to OSD_BoardMeetings@oxnardsd.org. In addition, please feel free to bring your written comment to the District Office between 9:00 and 12:00 p.m., you can also drop off your written comment at the District Office mail box located outside the front office, until 4:00 p.m. before the meeting. Please identify if the public comment is for a non-agenda or agendized item. If your public comment is for an agendized item, please identify clearly the agenda item number and title in your email. Any written testimony for public comment submitted via email before 11:00 am the day of the meeting will be provided to the Board members electronically or in written format. All public comments receive before the meeting will become part of the meeting archive.
- 3. **Public comment during the meeting.** Members of the public can join the Zoom Meeting from a computer via Zoom at <u>ZOOM.OXNARDSD.ORG</u>, mobile device, tablet or by phone. The Zoom meeting information will be provided in every board meeting agenda. You can find the meeting information on the following webpage page https://www.oxnardsd.org/Page/11118 as long as needed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In order to facilitate effective remote participation for all, please remember a few courtesies of conference calls if you opt to use Zoom for the purpose of providing public comment:

- Please do not put the call on hold.
- Please do not have the television/website transmission of the meeting playing while you are speaking as you provide public comment. You must minimize background noise.

We ask that you please be patient as we adjust to these changes and implement these new modalities for connection and public engagement. We are committed to making our meetings as accessible as practicable during unprecedented times, but if you need additional accommodations or support for remote participation in advance of the meeting, please contact Monica Noriega at <u>mnoriega@oxnardsd.org</u> or Argelia Tellez at <u>atellez@oxnardsd.org</u> or call 805-385-1501.



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El Distrito Escolar de Oxnard recomienda la participación pública a distancia en línea, para las Reuniones de la Junta Directiva de Educación

Durante la pandemia COVID-19, el Distrito Escolar de Oxnard tiene el compromiso de acoger el aporte y la participación del público en el gobierno del distrito escolar, de una manera consistente con la recomendación de las autoridades de salud pública de refugiarse en el lugar (permanecer en casa). El Distrito recomienda la participación a distancia en línea, con el fin de fomentar la seguridad y salud de nuestra comunidad.

Con el fin de cumplir con las indicaciones de las autoridades de salud pública durante la pandemia COVID-19, el Distrito Escolar de Oxnard ha adoptado medidas para facilitar la participación pública en nuestra próxima reunión de la Junta Directiva de Educación, a través de los siguientes medios tecnológicos:

- 1. **Vea la reunión en vivo**. La reunión de la Junta Directiva de Educación del Distrito Escolar de Oxnard será transmitida en el sitio web del Distrito en <u>www.osdtv.oxnardsd.org</u> y también será transmitida por los canales de televisión por cable: Charter Spectrum Cable Canal 20 y Frontier Communication Canal 37
- 2. Comentarios del público por adelantado. Recomendamos a los miembros de público enviar sus comentarios con anticipación, antes de la reunión. Los comentarios del público pueden ser enviados por correo electrónico a <u>OSD BoardMeetings@oxnardsd.org</u>. Además, puede traer sus comentarios por escrito a la oficina del distrito escolar entre las 9:00 AM y 12:00 PM. También, pueden depositar los comentarios por escrito en buzon localizado afuera de la oficina del distrito escolar hasta las cuatro de la tarde el día 1ro de abril. Por favor indique si el comentario público es sobre un tema que está en la agenda o que no está en la agenda. Si su comentario público es sobre un tema que está incluido en la agenda, por favor indique con claridad en su correo electrónico, el número y el título del tema. Toda declaración por escrito sobre comentarios públicos recibida vía correo electrónico antes de las 11:00 de la mañana del día en que tendrá lugar la reunión será entregada a la Junta Directiva por vía electrónica o por escrito. Todos los comentarios del público recibidos antes de la reunión formarán parte de los archivos de la reunión.
- 3. Comentarios del público durante la reunión. Los miembros del público también pueden participar en la reunión para proporcionar sus comentarios vía Zoom visitando las siguiente página: <u>ZOOM.OXNARDSD.ORG</u>. Usted puede unirse a la reunión a través de Zoom desde una computadora, dispositivo electrónico, tableta o teléfono. Durante la pandemia COVID-19, se proporcionará la información de Zoom en la agenda de cada reunión de la Junta Directiva. También, puede encontrar información de la junta visitando la siguiente página electrónica <u>https://www.oxnardsd.org/Page/11118</u> mientras sea necesario.

Con el fin de facilitar una participación a distancia efectiva para todos, por favor recuerde algunas de las reglas de cortesía de las conferencias telefónicas, si decide utilizar Zoom con el propósito de proporcionar su comentario público:

- Por favor no ponga la llamada en espera
- Por favor no mantenga encendida la transmisión de la reunión en la televisión/el sitio web mientras expresa su comentario público. Debe minimizar el ruido de fondo.

Les rogamos que tengan paciencia conforme nos ajustamos a estos cambios e implementamos estas nuevas formas de conexión y participación pública. Tenemos el compromiso de hacer que estas reuniones sean accesibles en la medida de lo posible, durante esta época sin precedentes. Sin embargo si usted necesita adaptaciones o apoyo adicionales para la participación a distancia, antes de la reunión, por favor contacte a Monica Noriega en moriega@oxnardsd.org o a Argelia Tellez en <u>atellez@oxnardsd.org</u> o llame al 805-385-1501.

OSD BOARD AGENDA ITEM

Name of Contributor: Karling Aguilera-Fort

Date of Meeting: July 14, 2020

Agenda Section: Section D: Action Items

Adoption of Instructional Model for Opening of School Year 2020-2021 (Aguilera-Fort/DeGenna)

The Board will receive a presentation on the recommendation for the instructional model for the opening of school year 2020-2021.

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent, Business & Fiscal Services, that the Board of Trustees approve the recommended instructional model for the opening of school year 2020-2021 as presented.

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS:

Attached:

OSD BOARD AGENDA ITEM

Name of Contributor: Dr. Anabolena DeGenna Date of Meeting: July 14, 2020

Agenda Section: Section F: Board Policies, Second Reading

Approve 2nd Reading - BP 6157 Distance Learning and BP/AR 6158 Independent Study (DeGenna)

As a result of COVID 19 and to meet the needs of the community, the district is presenting BP 6157 Distance Learning and BP/AR 6158 Independent Study for a Second Reading and adoption at today's meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the recommendation of the Assistant Superintendent Educational Services that the Board of Trustees approve and adopt BP 6157 Distance Learning and BP/AR 6158 Independent Study as presented.

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS:

Attached: New BP 6157 Distance Learning (3 pages) Revised BP 6158 Independent Study (4 pages) Revised AR 6158 Independent Study (10 pages) BP 6157(a)

Instruction

BP 6157 (a)

DISTANCE LEARNING

The Governing Board recognizes that distance learning can be a viable alternative instructional strategy that supports student achievement of academic goals. Distance learning opportunities may be offered to students participating in independent study, credit recovery courses, enrichment courses, or other courses identified by the Superintendent or designee, or in the event that a school site is physically closed due to widespread illness, natural disaster, or other emergency.

(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)
(cf. 3516.5 - Emergency Schedules)
(cf. 4113.5/4213.5/4313.5 - Working Remotely)
(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)

The district may offer distance learning through a variety of delivery methods as appropriate for the grade level and subject matter. Distance learning opportunities may include video, audio, and/or written instruction in which the primary mode of communication between the student and teacher is online interaction, instructional television, live or prerecorded video, telecourses, and other instruction that relies on computer or communications technology. They may also include the use of print materials with written or oral feedback.

The Superintendent or designee shall review and select distance learning courses, which may include those taught by district staff or others, that are of high academic quality and are aligned with district standards and curricula. As appropriate, courses may be self-directed to allow students to complete assignments at their own pace and/or may involve real-time interaction among the teacher and students.

(cf. 6141 - Curriculum Development and Evaluation) (cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

The Superintendent or designee shall, in collaboration with teachers, plan for schoolwide or longterm distance learning in the event of a school closure. In developing the plan, the Superintendent or designee shall analyze the course sequence, prioritize content and standards to be completed, and recommend the grading criteria. In such circumstances, students' social-emotional wellness shall be taken into account, and schedules and learning experiences shall be designed to build continuity, routine, and regular connections with students.

DISTANCE LEARNING (continued)

(cf. 5141.5 - Mental Health)

As needed, the Superintendent or designee shall provide teachers with training and ongoing support, including technological support and guidance, to effectively implement distance learning. The district shall also provide opportunities for teachers to communicate and collaborate with each other to exchange information on effective practices.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

Staff shall comply with all copyright regulations in developing materials to be used in distance education courses.

(cf. 6162.6 - Use of Copyrighted Materials)

The district shall take steps to ensure that distance learning opportunities are available to all students, including economically disadvantaged students, students with disabilities, and English learners. Teachers may use multiple methods of providing instruction to meet student needs. All online programming and Internet content shall meet accessibility standards for students with disabilities, including compatibility with commonly used assistive technologies.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities) (cf. 0415 - Equity) (cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program) (cf. 6174 - Education for English Learners)

The Superintendent or designee shall assess students' access to technological devices and the Internet and, consistent with the district's budget and technology plan, may loan devices to students to use at home and/or assist families in identifying free service providers. Students are expected to use district technology responsibly in accordance with the district's Acceptable Use Agreement. To the extent possible, the district shall make technical and academic support available to students.

(cf. 0440 - District Technology Plan)

(cf. 3311.4 - Procurement of Technological Equipment) (cf. 3515.4 - Recovery for Property Loss or Damage) (cf. 6163.4 - Student Use of Technology)

Teachers shall provide regular communications to students and parents/guardians about expectations, assignments, and available resources to assist the student in successful completion of distance learning coursework.

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

DISTANCE LEARNING (continued)

Grading of distance learning assignments and assessments of end-of-course knowledge and understanding of the subject matter shall be consistent with district policy on grading for equivalent courses.

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement) (cf. 6146.3 - Reciprocity of Academic Credit) (cf. 6146.11 - Alternative Credits Toward Graduation)

Legal Reference: <u>EDUCATION CODE</u> 35182.5 Contracts for electronic products or services; prohibitions 51210-51212 Course of study for grades 1-6 51220-51229 Course of study for grades 7-12 51740-51741 Authority to provide instruction by correspondence 51745-51749.3 Independent study 51865 California distance learning policy <u>PUBLIC CONTRACT CODE</u> 20118.2 Contracting by school districts; technological equipment <u>UNITED STATES CODE,</u> <u>TITLE 20</u> 7131 Internet safety <u>UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 47</u> 254 Universal service discounts (E-rate); Internet safety

Management Resources: <u>CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS</u> COVID-19 Guidance for K-12 Schools <u>WORLD WIDE WEB CONSORTIUM PUBLICATIONS</u> Web Content Accessibility Guidelines WEB SITES

California Department of Education: http://www.cde.ca.gov World Wide Web Consortium, Web Accessibility Initiative: http://www.w3.org/wai

Policy Adopted: July 14, 2020 OXNARD SCHOOL DISTRICT Oxnard, California

Independent Study

Instruction

BP 6158 (a)

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

(cf. 5147 – Dropout Prevention)
(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)
(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)
(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)
(cf. 6146.11 - Alternative Credits Toward Graduation)
(cf. 6172 - Gifted and Talented Student Program)
(cf. 6200 - Adult Education)

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

(cf. 6181 - Alternative Schools/Programs of Choice)

A student's participation in independent study shall be voluntary. Students participating in independent study shall have the right, at any time, to enter or return to the regular classroom mode of instruction. (Education Code 51747; 5 CCR 11700)

Parents/guardians of students who are interested in independent study shall contact the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee shall approve independent study for an individual student only upon determining that the student is prepared to meet the district's requirements for independent study and is likely to succeed in independent study as well as or better than he/she would in the regular classroom setting.

The minimum period of time for any independent study option shall be five consecutive school days.

Written Agreements

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that a written master agreement and, as appropriate,

Instruction

a learning agreement for students participating in course-based independent study exist for each participating student as prescribed by law. (Education Code 51747, 51749.5)

The master agreement shall specify the length of time in which each independent study assignment must be completed. Because excessive leniency in the duration of independent study assignments may result in a student falling behind his/her peers and increase the risk of dropping out of school, independent study assignments shall be no more than one week for all grade levels and types of program. However, when necessary based on the specific circumstances of the student's approved program, the Superintendent or designee may allow for a longer period of time between the date an assignment is made and when it is due, up to the termination date of the agreement.

An evaluation shall be conducted to determine whether it is in a student's best interest to remain in independent study whenever the student misses three assignments, unless the student's written agreement specifies a lower or higher number of missed assignments based on the nature of the assignments, the total number of assignments, and/or other unique circumstances.

Student-Teacher Conferences

Supervising teachers should establish an appropriate schedule for student-teacher conferences in order to help identify students falling behind in their work or in danger of failing or dropping out of school. Teachers are expected to monitor student progress and work closely with each student to determine the amount and type of contact needed for the student to be successful in the program.

Missing appointments with the supervising teacher without valid reasons may trigger an evaluation to determine whether the student should remain in independent study.

Home-Based Independent Study

The Superintendent or designee shall encourage parents/guardians desiring to teach their children at home to have their children participate in independent study. Such participation allows continued contact and cooperation between the school system and the home-based student and ensures that the student will be offered a standards-based education substantially equivalent in quality and quantity to the district's classroom instruction.

Program Evaluation

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

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(cf. 0500 - Accountability)

and Superintendent shall determine areas for program improvement as needed.

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

(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment) (cf. 6162.51 - State Academic Achievement Tests) (cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination) Legal Reference: EDUCATION CODE 17289 Exemption for facilities 41976.2 Independent study programs; adult education funding 42238 Revenue limits 42238.05 Local control funding formula; average daily attendance 44865 Qualifications for home teachers and teachers in special classes and schools 46200-46208 Instructional day and year 46300-46307.1 Methods of computing average daily attendance 47612.5 Independent study in char 49011 Student fees 51225.3 Requirements for high school graduation 51745-51749.6 Independent study programs 52522 Adult education alternative instructional delivery 52523 Adult education as supplement to high school curriculum; criteria 56026 Individuals with exceptional needs 58500-58512 Alternative schools and programs of choice FAMILY CODE 6550 Authorization affidavits CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5 11700-11703 Independent study 19819 State audit compliance **UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20** 6301 Highly qualified teachers COURT DECISIONS Modesto City Schools v. Education Audits Appeal Panel, (2004) 123 Cal.App.4th 1365 EDUCATION AUDIT APPEALS PANEL DECISIONS Lucerne Valley Unified School District, Case No. 03-02 (2005) Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS Elements of Exemplary Independent Study WEB SITES California Consortium for Independent Study: http://www.ccis.org California De Policy Revised: July 14, 2020 Oxnard School District Oxnard, California

Independent Study Instruction

Educational Opportunities

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

1. Special assignments extending the content of regular courses of instruction

(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

2. Individualized study in a particular area of interest or in a subject not currently available in the regular school curriculum

3. Individualized alternative education designed to teach the knowledge and skills of the core curriculum, but not provided as an alternative curriculum

4. Continuing and special study during travel

(cf. 5112.3 - Student Leave of Absence)

5. Volunteer community service activities that support and strengthen student achievement

(cf. 0420.4 - Charter Schools) (cf. 6142.4 - Service Learning/Community Service Classes) (cf. 6181 - Alternative Schools/Programs of Choice)

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

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

Equivalency

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

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

The district shall not provide independent study students and their parents/guardians with funds or items of value that are not provided for other students and their parents / guardians.

(Education Code 46300.6, 51747.3)

Eligibility for Independent Study

Provided that experienced certificated staff is available to effectively supervise students in independent study, the Superintendent or designee may approve the participation of a student who demonstrates the motivation, commitment, organizational skills, and academic skills necessary to work independently. A student whose academic performance is not at grade level may participate in independent study only if the school is able to provide appropriate support, such as supplemental instruction, tutoring, counseling, ongoing diagnostic assessments, and/or differentiated materials, to enable the student to be successful. For an elementary student, the Superintendent or designee may consider the parent/guardian's level of commitment to assist the student.

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

(cf. 5111.12 - Residency Based on Parent/Guardian Employment)

For a student with disabilities, as defined in Education Code 56026, participation in independent study shall be approved only if his/her individualized education program specifically provides for such participation. (Education Code 51745)

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

A temporarily disabled student shall not receive individual instruction pursuant to Education Code 48206.3 by means of independent study. (Education Code 51745) *Such students may be eligible to enroll in other district programs home / hospital services*.

(cf. 6183 - Home and Hospital Instruction) (cf. 6200 - Adult Education)

No more than 10 percent of the students enrolled in a continuation high school or opportunity school or program, not including pregnant and parenting students who are primary caregivers for one or more of their children, shall be enrolled in *eligible for apportionment credit for* independent study. (Education Code 51745)

(cf. 5146 - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students) (cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)

Master-Written Agreements

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

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

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

1. The manner, time, frequency, and place for submitting the student's assignments and for reporting his/her progress

2. The objectives and methods of study for the student's work and the methods used to evaluate that work

3. The specific resources, including materials and personnel that will be made available to the student

4. A statement of the Board's policy detailing the maximum length of time allowed between an assignment and its completion and the number of missed assignments , by grade level and type of program, which will trigger an evaluation of whether the student should be allowed to continue in independent study

5. The duration of the independent study agreement, including the beginning and ending dates for the student's participation in independent study under the agreement, with a maximum of one school *academic* year.

6. A statement of the number of course credits or, for an elementary student, other measures of academic accomplishment appropriate to the agreement, to be earned by the student upon completion

7. A statement that independent study is an optional educational alternative in which no student may be required to participate

8. In the case of a suspended or expelled student who is referred or assigned to any school, class, or program pursuant to Education Code 48915 or 48917, a statement that instruction may be provided through independent study only if the student is offered the alternative of classroom instruction

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

9. Signatures of the student, the parent/guardian or caregiver of the student if the student is

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under age 18 years, the certificated employee responsible for the general supervision of independent study, and all persons who have direct responsibility for providing assistance to the student

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

The signed, dated agreement may be maintained on file electronically. (Education Code 51747)

Course-Based Independent Study

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

1. Courses shall be taught under the general supervision of certificated employees who hold the appropriate subject matter credential and are employed by the district or by another district, charter school, or county office of education with which the district has a memorandum of understanding to provide the instruction.

(cf. 4112.2 - Certification) (cf. 4112.24 - Teacher Qualifications Under the No Child Left Behind Act)

2. Courses shall be annually certified by Board resolution to be of the same rigor and educational quality as equivalent classroom-based courses and shall be aligned to all relevant local and state content standards. This certification shall, at a minimum, include the duration, number of equivalent daily instructional minutes for each school day that student is enrolled, number of equivalent total instructional minutes, and number of course credits for each course, consistent with that of equivalent classroom-based courses.

3. Students enrolled in these courses shall meet the applicable age requirements established pursuant to Education Code 46300.1 and 46300.4 and the applicable residency and enrollment requirements established pursuant to Education Code 46300.2, 48204, and 51747.3.

4. Teachers shall communicate with each student in person, by telephone, or by any other live visual or audio connection at least *once* twice per *week* ealendar month to assess whether the student is making satisfactory educational progress. For this purpose, satisfactory educational progress includes, but is not limited to, applicable statewide accountability measures and the completion of assignments, examinations, or other indicators that the student is working on assignments, learning required concepts, and progressing toward successful completion of the course, as determined by the teacher providing instruction.

Written or computer-based evidence of satisfactory educational progress shall be retained for each course and student, including, at a minimum, a grade book or summary document that lists all assignments, examinations, and associated grades for each course.

If satisfactory educational progress is not being made, the teacher shall notify the student and, if the student is under age 18 years, his/her parent/guardian. The teacher shall conduct an evaluation to determine whether it is in the student's best interest to remain in the course or whether he/she should be referred to an alternative program, which may include, but is not limited to, a regular school program. A written record of the evaluation findings shall be a mandatory interim student record maintained for three years from the date of the evaluation. If the student transfers to another California public school, the record shall be forwarded to that school.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

5. *State-wide* examinations shall be administered by a proctor.

6. Statewide testing results shall be reported and assigned to the school at which the student is enrolled and shall be included in the aggregate results of the district. Test results also shall be disaggregated for purposes of comparisons with the test results of students enrolled in classroom-based courses.

(cf. 6162.51 - State Academic Achievement Tests)

7. A student shall not be required to enroll in courses included in this program.

8. The student-teacher ratio in the courses in this program shall meet the requirements of Education Code 51745.6.

9. For each student, the combined equivalent daily instructional minutes for courses in this program and all other courses shall meet applicable minimum instructional day requirements, and the student shall be offered the minimum annual total equivalent instructional minutes pursuant to Education Code 46200-46208.

(cf. 6111 - School Calendar) (cf. 6112 - School Day)

10. Courses required for high school graduation or for admission to the University of California or California State University shall not be offered exclusively through independent study.

11. A student participating in this program shall not be assessed a fee that is prohibited by Education Code 49011.

12. A student shall not be prohibited from participating in independent study solely on the basis that he/she does not have the materials, equipment, or Internet access necessary to

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participate in the course.

(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)

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

1. A summary of the district's policies and procedures related to this program

2. The duration of the enrolled course(s) and the number of course credits for each enrolled course, consistent with the Board certifications made pursuant to item #2 above

3. The duration of the learning agreement, which shall not exceed a school year or span multiple school years

4. The learning objectives and expectations for each course, including, but not limited to, a description of how satisfactory educational progress is measured and when a student evaluation is required to determine whether the student should remain in the course or be referred to an alternative program, which may include, but is not limited to, a regular school program

5. The specific resources, including materials and personnel that will be made available to the student

6. A statement that the student is not required to enroll in courses in this program

7. Signatures of the student, the student's parent/guardian if the student is under age 18 years, and all teachers providing instruction

The student's or parent/guardian's signature shall constitute permission for the student to receive instruction through independent study. (Education Code 51749.6)

The Superintendent or designee shall retain a physical or electronic copy of the signed learning agreement for at least three years and as appropriate for auditing purposes. (Education Code 51749.6)

Monitoring Student Progress

Independent study students who are late, miss scheduled conferences, or do not submit assigned work on time shall not be reported as tardy or truant.

However, the independent study administrator and/or supervising teacher shall promptly and

directly address any failure by the student to meet the terms of his/her written agreement. The following supportive strategies may be used:

- 1. A letter to the student and/or parent/guardian
- 2. A meeting between the student and the teacher and/or counselor

3. A meeting between the student and the independent study administrator, including the parent/guardian if appropriate

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

When the student has missed the number of assignments specified in the written agreement as precipitating an evaluation, the Superintendent or designee shall conduct an evaluation to determine whether or not independent study is appropriate for the student. This evaluation may result in termination of the independent study agreement and the student's return to a regular school program or other alternative program.

A written record of the findings of any such evaluation shall be treated as a mandatory interim student record which shall be maintained for three years from the date of the evaluation. (Education Code 51747)

Independent study students who are late, miss scheduled conferences, or do not submit assigned work on time shall not be reported as tardy or truant.

Responsibilities of Independent Study Administrator

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

1. Ensure that the district's independent study option is operated in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation and is substantially equal in quality and quantity to the classroom instruction

2. Obtain and maintain current information and skills required for the operation of an independent study program that meets established standards for the district's educational programs

3. Develop and manage the budget for independent study

4. Recommending *Authorize the selection of* certificated staff to be assigned as independent study teachers and supervising staff assigned to independent study functions whoare not regularly supervised by another administrator

5. Supervise any staff assigned to independent study functions that are not regularly supervised by another administrator

6. Approving or denying *Approve or deny* the participation of students requesting independent study

7. Facilitate the completion of written independent study agreements

8. Assure *Ensure* a smooth transition for students into and out of the independent study mode of instruction

9. Approving Approve all credits earned through independent study and forward the information to the appropriate staff so that the information becomes part of the student's record

10. Completing or coordinating *Complete or coordinate* the preparation of all records and reports required by law, Board policy, or administrative regulation

Assignment and Responsibilities of Independent Study Teachers

Each student's independent study shall be coordinated, evaluated, and carried out under the general supervision of a certificated employee who consents to the assignment. (Education Code 44865, 51747.5; 5 CCR 11700)

(cf. 4112.2 - Certification)

The principal and independent study administrator may recommend and the Superintendent shall approve the assignment of teachers to directly supervise independent study and/or work with students on specific subject matter. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that independent study teachers have access to professional development and support comparable to classroom-based teachers.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

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

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

1. Complete designated portions of the written independent study agreement *and add*

additional information to the written agreement when appropriate

2. Supervising and approving Supervise and approve coursework and assignments

3. Design lesson plans and make assignments

4. Maintaining records of student assignments showing the date the assignment is given and the date the assignment is due

5. **Providing** *Provide* direct instruction and counsel as necessary for individual student success

6. Regularly meet with the student to discuss the student's progress

7. Determining *Judge* the time value of assigned work or work products completed and submitted by the student

8. Assessing student work *and determine* and assigning grades or other approved measures of achievement

9. Select and save representative samples of the student's completed and evaluated assignments for each subject, signed or initialed and dated in accordance with item #3 in the section on "Records" below. One sample per course listed on the master agreement. Sample must not be an exam.

10. Maintaining a daily or hourly attendance register in accordance with item #4 in the section on "Records" below

11. Maintain any other required records and files on a current basis

Records

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that records are maintained for audit purposes. These records shall include, but not be limited to: (Education Code 51748; 5 CCR 11703)

1. A copy of the Board policy, administrative regulation, and other procedures related to independent study.

2. A *separate* listing of the students, by grade level, program, and school, who have participated in independent study. This listing shall identify *along with the* units of the curriculum attempted and *units of the curriculum* completed by students in grades K-8 and the course credits attempted by and awarded to students in grades 9-12 and adult education, *as specified in their written agreements*.

3. A file of all agreements, with representative samples of each student's work products bearing the supervising teacher's *signed or initialed and dated* notations indicating that he/she has personally evaluated the work or that he/she has personally reviewed the evaluations made by another certificated teacher.

4. *A daily or hourly attendance register*, as appropriate to the program in which the students are participating, a daily or hourly attendance register separate from classroom attendance records, *and* maintained on a current basis as time values of student work products judged by a certificated teacher, and reviewed by the supervising teacher if they are two different persons.

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

The above records shall be maintained for three years, excluding the current fiscal year.

The Superintendent or designee also shall maintain a record of grades and other evaluations issued to each student for independent study assignments.

Each school shall maintain records for the students at that school.

A written record of the findings of any evaluation conducted after the student has missed the number of assignments specified in Board policy shall be treated as a mandatory interim student record which shall be maintained for three years from the date of the evaluation. (Education Code 51747)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

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