

Students

HEALTH EXAMINATIONS

The Governing Board recognizes the importance of periodic health examinations conducted according to state health regulations.

To determine the health status of students, facilitate the removal of handicaps to learning, and determine whether special adaptations of the school program may be necessary, the Board shall require that periodic examinations be conducted which include tests for vision, hearing and scoliosis.

All personnel employed to examine students shall exercise proper care of each student being examined and shall ensure that the examination results are kept confidential.

A parent/guardian may annually file a statement with the principal withholding consent to any physical examination of his/her child. The statement may specify that examination is contrary to their religious beliefs. The child shall be exempt, but shall be subject to exclusion due to a suspected contagious or infectious disease. The principal of each school shall notify parents/guardians of the rights of students and parents/guardians relating to health examinations.

The Board may require reports regarding the numbers of students found to have physical problems and the effort made to correct them.

Vision

Students shall have their vision tested by qualified personnel authorized by the district.

Students shall have their vision examined upon first enrollment in elementary school. Further examinations shall take place every three years until the student has completed 8th grade. The results of the vision appraisal shall be entered into the student's health record. All students shall be tested for visual acuity. Color vision shall be tested once and only in male students. External observations of the student's eyes, visual performance and perception shall be done by the school nurse and the classroom teacher.

The above evaluation of a student's vision may be waived at the parent/guardian's request if the parent/guardian presents a certificate from either a medical doctor or an optometrist stating the results of an examination of the student's vision including visual acuity, and, in male children, color vision.

Visual defects, or any other defects, found as a result of the vision examination shall be reported to the parent/guardian with a request that remedial action be taken to correct or cure the defect. The written report shall not include a referral to any private practitioner.

The student may be referred to a public clinic, or diagnostic and treatment center operated by a public hospital or by the state, county or city department of public health.

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Hearing

Students shall have their hearing tested by qualified personnel authorized by the District.

Students shall have their hearing examined upon first enrollment in elementary school. Further examinations shall take place in second, fifth and eighth grade. The results of the hearing appraisal shall be entered into the student's health record. Pure tone audiometers used for screening shall meet or exceed the specification of the Internal Standards Organization. Testing personnel shall maintain continuous surveillance of the instruments and shall have all audiometers serviced and calibrated at least once a year.

The above evaluation of a student's hearing may be waived at the parent/guardians request if the parent/guardian presents a certificate from a medical doctor stating the results of the student's hearing examination.

Hearing defects, or any other defects found as a result of the hearing examination shall be reported to the parent/guardian with a request that remedial action be taken to correct or cure the defect. The written report shall not include a referral to any private practitioner.

The student may be referred to a public clinic or diagnostic and treatment center operated by a public hospital or by the state, county or city department of public health.

The Board shall provide for the screening of students for the condition known as scoliosis. Every female student in the 7th grade and every male student in the 8th grade shall be screened.

The screening shall follow the standards established by the State Department of Education and shall be performed by qualified personnel as specified by law.

Persons performing the screening shall not solicit, encourage or advise treatment of the student for scoliosis. The same shall apply to any other condition discovered in the course of the screening for scoliosis.

The parent/guardian of any student suspected of having scoliosis shall be notified. The notice shall include an explanation of scoliosis, the significance of treatment at an early age, and the public services available for treatment. A referral to the appropriate community resources for diagnosis and treatment shall be made.

Tuberculosis Examinations

If the local health officer determines that any child seeking first admission is reasonably suspected of having tuberculosis, and the health officer issues an order for the examination of such child, the child

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shall not be granted unconditional admission unless a certificate is produced showing that he/she is free of communicable tuberculosis. Failure of the child to produce a certificate of freedom from communicable tuberculosis within time limits set by the State Department of Health Services shall result in exclusion from the schools of the district until the certificate is obtained and presented. If the Board believes that a child is currently afflicted with active tuberculosis, the child shall be excluded from the schools until the Board is satisfied that the child is not so afflicted.

A child may be exempt from the tuberculosis examination if it is contrary to his/her beliefs. The child's parent/guardian or custodian must provide the school with an affidavit stating that the required examination is contrary to the child's beliefs.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48211-48214 Persons excluded

49400-49410 General powers-school boards (re pupil health)

49450-49457 Physical examinations (pupils) Health and Safety Code

3380-3389 Immunization against communicable diseases

3400-3409 Tuberculosis tests for pupils

6000-6075 School attendance immunization requirements

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

590-596 Vision screening

CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 17

2951 Maintenance of audiometers

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Westminster, California

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