

# Gateway Unified School District

4411 Mountain Lakes Blvd., Redding, CA 96003

.....

BUCKEYE SCHOOL  
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS  
(TK-8)

CENTRAL VALLEY  
HIGH SCHOOL  
(9-12)

GATEWAY  
EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS  
INDEPENDENT STUDY  
(TK-12)

GRAND OAKS  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
(TK-5)

MOUNTAIN LAKES  
HIGH SCHOOL  
(10-12)

SHASTA LAKE  
SCHOOL  
(TK-8)

.....

CHARTER SCHOOL

ROCKY POINT  
CHARTER SCHOOL  
(TK-8)

.....

## 2025-2026 ANNUAL NOTICE TO PARENTS DISTRICT HANDBOOK FOR PARENTS, GUARDIANS AND STUDENTS

Dear Families of Gateway Unified School District,

Welcome to the new school year on behalf of the Board of Trustees and the entire Gateway staff. This handbook contains essential information for Parents, Legal Guardians, and Students for the 2025-2026 academic year. It includes details about District programs, policies, and contact information to assist you throughout the year. For this handbook, "parent" encompasses parents and legal guardians. [BP 5020]

In addition to providing vital information, this handbook offers a concise overview of relevant laws such as the Education Code (EC), United States Code (USC), Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), the Health and Safety Code (HSC), and Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC). It also references Board Policies (BP) and Administrative Regulations (AR) for your reference. For easy access, all Board Policies can be found online at:

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/index.aspx?S=36030247>

To further support your engagement with the Gateway Unified School District, a one-page sheet is included to help you explore how to stay connected to our District with essential updates and information. Please reach out to us if there is anything we can help with. We look forward to a successful and rewarding school year ahead.

Sincerely,

Kyle Turner  
Superintendent



[www.gatewayusd.org](http://www.gatewayusd.org)

# GUSD COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

## G STAY CONNECTED!

---

- **PARENT SQUARE**



Parent Square delivers all school information to families through a simple application. We highly recommend you download this to stay up to the minute. Download or visit [www.parentsquare.com/signin](http://www.parentsquare.com/signin)

---

- **AERIES**



AERIES allows you to stay current with your student's academic progress to help ensure success. This is incredibly important for parents to stay involved with academics and attendance throughout the school year. Download Aeries Mobile App and find AERIES at <http://gateway.asp.aeries.net>

---

- **THE WEB (NEW WEBSITE)**



We encourage you to review our new website at [www.gatewayusd.org](http://www.gatewayusd.org) to explore all of our schools and find everything you need to navigate between them. You can also find our monthly publication, "The Groove," here, along with past issues.

---

- **FACEBOOK**



Facebook celebrates GUSD achievements and will provide essential dates and information about upcoming events. Give as a follow @GUSD Gateway Unified School District.

---

- **INSTAGRAM**



Instagram is another form of social media that posts announcements, events, and celebrations related to the GUSD. Follow us @officialgusd.



# GATEWAY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## 2025-2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR

| JULY 2025 |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|
| M         | T  | W  | TH | F  |
|           | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 7         | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 14        | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 21        | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 28        | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |

| AUGUST 2025 |    |    |    |    |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|
| M           | T  | W  | TH | F  |
|             |    |    |    | 1  |
| 4           | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 11          | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 18*         | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 25*         | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

| SEPTEMBER 2025 |    |    |    |    |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|
| M              | T  | W  | TH | F  |
| 1              | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 8*             | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 15*            | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 22*            | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 29*            | 30 |    |    |    |

| OCTOBER 2025 |     |     |     |     |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| M            | T   | W   | TH  | F   |
|              |     | 1   | 2   | 3   |
| 6*           | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  |
| 13*          | 14* | 15* | 16* | 17* |
| 20*          | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  |
| 27*          | 28  | 29  | 30  | 31  |

| NOVEMBER 2025 |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|
| M             | T  | W  | TH | F  |
|               |    |    |    |    |
| 3*            | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 10            | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 17*           | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 24            | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |

| DECEMBER 2025 |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|
| M             | T  | W  | TH | F  |
| 1*            | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 8*            | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 15*           | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 22            | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 29            | 30 | 31 |    |    |

| JANUARY 2026 |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|
| M            | T  | W  | TH | F  |
|              |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 5            | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 12*          | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 19           | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 26*          | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

| FEBRUARY 2026 |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|
| M             | T  | W  | TH | F  |
| 2*            | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 9*            | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 16            | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 23*           | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
|               |    |    |    |    |

| MARCH 2026 |    |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|----|
| M          | T  | W  | TH | F  |
| 2*         | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 9*         | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 16*        | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 23*        | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 30*        | 31 |    |    |    |

| APRIL 2026 |    |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|----|
| M          | T  | W  | TH | F  |
|            |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 6          | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 13*        | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 20*        | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 27*        | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |

| MAY 2026 |    |    |    |    |
|----------|----|----|----|----|
| M        | T  | W  | TH | F  |
|          |    |    |    | 1  |
| 4*       | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 11*      | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 18*      | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 25       | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

| JUNE 2026 |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|
| M         | T  | W  | TH | F  |
| 1*        | 2  | 3  | 4* | 5  |
| 8         | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 15        | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 22        | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 29        | 30 |    |    |    |

### DATES TO REMEMBER

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Aug. 8 & 11      | Professional Development Day or Work Day  |
| Aug. 12          | First Day of School (No Minimum Day)      |
| Oct. 13 - 17     | Parent/Teacher Conferences (Minimum Day*) |
| Oct. 31          | Professional Development Day              |
| Nov. 10          | No School                                 |
| Nov. 24 - 28     | Thanksgiving Recess (No School)           |
| Dec. 22 - Jan. 2 | Winter Recess (No School)                 |
| Jan. 5           | Professional Development Day              |
| Feb. 16 - 20     | President's Week Recess (No School)       |
| April 6 - 10     | Spring Recess (No School)                 |
| June 4           | Last day of School (Minimum Day*)         |
| June 5           | Makeup Day (Minimum Day*)                 |

### HOLIDAYS

|              |                                       |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| July 4       | Independence Day                      |
| Sept. 1      | Labor Day                             |
| Nov. 11      | Veterans Day                          |
| Nov. 26      | Admissions Day                        |
| Nov. 27 - 28 | Thanksgiving (11/28)                  |
| Dec. 24      | Christmas Eve                         |
| Dec. 25      | Christmas Day                         |
| Dec. 26      | Negotiated Holiday                    |
| Jan. 1       | New Year's Day                        |
| Jan. 19      | Martin Luther King Jr. Day            |
| Feb. 16      | Washington's Birthday (2/22) Observed |
| Feb. 17      | Lincoln's Birthday (2/12) Observed    |
| April 3      | Easter (4/5) Observed                 |
| May 25       | Memorial Day                          |
| June 19      | Juneteenth                            |

\* 37 Minimum Days: PLC Mondays, Parent Conferences, & Last Day of School

### SESSIONS: MLHS

|                                    |
|------------------------------------|
| Session 1 Ends: September 19, 2025 |
| Session 2 Ends: October 30, 2025   |
| Session 3 Ends: December 19, 2025  |
| Session 4 Ends: February 13, 2026  |
| Session 5 Ends: April 2, 2026      |
| Session 6 Ends: June 4, 2026       |

### SEMESTERS: CVHS

|                                     |
|-------------------------------------|
| First Semester                      |
| 1st Quarter Ends: October 17, 2025  |
| 2nd Quarter Ends: December 19, 2025 |
| Second Semester                     |
| 3rd Quarter Ends: March 13, 2026    |
| 4th Quarter Ends: June 4, 2026      |

### TRIMESTERS: BSA, GOES, SLS

|                                       |
|---------------------------------------|
| 1st Trimester Ends: November 7, 2025  |
| 2nd Trimester Ends: February 27, 2026 |
| 3rd Trimester Ends: June 4, 2026      |

180 Instructional Days  
Board Approved: 02/12/2025

## ANNUAL NOTICE TO PARENTS 2025-2026

DEAR PARENT/GUARDIAN:

Section 48980 of the Education Code of California requires that notice be given at the beginning of the first semester or quarter of the regular school term to the parent or guardian of the minor pupils in the school district regarding the rights of the parent or guardian under sections 35291, 46014, 46015, 48205, 48207, 48208, 49403, 49423, 49451, 49472, 51938, Chapter 2.3 (commencing with section 32255) of Part 19, and notice of the availability of the program prescribed by Article 9 (commencing with section 49510) of Chapter 9 and of the availability of individualized instruction under section 48206.3. Section 48982 requires that this Notice be signed and returned by the parent or guardian to the school. Signature and return of the attached form is acknowledgement by the parent or guardian that he or she has been informed of his or her rights but does not indicate that consent to participate in any particular program has either been given or withheld. Pursuant to parent request, the annual notification may be provided to the parent or guardian in electronic format by providing access to the notice electronically. If the notice is provided in electronic format, the parent or guardian must submit to the school a signed acknowledgment of receipt of this notice.

Some legislation requires additional notification to the parents or guardians during the school term or at least 15 days prior to a specific activity. (A separate letter will be sent to parents or guardians prior to any of these specified activities or classes, and the student will be excused whenever the parents or guardians file with the principal of the school a statement in writing requesting that their child not participate.) Other legislation grants certain rights that are spelled out in this form.

Accordingly, you are hereby notified as follows (when used in this notification "parent" includes a parent or legal guardian):

### **STUDENT DISCIPLINE**

**RULES AND PROCEDURES ON SCHOOL DISCIPLINE (EC §35291):** Rules pertaining to student discipline, including those that govern suspension or expulsion, are set forth in Education Code Sections 48900 and following, and are available upon request from the school. In addition, the following disciplinary information is provided to parents:

**DUTY CONCERNING CONDUCT OF PUPILS (EC §44807):** Every teacher shall hold pupils accountable for their conduct on the way to and from school, and on the playground.

**DUTIES OF PUPILS (5 CCR §300):** Pupils must conform to school regulations, obey all directions, be diligent in study, be respectful of teachers/others in authority, and refrain from profane/vulgar language.

**HAZING PROHIBITION (EC §48900(q)):** Pupils and other persons in attendance are prohibited from engaging or attempting to engage in hazing.

**DRESS CODE/GANG APPAREL (EC §35183):** The district is authorized to adopt a reasonable dress code.

**ATTENDANCE OF SUSPENDED PUPIL'S PARENT (EC §48900.1; LC §230.7):** If a teacher suspends a student, the teacher may require the child's parent to attend a portion of the school day in his or her child's class. Employers may not discriminate against parents who are required to comply with this requirement.

**SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT CARD (EC §35256, 35258):** Districts are to make a concerted effort to notify parents of the purpose of school accountability report cards, and ensure that all parents have access to a copy.

**SAFE PLACE TO LEARN ACT (EC §234.1):** The district is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from bullying, as defined in EC §48900(r). Any student who engages in bullying of anyone in or from the district may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. The district's policies and process for filing a complaint should be publicized to pupils, parents, employees and agents of the governing board. The notice shall be in English and in the primary language of the recipient. For a copy of the district's anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, anti-intimidation, and anti-bullying policies or to report incidences of bullying please contact the district office. These policies shall be posted in schools and offices.

### **SCHOOL RECORDS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

**PUPIL RECORDS/NOTICE OF PRIVACY RIGHTS OF PARENTS AND STUDENTS (EC §49063 et seq., §49069.7, §49073, 34 CFR 99.30, 34 CFR 99.34, and the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act):** Federal and state laws concerning student records grant certain rights of privacy and right of access to students and to their parents. Full access to all personally identifiable written records maintained by the school district must be granted to: (1) Parents of students 17 and younger; (2)

Parents of students age 18 and older if the student is a dependent for tax purposes and the records are needed for a legitimate educational purpose; (3) Students age 18 and older, or students who are enrolled in an institution of postsecondary instruction (called "eligible students"); (4) Pupils age 14 and over who are identified as both homeless and an unaccompanied youth; (5) Individuals who have completed and signed a Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit.

Parents, or an eligible student, may review individual records by making a request to the principal. Districts must respond to a pupil record request by providing access no later than five business days following the date of the request. The principal will see that explanations and interpretations are provided if requested. Information that is alleged to be inaccurate or inappropriate may be removed upon request. In addition, parents or eligible students may receive a copy of any information in the records at reasonable cost per page. District policies and procedures relating to: location of, and types of records; kinds of information retained; availability of certificated personnel to interpret records if requested; persons responsible for records; directory information; access by other persons; review and challenge of records are available through the principal at each school. When a student moves to a new district, records will be forwarded upon the request of the new school district within ten school days. At the time of transfer, the parent or eligible student may review, receive a copy (at a reasonable fee), and/or challenge the records.

If you believe the district is not in compliance with federal regulations regarding privacy, you may file a complaint with the United States Department of Education (20 USC §1232g).

You have the right to inspect all instructional materials which will be used in connection with any survey, analysis, or evaluation as part of any applicable program.

**RELEASE OF PUPIL DIRECTORY INFORMATION (EC §49073, 34 CFR 99.37):** The district also makes student directory information available in accordance with state and federal laws. This means that each student's name, birth date, address, telephone number, email address, major course of study, participation in officially recognized school activities, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and most recent previous public or private school attendance may be released in accordance with board policy. In addition, height and weight of athletes may be made available. Appropriate directory information may be provided to any agency or person except private, profit-making organizations (other than employers, potential

employers or the news media). Directory information does not include citizenship status, immigration status, place of birth, or any other information indicating national origin (except where the district receives consent as required under state law). Names and addresses of seniors or terminating students may be given to public or private schools and colleges. Parents and eligible students will be notified prior to the destruction of any special education records. You have the right to inspect a survey or other instrument to be administered or distributed to your child that either collects personal information for marketing or sale or requests information about beliefs and practices and any instructional material to be used as part of your child's educational curriculum. Please contact your child's school if you wish to inspect such a survey or other instrument.

*Upon written request from the parent of a student age 17 or younger, the district will withhold directory information about the student. If the student is 18 or older or enrolled in an institution of postsecondary instruction and makes a written request, the student's request to deny access to directory information will be honored. Requests must be submitted within 30 calendar days of the receipt of this notification. Additionally, directory information related to homeless or unaccompanied youths will not be released without the express written consent for its release by the eligible pupil or guardian.*

**RELEASE OF INFO TO MILITARY SERVICES REPS / RELEASE OF TELEPHONE NUMBERS (EC §49073.5; 20 USC §7908):** Parents of secondary students may request in writing that the student's name, address, and telephone listing not be released to armed forces recruiters without prior written parental consent.

**EARLY READING RISK SCREENER (Grades K–2)**  
In accordance with **California Education Code §53008** (Senate Bill 114), all students in kindergarten through 2nd grade are screened each school year to identify risk of reading difficulties. This early screening supports timely, targeted literacy interventions and informs classroom instruction. Families will be notified of screening results within 45 calendar days, along with recommended next steps if their child is identified as needing additional support. Screening results are used to guide instruction and interventions, not for high-stakes decisions like grade retention or special education placement.

**PARTICIPATION IN STATE ASSESSMENTS AND OPTION TO REQUEST EXEMPTION (EC § 60615, 5 CCR § 852):**

Pupils in applicable grade levels will participate in the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) except as exempted by law. Each year, a parent may submit a written request to excuse his or her child from any or all parts of the CAASPP assessments for that school year. If the parent submits the exemption request after testing begins, any test(s) completed before the request is submitted will be scored; the results will be included in the pupil's records and reported to the parent. School district employees will not solicit or encourage any exemption request on behalf of a pupil or group of pupils.

**HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM: NOTIFICATION REGARDING COLLEGE PREPARATORY COURSES (EC §51229):** Districts are required to provide parents of each minor pupil enrolled in grades 9 to 12 written notice of college admission requirements and career technical education courses.

**DUAL ENROLLMENT (EC §48980.6):**

Dual enrollment is a partnership with Shasta College designed to help students obtain a head start on college, advanced vocational preparation, and personal enrichment opportunities. It differs slightly from Concurrent Enrollment in that high school students participating in the Dual Enrollment program will be earning both college and high school credits while taking pre-approved classes on the high school campus. Please talk to your high school counselor to see which Dual Enrollment courses are offered on your campus.

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMINATION FEES (EC §48980(j), EC §52242):** State funds are available to cover the costs of advanced placement examination fees.

**RELEASE OF STUDENT RECORDS/COMPLIANCE WITH SUBPOENA OR COURT ORDER (EC §§49076 and 49077):** Districts are required to make a reasonable effort to notify parents in advance of disclosing student information pursuant to a subpoena or court order.

**RELEASE OF STUDENT RECORDS TO SCHOOL OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE DISTRICT (EC §§49076(a)(1) and 49064(d)):** Districts may release educational records, without obtaining prior written parental consent, to any school official or employee, which would include accountants, consultants, contractors, or other service providers, who have a legitimate educational interest in the educational record.

**HEALTH SERVICES**

**SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS (EC § 49392):** A local educational agency serving pupils in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, shall, based upon model content from the California Department of Education, inform parents or guardians of California's child access prevention laws and laws relating to the safe storage of firearms. The required notice must include the following information related to the safe storage of firearms: Incidents of children bringing firearms to school can be reduced by storing firearms in a safe and secure manner, including keeping them in a locked container or secured with a locking device that renders the firearm inoperable and storing firearms separately from ammunition.

**PHYSICAL EXAMINATION; PARENT REFUSAL TO CONSENT (EC §49451):** A child may be exempt from physical examination whenever the parents file, annually, a written statement with the school principal stating that they will not consent to routine physical exam of their child. Whenever there is good reason to believe the child is suffering from a recognized contagious disease, the child will be excluded from school attendance.

**VISION APPRAISAL (EC §49455):** The district is required to appraise each student's vision during kindergarten, upon initial enrollment, and in grades 2, 5, and 8. Appraisal in the year immediately following a student's first enrollment in grades 4 or 7 shall not be required. The vision appraisal shall include tests for near vision, far vision, and color vision; however, color vision shall be appraised once and only on male students. The evaluation may be waived upon presentation of a certificate from a physician, surgeon, physician's assistant, or optometrist setting out the results of a determination of the student's vision, including visual acuity and color vision. This appraisal is not required if a parent files a written objection based on a religious belief with the principal.

**SCOLIOSIS SCREENING NOTICE (EC §§49451 and 49452.5):** In addition to the physical examinations required pursuant to Section 100275 of the Health and Safety Code, the district may provide for the screening of every female student in grade 7 and every male student in grade 8 for the condition known as scoliosis.

**DENTAL FLUORIDE TREATMENT (H&SC §104830 et seq.):** Pupils will be provided the opportunity to receive the topical application of fluoride or other decay-inhibiting agent to each pupil's teeth if the parent, or eligible pupil submits a letter stating that the treatment is desired.

**PUPIL NUTRITION/NOTICE OF FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS (EC §§48980(b), 49510, 49520 and 49558):** Needy children may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Details, eligibility criteria, and applications to participate in a free or reduced price meal program if it is available are available at your child's school. Individual records pertaining to student participation in any free or reduced-price meal program may, under appropriate circumstances, be used by school district employees to identify students eligible for public school choice and services pursuant to the federal Every Student Succeeds Act. When a household is selected for verification of eligibility for free and reduced meals, the District must notify the parent that their child(ren)'s eligibility is being verified.

**COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (EC §48216 and 49403):** The district is authorized to administer immunizing agents to pupils whose parents have consented in writing to the administration of such immunizing agent. The district is required to exclude pupils who have not been properly immunized pursuant to Health and Safety Code 120325 and 120335. The district must notify parents that they have two weeks to supply evidence either that the pupil has been properly immunized or is exempted from the requirement. All students entering kindergarten, advancing from sixth to seventh grade in the district, or prior to his or her first admission to the district, will be required to comply with the immunization requirements of Health and Safety Code section 120335, unless the student provides the district with a valid exemption from a licensed physician. No new personal belief exemptions will be accepted. Students with personal-belief exemptions on file with the district as of January 1, 2016, shall be allowed to continue enrollment until entering the next grade span in the district. Grade spans are defined as birth through preschool, K-6, including transitional kindergarten, and 7-12. Students qualified for an individualized education program may access special education and related services as required by his or her individualized educational program.

**MEDICATION (EC §49423, §49423.1):** Any student who must take prescribed medication at school and who desires assistance of school personnel must submit a written statement of instructions from the physician and a parental request for assistance in administering the medication. Students may also carry and self-administer prescription auto-injectable epinephrine and prescription inhaled asthma medication upon the school's receipt of specified written confirmation with instructions for self-administration and authorization from the student's parent and physician or surgeon. The parent must release the school district and personnel from liability for any harm resulting from the

self-administered medication, and provide a release for authorized school personnel to consult with the physician or surgeon.

**MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL SERVICES FOR PUPILS (EC §§49471 and 49472):** The district is required to notify parents in writing if it does not provide or make available medical and hospital services for students injured while participating in athletic activities. The district is also authorized to provide medical or hospital services through non-profit membership corporations or insurance policies for student injuries arising out of school-related activities.

**AVAILABILITY OF INDIVIDUALIZED INSTRUCTION/PRESENCE OF PUPIL WITH TEMPORARY DISABILITY IN HOSPITAL (EC §§48206.3, 48207-48208):** Individualized instruction is available to students with temporary disabilities whose disability makes attendance in the regular day classes or alternative education program in which the student is enrolled impossible or inadvisable. Parents of students hospitalized or with a temporary disability shall notify the school district(s) where the student attends, resides and/or where the student receives care if an individualized instruction program is desired.

**CONTINUING MEDICATION REGIMEN (EC §49480):** Parents of any student on a continuing medication regimen for a non-episodic condition shall inform the school nurse or other designated certificated school employee of the medication(s) being taken, the current dosage, and the name of the supervising physician. (*See attached form.*) With the consent of the parent, the school nurse may communicate with the physician and may counsel with school personnel regarding the possible effects of the drug on the child's physical, intellectual, and social behavior, as well as possible behavioral signs and symptoms of adverse side effects, omission, or overdose.

**SUN PROTECTIVE CLOTHING/USE OF SUNSCREEN (EC §35183.5):** School sites must allow for outdoor use of sun-protective clothing and must allow students to use sunscreen, without a prescription or physician's note, during the school day.

**COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN (EC §§32280 et seq.):** Each school is required to report on the status of its school safety plan, including a description of its key elements, in the annual school accountability report card (SARC). The planning committee is required to hold a public meeting to allow members of the public the opportunity to express an opinion about the school plan. The planning committee shall notify specified persons and entities in writing.

**NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE (EC §32289):** A complaint of noncompliance with the school safety planning requirements may be filed with the State Department of Education under the Uniform Complaint Procedures (5 CCR 4600 et seq.).

**TOBACCO FREE SCHOOLS (HS §104420):** Use of tobacco products at any time by students, staff, parents, or visitors, is strictly prohibited in district-owned or leased buildings, on district property, and in district vehicles. This prohibition applies to all employees, students, and visitors at any school-sponsored instructional program, activity, or athletic event held on or off district property. Prohibited products include any product containing tobacco or nicotine, including, but not limited to, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew, clove cigarettes, and electronic cigarettes that can deliver nicotine and non-nicotine vaporized solutions. Exceptions may be made for the use or possession of prescription nicotine products. Any employee or student who violates the district's tobacco-free schools policy shall be asked to refrain from smoking and shall be subject to disciplinary action as appropriate.

#### **SYNTHETIC DRUG USE**

California Education Code §48985.5 requires all local educational agencies, including school districts, charter schools, and county offices of education, to annually inform parents or guardians about the dangers of synthetic drug use—particularly substances not prescribed by a doctor, such as fentanyl. These communications must highlight the serious risks associated with counterfeit pills, which are often made to look like legitimate prescription medications such as Xanax, Oxycodone, or Adderall but may contain lethal doses of fentanyl. The law also emphasizes the growing threat of social media platforms being used to market and sell these drugs directly to students. Apps like Snapchat, TikTok, and Instagram are increasingly being exploited by drug dealers to reach young people. This law represents a critical public health initiative to combat the rising number of overdoses among youth and aims to equip families with the knowledge needed to recognize and prevent synthetic drug use.

**ASBESTOS (40 CFR 763.84, 40 CFR 763.93):** The district has a plan for eliminating health risks that are created by the presence of asbestos in school buildings. It may be reviewed at the district office. At least once each year, the district will notify parents of inspections, response actions, and post-response action activities that are planned or in progress.

**USE OF PESTICIDES (EC §§17611.5, 17612 and 48980.3):** School districts are required to inform parents about the use of pesticides on school grounds and provide access to the integrated pest management plan when certain pesticides are used. See following list:

| <b>Product</b>      | <b>Active Ingredient</b>  |
|---------------------|---|
| Ranger Pro          | Triclopyr, triethylamine salt/Fuazifop-P-butyl/Diquat dibromide |
| Bee and Wasp Spray  | Cypermethrin  |
| Cynoff EC           | Cypermethrin  |
| Terro Ant Killer    | Sodium tetroborate decahydrate (Borax)                          |
| Scott's Weed & Feed | 2,4-D Dichlorophenoxyacetic acid/Dicamba                        |
| Diquat              | Diquat dibromide  |
| Sedge Hammer        | Sulfentrazone   |
| Pendulum            | Pendimethalin   |
| Relegate            | Triclopyr BEE   |

#### **STUDENT SERVICES**

##### **MINIMUM AGE OF ADMISSION TO TRANSITION**

**KINDERGARTEN/KINDERGARTEN (EC §48000):** A child shall be eligible for enrollment in kindergarten at the beginning of the school year or at a later time in the same year, if the child has their fifth birthday, respectively, on or before September 1. For the 2025-26 school year, any child who will have their fourth birthday on or before September 1 shall be admitted to a transitional kindergarten program in accordance with law and district policy.

**PREGNANT AND PARENTING PUPILS (EC §§ 221.51, 222, 222.5, 46015):** Districts may not exclude nor deny any pupil from any educational program or activity on the basis of the pupil's pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery therefrom, and shall treat these conditions in the same manner and under the same policies as any other temporary disabling condition. A pregnant or parenting pupil is entitled to 8 weeks of parental leave, or additional leave if deemed medically necessary by the pupil's physician. During parental leave, absences shall be excused and the pupil shall not be required to complete academic work or other school requirements. After returning from parental leave, a pupil may resume the course of study in which he/she was previously enrolled, is entitled to make up work missed, and to take a fifth year of high school instruction if necessary to complete graduation requirements. A pupil may elect to attend an alternative education option instead of returning to the school in which he or she was enrolled prior to parental leave. Schools shall provide reasonable

accommodations to a lactating pupil on a school campus to express breast milk, breast-feed an infant child, or address other needs related to breast-feeding. A pupil shall not incur an academic penalty as a result of his or her use of these accommodations.

#### **PROSPECTUS OF SCHOOL CURRICULUM (EC**

**§49091.14):** The curriculum of every course offered by the schools of the district is compiled annually by each school in a prospectus. Each school prospectus is available for review upon request at each school site. Copies are available upon request for a fee not to exceed the actual copying cost.

#### **COLLEGE AND CAREER PLANNING TOOLS (EC**

**§51229):** Parents/Guardians now have access to online tools and resources that help them to prepare their child/(ren)'s path to college and a career. Student information can be shared directly throughout the college admissions process. Individual student data from the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement data System (CALPADS) is linked with the California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI). Tools such as [www.CaliforniaColleges.edu](http://www.CaliforniaColleges.edu) can be used as early as sixth grade and through the 12th grade. It also helps with scholarships and financial support through programs like the Student Aid Commission.(EC §60900.5; FERPA)

#### **APPRENTICESHIP AND PREAPPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES (EC §48980(e))**

For students admitted or advancing to grades 11 and 12, school districts must inform parents and guardians of the availability of career technical education (CTE), including apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs. These programs offer pathways for students to gain hands-on experience and industry-recognized skills that prepare them for high-skill, high-wage careers in a variety of fields.

Information about available programs, including how to enroll, eligibility requirements, and the benefits of participation, is available by using the database of registered program sponsors through the Department of Industrial Relations' Division of Apprenticeship Standards at [www.dir.ca.gov/databases/das/aigstart.asp](http://www.dir.ca.gov/databases/das/aigstart.asp).

**MULTILINGUAL EDUCATION (EC §310):** If the district implements a language acquisition program pursuant to EC §310, information on the types of language programs available and a description of each program will be made available with this notice or upon enrollment.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION (IDEA):** State and federal law requires that a free appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment be offered to qualified pupils with disabilities ages 3 through 21 years. More information concerning student eligibility, parental rights and procedural safeguards are available upon request.

#### **SPECIAL EDUCATION; CHILD FIND SYSTEM (EC**

**§56301):** Any parent suspecting that a child has exceptional needs may request an assessment for eligibility for special education services through the school principal. Policy and procedures shall include written notification to all parents of their rights pursuant to EC §56300.

#### **SPECIAL EDUCATION COMPLAINTS (5 CCR §3080):**

State regulations require the district to establish procedures to deal with complaints regarding special education. If you believe that the district is in violation of federal or state law governing the identification or placement of a special education student, or similar issues, you may file a written complaint with the district. State regulations require the district to forward your complaint to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Procedures are available from your school principal.

**SECTION 504/DISABLED PUPILS (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973):** Federal law requires the district to annually notify disabled pupils and their parents of the district's non-discriminatory policy and duty under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

**STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the U.S. Education Amendments of 1972; Americans with Disabilities Act; Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973; EC §200 *et seq.*):** The district does not discriminate

on the basis of gender, gender identity, gender expression, sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, genetic information, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, immigration status, or the perception of one or more of such characteristics. The district's policy of nondiscrimination requires notification in native language if the district's service area contains a community of minority persons with limited English language skills. Notification must state that the district will take steps to assure that the lack of English will not be a barrier to admission and participation in district programs. This policy applies to all students insofar as participation in programs and activities is concerned, with few exceptions such as contact sports. In accordance with federal law, complaints alleging noncompliance with this policy should be directed to the school principal. Appeals may be made to the district superintendent. A copy of the district's nondiscrimination policy is available upon request.

### **EDUCATIONAL EQUITY REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS, CITIZENSHIP, OR RELIGION**

**(EC §234.7):** Children have a right to a free public education, regardless of immigration status, citizenship status, or religious beliefs. When enrolling a child, schools must accept a variety of documents from the student's parent/s to demonstrate proof of the child's age or residency. No information about citizenship/immigration status or Social Security number is required to enroll in school. Parents have the option to provide a school with emergency contact information, including the information of secondary contacts, to identify a trusted adult guardian who can care for a minor student in the event the parent is detained or deported. Parents have the option to complete a Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit or a Petition for Appointment of Temporary Guardian of the Person, which may enable a trusted adult the authority to make educational and medical decisions for a minor student. Students have the right to report a hate crime or file a complaint to the school district if they are discriminated against, harassed, intimidated, or bullied on the basis of actual or perceived nationality, ethnicity, or immigration status. The district will not release information to third parties for immigration-enforcement purposes, except as required by law or court order. The California Attorney General's website provides "know your rights" resources for immigrant students and family members online at <https://oag.ca.gov/immigrant/rights>.

**FINGERPRINTING PROGRAM (EC §32390):** Districts are authorized to offer fingerprinting programs for children enrolled in kindergarten or newly enrolled in the district. If the district has adopted such a program, you will be notified of procedures, applicable fee and your right to decline your child's participation upon your child's initial enrollment.

**CHILDREN IN HOMELESS SITUATIONS (42 USC §11431-11435):** Each local district shall appoint a liaison for homeless children who shall ensure the dissemination of public notice of the educational rights of students in homeless situations.

### **SEX / HIV EDUCATION**

**INSTRUCTION IN COMPREHENSIVE SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION AND HIV PREVENTION (EC §51938):** The district shall annually notify parents about instruction in comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education and research on student health behaviors and risks planned for the school year. Written and audiovisual educational materials used in such education are available for inspection. If arrangement for the instruction is made after the beginning of the school

year, parents will be notified no fewer than 14 days prior to the commencement of any such instruction if the district elects to provide the instruction by outside consultants in class or during an assembly. The notice must include the date of instruction, the name of the organization or affiliation of each guest speaker and information stating that the parent has the right to request a copy of the law pertaining to such instruction. Parents have the right to excuse his or her child from all or part of the comprehensive sexual health and HIV prevention education by submitting a written request to the district. Those students whose parents do not submit a written request to excuse them will receive such instruction. The law also authorizes the district, without prior parental consent, to use anonymous, voluntary and confidential research and evaluation tools to measure student's health behaviors and risks, including tests, questionnaires, and surveys containing age appropriate questions in grades 7 to 12 about the student's attitudes concerning or practices relating to sex. The district must notify parents in writing before any such test, questionnaire, or survey is administered and provide them with an opportunity to review the materials. Parents have the right to excuse his or her child from such participation by submitting a written request to the school district.

### **HEALTH INSTRUCTION/CONFLICTS WITH RELIGIOUS TRAINING AND BELIEFS (EC §51240):**

Upon written request of a parent, students shall be excused from part of any school instruction in health if it conflicts with the religious training and beliefs of a parent.

### **EMPLOYEE CODES OF CONDUCT—INTERACTIONS WITH STUDENTS**

The Governing Board expects district employees to maintain the highest ethical standards, behave professionally, follow district policies and regulations, abide by state and federal laws, and exercise good judgment when interacting with students and other members of the school community. Employees shall engage in conduct that enhances the integrity of the district, advances the goals of the district's educational programs, and contributes to a positive school climate. [EC § 44050, BP/ 4119.21]

### **IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT—"KNOW YOUR RIGHTS"**

All students have the right to a free public education, regardless of immigration status or religious beliefs. For more information, please see the resources developed by the California Attorney General at <https://www.oag.ca.gov/immigrant/rights>

## **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE/ATTENDANCE ALTERNATIVES**

California law (EC §48980(g)) requires all school boards to inform each student's parent at the beginning of the school year of the various ways in which they may choose schools for their children to attend other than the ones assigned by school districts. Students who attend schools other than those assigned by the districts are referred to as "transfer students" throughout this notification. There is one process for choosing a school within the district in which the parent lives (intradistrict transfer), and potentially three separate processes for selecting schools in other districts (interdistrict transfer). The general requirements and limitations of each process are described as follows:

### **Choosing a School Within District in Which Parent Lives:**

The law (EC §35160.5(b)) requires the school board of each district to establish a policy that allows parents to choose the schools their children will attend, regardless of where the parent lives in the district. The law limits choice within a school district as follows:

- Students who live in the attendance area of a school must be given priority to attend that school over students who do not live in the school's attendance area.
- In cases in which there are more requests to attend a school than there are openings, the selection process must be "random and unbiased," which generally means students must be selected through a lottery process rather than on a first-come, first-served basis. A district cannot use a student's academic or athletic performance as a reason to accept or reject a transfer.
- Each district must decide the number of openings at each school which can be filled by transfer students. Each district also has the authority to keep appropriate racial and ethnic balances among its schools, meaning that a district can deny a transfer request if it would upset this balance or would leave the district out of compliance with a court-ordered or voluntary desegregation program.
- Each district may adopt a school selection policy that takes into consideration special circumstances that might be harmful or dangerous to a particular pupil, whether the sibling of the pupil is already in attendance at the school, and/or whether the pupil's parent is employed at the school.
- If a transfer is denied, a parent does not have an automatic right to appeal the decision. A district may,

however, voluntarily decide to put in place a process for parents to appeal a decision.

### **Choosing a School Outside District in Which Parent Lives:**

Parents have three different options for choosing a school outside the district in which they live. The three options are:

**Option 1: Districts of Choice (EC §§48300 through 48315):** The law allows, but does not require, each school district to become a "district of choice" – that is, a district that accepts transfer students from outside the district under the terms of the referenced Education Code sections. If the school board of a district decides to become a "district of choice" it must determine the number of students it is willing to accept in this category each year and accept all pupils who apply to transfer until the school district is at maximum capacity. The school district of choice shall ensure that pupils admitted under this article are selected through an unbiased process that prohibits consideration of factors such as family income, academic or athletic performance, physical conditions, proficiency in English or foster youth or a homeless child or youth.. If the district chooses not to become a "district of choice," a parent may not request a transfer under these provisions. Other provisions of the "district of choice" option include:

- Either the district a student would transfer to or the district a student would transfer from may deny a transfer if it will negatively affect the racial and ethnic balance of the district, or a court-ordered or voluntary desegregation plan. A district of choice cannot deny a transfer request on the basis that the costs to provide services exceeds the revenue received, but it may reject a request if doing so would require the creation of a new program. However, the district of choice may not deny the transfer of any special needs student, including an individual with exceptional needs, or an English Learner student even if the cost to educate the student exceeds the revenue received or the creation of a new program is required. The district a student would be leaving may also limit the total number of students transferring out of the district each year to a specified percentage of its total enrollment, depending on the size of the district.
- Communications to parents by a school district of choice shall be factually accurate and shall not target students based upon academic ability, athletic performance, or other personal characteristics.
- The district of choice must post transfer application information on its website, including any applicable

forms, the timeline for a transfer, and an explanation of the selection process.

- All communications from a school district of choice regarding transfer opportunities must be available in all languages for which translations are required in the school district of residence under EC §48985.
- No student who currently attends a school or lives within the attendance area of a school can be forced out of that school to make room for a student transferring under these provisions.
- Entrance priority must be given as follows:
  - Siblings of students already attending school in the "district of choice" must be given first priority.
  - Foster or homeless youth are to be given second priority.
  - Pupils eligible for free or reduced-price meals must be given third priority.
  - Children of military personnel must be given fourth priority.
- A parent may request transportation assistance within the boundaries of the "district of choice." The district is required to provide transportation only to the extent it already does so.
- A school district in which an active military duty parent of a student resides shall not deny the transfer of that student to a school in any district, if the school district to which the parent of the student applies approves the application for transfer.

**Option 2: Other Interdistrict Transfers (EC §46600 et seq.):** The law allows two or more districts to enter into an agreement for the transfer of one or more students for a period of up to five years. New agreements may be entered into for additional periods of up to five years each. The agreement must specify the terms and conditions under which transfers are permitted. Districts of residence may not deny a transfer of a student whose parent is active duty military where the district of proposed enrollment approves the application, or for students who are the victim of an act of bullying unless the requested school is at maximum capacity. The law on interdistrict transfers also provides for the following:

- If either district denies a transfer request, a parent may appeal that decision to the county board of education. There are specified timelines in the law for filing an appeal and for the county board of education to make a decision.

**Option 3: Parental Employment in Lieu of Residency Transfers (EC §48204(b)):** If at least one parent of a student is physically employed in the boundaries of a

school district other than the one in which they live for a minimum of 10 hours during the school week, the student may be considered a resident of the school district in which their parents work. This code section does not require that a school district accept a student requesting a transfer on this basis, but a student may not be rejected on the basis of race, ethnicity, sex, parental income, academic achievement, or any other "arbitrary" consideration. Other provisions of EC §48204(b) include:

- Either the district in which the parent lives or the district in which the parent works may prohibit the student's transfer if it negatively impacts a desegregation plan.
- The district in which the parent works may reject a transfer if it determines that the cost of educating the student would be more than the amount of government funds the district would receive for educating the student.
- There are set limits (based on total enrollment) on the net numbers of students that may transfer out of a district under this law, unless the district approves a greater number of transfers.
- There is no required appeal process for a transfer that is denied. However, the district that declines to admit a student must provide in writing to the parent the specific reasons for denying the transfer.

#### **Open Enrollment Act (EC §48350 et seq.)**

Whenever a student is attending a district school on the Open Enrollment List, as identified by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the student may apply to transfer to another school within or outside of the district, if the school to which they are transferring has a higher Academic Performance Index. Districts with a school on the List must notify the parents at that school on or before the first day of the school year of their option to transfer to another public school. Information regarding the application process and applicable deadlines can be obtained from the district office.

*This summary provides an overview of the laws applicable to school attendance for each alternative. Additional information is available upon request.*

#### **NOTICE OF ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS (EC §58501):**

State law authorizes all school districts to provide for alternative schools. Education Code section 58500 defines an alternative school as a school or separate class group within a school that is operated in a manner designed to:

- (1) Maximize the opportunity for students to develop the positive values of self-reliance, initiative, kindness,

spontaneity, resourcefulness, courage, creativity, responsibility, and joy.

(2) Recognize that the best learning takes place when the student learns because of his/her desire to learn.

(3) Maintain a learning situation maximizing student self-motivation and encouraging the student in his/her own time to follow his/her own interests. These interests may result in whole or in part from a presentation by his/her teachers of choices of learning projects.

(4) Maximize the opportunity for teachers, parents and students to cooperatively develop the learning process and its subject matter. This opportunity shall be a continuous, permanent process.

(5) Maximize the opportunity for the students, teachers, and parents to continuously react to the changing world, including but not limited to the community in which the school is located.

In the event any parent, student, or teacher is interested in further information concerning alternative schools, the county superintendent of schools, the administrative office of this district, and the principal's office in each attendance area shall have copies of the law available for your information. This law particularly authorizes interested persons to request that the governing board of the district establish alternative school programs.

**GRADE REDUCTION/LOSS OF ACADEMIC CREDIT (EC §48980(i)):** No student shall have his/her grade reduced or lose academic credit for any excused absence pursuant to EC §48205 if missed assignments/tests that can reasonably be provided are satisfactorily completed within a reasonable period of time.

**ABSENCES FOR CONFIDENTIAL MEDICAL SERVICES (EC §46010.1):** Students in grades 7-12 and their parents are notified that the law permits schools to excuse students for the purpose of obtaining confidential medical services without parental consent. District policy regarding excusing such absences is available upon request.

**ABSENCE FOR RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION (EC §46014):** Districts may allow pupils with parent consent to be excused to participate in religious exercises/instruction.

**NOTICE OF MINIMUM DAYS AND PUPIL-FREE STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS (EC §48980(c)):** The district is required to annually notify parents of its schedule(s) of minimum days and student-free staff development days at the beginning of the year or as early as possible, but no later than one month prior to the scheduled minimum or student-free day.

## **CHILDREN OF MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS/RESIDENCY:**

A student complies with a school district's residency requirement for school attendance if the student's parent is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation within the state while on active military duty pursuant to an official military order. School districts must accept applications by electronic means for enrollment, including enrollment in a specific school or program within the district, and for course registration. The parent must provide proof of residency in the school district within 10 days after the published arrival date provided on official documentation.

## **RESIDENCY RETENTION FOR STUDENTS WHOSE PARENTS ARE DETAINED OR DEPORTED:**

Students retain residency in a school district, regardless of the students' current residency, when both of the following requirements are met:

1. The student's parent or guardian has departed California against his or her will, and the student can provide official documentation evidencing the departure; and
2. The student moved outside of California as a result of his or her parent or guardian leaving the state against his or her will, and the student lived in California immediately before moving outside the state. The student must provide evidence of enrollment in a California public school immediately before moving outside the state.

Deported parents may designate another adult to attend school meetings and to serve as an emergency contact. No charges or fees of any kind, as allowed under Education Code section 48050, may be required for admission or attendance in these circumstances. These students will be included in computing ADA for the purpose of obtaining apportionment state funds.

This law applies to parents who are: 1) in the custody of a government agency and are transferred to another state; 2) subject to a lawful removal order and who were removed or were permitted to leave California voluntarily before being removed; and 3) subject to any additional circumstances consistent with these purposes, as determined by the school district.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

**NON-MANDATORY PROGRAMS FOR PARENTAL/PUPIL PARTICIPATION (EC §49091.18):** Schools may not require a student or student's family to submit to or participate in any assessment, analysis, evaluation, or monitoring of the quality or character of student home life, parental screening or testing, nonacademic home-based counseling program, parent training, or prescribed family educational service plan.

**SEX EQUITY IN CAREER PLANNING (EC §221.5(d)):** Parents shall be notified in advance of career counseling and course selection commencing with course selection in Grade 7, to promote sex equity and allow parents to participate in counseling sessions and decisions.

**SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY (EC §231.5; 5 CCR §4917):** Each district is required to have adopted a written policy on sexual harassment, and shall provide a copy of such policy, as it pertains to students, with the annual notification. (*See attached.*) Districts are also required to display such policies in a prominent location and include it in orientation for employees and students, and provide a copy of such policy to new and continuing students as part of any orientation program held on a quarterly, semester or summer session basis.

**DRUG FREE CAMPUS (Alcohol and Other Drug Use Prevention Education):** Possession, use or sale of narcotics, alcohol, or other controlled substances is prohibited and strictly enforced at all school activities. Records will be forwarded to local law enforcement, and district sanctions will result from violations.

**RIGHT TO REFRAIN FROM HARMFUL USE OF ANIMALS (EC §32255 et seq.):** Pupils may choose to refrain from participating in educational projects involving the dissection or otherwise harmful or destructive use of animals in accordance with the procedures set forth in EC § 32255.1,

**EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (20 USC §6301 et seq.):** Under ESSA, parents have the following rights:

- **Information Regarding Professional Qualifications of Teachers, Paraprofessionals, and Aides:** Upon request, parents have a right to information regarding the professional qualifications of their student's classroom teachers, paraprofessionals, and aides. This includes whether the teacher meets the state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grades and subjects she/he

teaches, whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency permit or other provisional status because of special circumstances, the teacher's college major, whether she/he has any advanced degrees and the subject(s) of those degrees, and whether any instructional aides or paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if so, their qualifications. The district shall also notify parents if their child has been assigned to or has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet applicable certification or licensure requirements at the grade level and subject area in which the teacher has been assigned.

- **Information Regarding Individual Student Reports on Statewide Assessments:** Upon request, parents have a right to information regarding any State or local policy mandating pupil assessments and the level of achievement of their student on every State and districtwide academic assessment administered to the student.

- **Limited English Proficient Students:** The Act requires prior notice be given to parents of English learners regarding limited English proficiency programs, including the reasons for the identification of the student as an English learner, the need of placement in a language instruction educational program, the student's level of English proficiency, how such level was assessed, the methods of instruction used in the programs available, how the recommended program will meet the student's needs, program performance, parent options to remove a student from a program and/or to decline initial enrollment, and expected rate of transition into classrooms not tailored for English learners.

*The information provided above is available upon request from your child's school or the district office. Additional notices that may be required under the Every Student Succeeds Act shall be sent separately.*

**UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (5 CCR §4622):** The district is required to annually notify parents, pupils, employees, district and school advisory committees and other interested parties in writing of its required Uniform Complaint Procedures.

**SCHOOL BUSES/PASSENGER SAFETY (EC §39831.5):** Districts are required to provide safety regulations to all new students and students who have not previously been transported by school bus.

**MEGAN'S LAW NOTIFICATION (PENAL CODE §290.4):** Parents and members of the public have the right to review information regarding registered sex offenders at the main

office of the local law enforcement agency for this school district.

**EXCUSED ABSENCES (EC §48205)**

(a) Notwithstanding Section 48200, a pupil shall be excused from school when the absence is:

(1) Due to the pupil's illness, including an absence for the benefit of the pupil's mental or behavioral health.

(2) Due to quarantine under the direction of a county/city health officer.

(3) For the purpose of having medical, dental, optometrical, or chiropractic services rendered.

(4) For the purpose of attending the funeral services or grieving the death of either a member of the pupil's immediate family, or of a person that is determined by the pupil's parent or guardian to be in such close association with the pupil as to be considered the pupil's immediate family, so long as the absence is not more than five days per incident.

(5) For the purpose of jury duty in the manner provided for by law.

(6) Due to the illness or medical appointment during school hours of a child of whom the pupil is the custodial parent, including absences to care for a sick child for which the school shall not require a note from a doctor.

(7) For justifiable personal reasons, including, but not limited to, an attendance or appearance in court, attendance at a funeral service, observance of a holiday or ceremony of his or her religion, attendance at a religious retreat, attendance at an employment conference, or attendance at an educational conference on the legislative or judicial process offered by a nonprofit organization when the pupil's absence is requested in writing by the parent and approved by the principal or a designated representative pursuant to uniform standards established by the governing board of the school district.

(8) For the purpose of serving as a member of a precinct board for an election pursuant to section 12302 of the Elections Code.

(9) For the purpose of spending time with a member of the pupil's immediate family, who is an active duty member of the uniformed services, as defined in section 49701, and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from, deployment. Absences granted pursuant to this paragraph shall be granted for a period of time to be determined at the discretion of the superintendent of the school district.

(10) For the purpose of attending the pupil's naturalization ceremony to become a United States citizen.

(11) For the purpose of participating in a cultural ceremony or event.

(12)(A) For the purpose of a middle school or high school pupil engaging in a civic or political event, as provided in subparagraph (B), provided that the pupil notifies the school ahead of the absence.

(12)(B)(i) A middle school or high school pupil who is absent pursuant to subparagraph (A) is required to be excused for only one schoolday-long absence per school year.

(12)(B)(ii) A middle school or high school pupil who is absent pursuant to subparagraph (A) may be permitted additional excused absences in the discretion of a school administrator, as described in subdivision (c) of Section 48260.

(13)(A) For any of the purposes described in clauses (i) to (iii), inclusive, if an immediate family member of the pupil, or a person that is determined by the pupil's parent or guardian to be in such close association with the pupil as to be considered the pupil's immediate family, has died, so long as the absence is not more than three days per incident.

(i) To access services from a victim services organization or agency.

(ii) To access grief support services.

(iii) To participate in safety planning or to take other actions to increase the safety of the pupil or an immediate family member of the pupil, or a person that is determined by the pupil's parent or guardian to be in such close association with the pupil as to be considered the pupil's immediate family, including, but not limited to, temporary or permanent relocation.

(B) Any absences beyond three days for the reasons described in subparagraph (A) shall be subject to the discretion of the school administrator, or their designee, pursuant to Section 48260.

(14) Due to the pupil's participation in military entrance processing.

(15) Authorized at the discretion of a school administrator, as described in subdivision (c) of Section 48260.

(b) A pupil absent from school under this section shall be allowed to complete all assignments and tests missed during the absence that can be reasonably provided and, upon satisfactory completion within a reasonable period of time, shall be given full credit therefore. The teacher of the class from which a pupil is absent shall determine which tests and assignments shall be reasonably equivalent to, but not necessarily identical to, the tests and assignments that the pupil missed during the absence.

(c) For purposes of this section, attendance at religious retreats shall not exceed one school day per semester.

(d) Absences pursuant to this section are deemed to be absences in computing average daily attendance and shall not generate state apportionment payments.

(e) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) A "civic or political event" includes, but is not limited to, voting, poll working, strikes, public commenting, candidate speeches, political or civic forums, and town halls.

(2) "Cultural" means relating to the practices, habits, beliefs, and traditions of a certain group of people.

(3) "Immediate family," as used in this section, means the parent or guardian, brother or sister, grandparent, or any other relative living in the household of the pupil.

(4) "Victim services organization or agency" has the same meaning as defined in paragraph (7) of subdivision (g) of Section 230.1 of the Labor Code.

#### **INVESTING FOR FUTURE EDUCATION (EC §48980(d)):**

Parents are advised of the importance of investing for higher education for their children and of considering appropriate investment options, including, but not limited to, United States savings bonds.

#### **COMPLAINTS CONCERNING DEFICIENCIES RELATED TO INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS, ETC. (EC §35186):**

A Uniform Complaint process is available to help identify and resolve deficiencies related to instructional materials, emergency or urgent facility conditions that pose a threat to the health and safety of pupils or staff, and teacher vacancy or misassignment. Notice of the complaint process and location at which to obtain a complaint form should be posted in the classrooms.

**SCHOOL ACCREDITATION (EC §35178.4):** Districts are required to notify each parent of a pupil in a school that has lost its accreditation status and the potential consequences of the school's loss of status, in writing or by posting the information on the school district's or school's Internet Website, or by any combination of these methods.

**PUPIL FEES (EC §49010 et seq.):** The district is required to establish policies concerning the provision of a free education to pupils. The district is also required to establish policies for filing a complaint of noncompliance under this section using the Uniform Complaint Procedures. Notice of the district's fee policies and complaint process shall be provided to pupils, parents, and employees on an annual basis.

#### **LOCAL CONTROL AND ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN (EC §§52059.5-52077):**

The district is required to adopt a three-year Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) and to update the LCAP on or before July 1 of each subsequent year. The LCAP is required to identify annual goals, specific actions geared toward implementing those goals, and must measure progress for student subgroups across multiple performance indicators based on eight priorities set by the State. The priorities must be aligned to the district's spending plan. The LCAP must be approved before the annual district budget can be adopted. Once the budget and LCAP are adopted at the local level, the plan will be reviewed by the county superintendent to ensure alignment of projected spending toward goals and services. The following are the State priorities:

1. Providing all students access to fully credentialed teachers, instructional materials that align with state standards, and safe facilities;
2. Implementation of and student access to state academic content and performance standards;
3. Parent involvement and participation and family engagement;
4. Improving student achievement and outcomes along multiple measures;
5. Supporting student engagement;
6. Highlighting school climate and connectedness;
7. Ensuring all students have access to a broad course of study;
8. Measuring other important student outcomes related to required areas of study;
9. Coordinating instruction for expelled students; and
10. Coordinating services for foster children.

The Board of Education is required to establish a parent advisory committee (PAC) and English learner parent advisory committee (ELPAC) to provide advice to the Board of Education and the superintendent regarding the LCAP. (ELPACs are required if enrollment in the school district includes at least 15% English learners and the district enrolls at least 50 pupils who are English learners. Districts are not required to establish a new ELPAC if an English learner parent committee has already been established).

Each district is required to consult with its teachers, principals, administrators, other school personnel, local bargaining units, parents, its special education local plan area administrator(s), and pupils in developing the LCAP. As part of this consultation process, districts must present their proposed plans to the PAC and ELPAC. The advisory committees can review and comment on the proposed

plan. Districts must respond in writing to the comments of the PAC and ELPAC. Districts are also required to notify members of the public that they may submit written comments regarding the specific actions and expenditures proposed in the LCAP.

Districts must hold at least two public hearings to discuss and adopt (or update) their LCAPs. The district must first hold at least one hearing to solicit recommendations and comments from the public regarding expenditures proposed in the plan, and then adopt (or officially update) the LCAP at a subsequent hearing.

Districts are required to post prominently on the homepage of the school district's website the LCAP approved by the Board of Education and any updates, revisions or addenda to the LCAP as well as post or link to the LCAP submitted by any charter school authorized by the district, and establish policies for filing a complaint of noncompliance under EC §52075 using the Uniform Complaint Procedures. Information regarding the requirements for a Local Control and Accountability Plan and the complaint process shall be provided to pupils, parents, and employees on an annual basis.

**The Age Discrimination Act (42 USC § 6101 et seq.):**

The Age Discrimination Act prohibits discrimination in programs or activities receiving federal and/or state financial assistance.

**The Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act (34 CFR § 108.6):** The Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act requires public schools to provide equal access to the use of school property to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

**PARENT RESPONSIBILITY**

Parents or guardians are liable for all the damages caused by the willful misconduct of their minor children that result in death or injury to other students, school personnel or damage to school property. Parents are also liable for any school property loaned to the student and willfully not returned. Parents' or guardians' liability may be as much as \$10,000 (adjusted annually) in damages and another maximum of \$10,000 for payment of a reward, if any. The school district may withhold the grades, diplomas, or transcripts of the student responsible until such damages are paid or the property returned or until completion of a voluntary work program in lieu of payment of money. If your child commits an obscene act or engages in habitual profanity or vulgarity, disrupts school activities, or otherwise

willfully defies the authority of school personnel, and is suspended for such misconduct, you may be required to attend a portion of a school day in your child's classroom. [E.C. 48900.1, 48904(a)(1), 48904(a)(2) Civil Code 1714.1; Government Code 53069.5; AR 5125.2]

**STUDENT SEARCH**

The school principal or designee may search the person of a student, the student's locker, backpack or purse if there is a reasonable suspicion to believe the student may have a concealed weapon, narcotics, stolen property, or contraband. [U.S. Supreme Court Case: New Jersey v. T.L.O. (1985) 469 U.S. 325; BP/AR 5145.12]

**CELLPHONES, PAGERS, ELECTRONIC SIGNALING DEVICES**

Districts may regulate the possession or use of any cellphone, pager or electronic signaling device while pupils are on campus, while attending school-sponsored activities, or while under the supervision and control of school district employees. For more information contact the school office. [E.C. 48901.5; BP 5131]

**IMPERSONATION ON THE INTERNET**

Pretending to be a real person other than yourself on the Internet or through other electronic methods to harm, intimidate, threaten or defraud is punishable by a \$1,000 fine or imprisonment for up to one year. [Penal Code 528.5; AR 5144.1]

**SUSPENSION/EXPULSION**

A student may be suspended from school for no more than five (5) consecutive school days. School employees will attempt to contact the student's parent in person or by telephone in addition to written notification. A pupil may be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion if the Superintendent or the Principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has committed any of the following listed acts.

- (a) (1) Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person.
- (2) Willfully used force or violence upon the person of another, except in self-defense.
- (b) Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished a firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object, unless, in the case of possession of an object of this type,

the pupil had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, which is concurred in by the principal or the designee of the principal.

- (c) Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, or otherwise furnished, or been under the influence of, a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind.
- (d) Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind, and either sold, delivered, or otherwise furnished to a person another liquid, substance, or material and represented the liquid, substance, or material as a controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant.
- (e) Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.
- (f) Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property.
- (g) Stolen or attempted to steal school property or private property.
- (h) Possessed or used tobacco, or products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets, and betel. However, this section does not prohibit use or possession by a pupil of his or her own prescription products.
- (i) Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.
- (j) Unlawfully possessed or unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell drug paraphernalia, as defined in Section 11014.5 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (k) Disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties.

(1) Disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties.

(2) Except as provided in Section 48910, a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 3, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts enumerated in paragraph (1), and those acts shall not constitute grounds for a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to be recommended for expulsion. This paragraph is inoperative on July 1, 2020.

(3) Except as provided in Section 48910, commencing July 1, 2020, a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 5, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts specific in paragraph (1), and those acts shall not constitute grounds for a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to be recommended for expulsion.

(4) Except as provided in Section 48910, commencing July 1, 2020, a pupil enrolled in any of grades 6 to 8, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts specified in paragraph (1). This paragraph is inoperative on July 1, 2025

(l) Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.

(m) Possessed an imitation firearm. As used in this section, "imitation firearm" means a replica of a firearm that is so substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm.

(n) Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault as defined in Section 261, 266c, 286, 288, 288a, or 289 of the Penal Code or committed a sexual battery as defined in Section 243.4 of the Penal Code.

(o) Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a pupil who is a complaining witness or a witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for the purpose of either preventing that pupil from being a witness or retaliating against that pupil for being a witness, or both.

(p) Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma.

(q) Engaged in, or attempted to engage in, hazing. For purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" means a method of initiation or pre-initiation into a pupil organization or body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution, 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 pupil. For purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" does not include athletic events or school-sanctioned events.

(r) Engaged in an act of bullying. For purposes of this subdivision, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) "Bullying" means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, and including one or more acts committed by a pupil or group of pupils as defined in Section 48900.2, 48900.3, or 48900.4, directed toward one or more pupils that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

(A) Placing a reasonable pupil or pupils in fear of harm to that pupil's or those pupils' person or property.

(B) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience a substantially detrimental effect on his or her physical or mental health.

(C) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with his or her academic performance.

(D) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with his or her ability to participate in or benefit from the

services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

(2) "Electronic act" means the transmission of a communication, including, but not limited to, a message, text, sound, or image, or a post on a social network Internet Web site, by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager.

(3) "Reasonable pupil" means a pupil, including, but not limited to, an exceptional needs pupil, who exercises average care, skill, and judgment in conduct for a person of his or her age, or for a person of his or her age with his or her exceptional needs.

(s) A pupil shall not be suspended or expelled for any of the acts enumerated in this section, unless that act is related to school activity or school attendance occurring within a school under the jurisdiction of the superintendent of the school district or principal or occurring within any other school district. A pupil may be suspended or expelled for acts that are enumerated in this section and related to school activity or attendance that occur at any time, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

(1) While on school grounds.

(2) While going to or coming from school.

(3) During the lunch period whether on or off the campus.

(4) During, or while going to or coming from, a school-sponsored activity.

(t) A pupil who aids or abets, as defined in Section 31 of the Penal Code, the infliction or attempted infliction of physical injury to another person may be subject to suspension, but not expulsion, pursuant to this section, except that a pupil who has been adjudged by a juvenile court to have committed, as an aider and abettor, a crime of physical violence in which the victim suffered great bodily injury or serious bodily injury shall be subject to discipline pursuant to subdivision (a).

(u) As used in this section, "school property" includes, but is not limited to, electronic files and databases.

(v) A superintendent of the school district or principal may use his or her discretion to provide alternatives to suspension or expulsion, including, but not limited to, counseling and an anger management program, for a pupil subject to discipline under this section.

(w) It is the intent of the Legislature that alternatives to suspension or expulsion be imposed against a pupil who is truant, tardy, or otherwise absent from school activities.

In addition, students in grades 4-12 may be suspended or expelled for the following reasons: hate intimidation, violence, sexual harassment, harassment, threats (against school officials, school property, or both). If a teacher suspends a student, the child's parent may be required to

attend a portion of the school day in his/her child's classes. Employers may not discriminate against parents who are required to comply with this requirement.. [E.C. 48900-48915; BP/AR 5144.1]

#### **Mandatory Suspension/Expulsion**

Students who commit acts listed in E.C. 48915 shall be recommended for expulsion. [BP/AR 5144.1]

#### **Zero Tolerance**

The Gateway Board supports a zero tolerance approach to serious offenses. This approach makes the removal of potentially dangerous students from the classroom a top priority. It ensures fair and equal treatment of all students and requires that all offenders be punished to the fullest extent allowed by law. Staff shall immediately report to the Superintendent or designee any incidence of offenses specified in law, Board Policy and Administrative Regulation as cause for suspension or expulsion.

The Superintendent or designee shall notify staff, students and parent/guardians about the District's zero tolerance policy and the consequences, which may result from student offenses. He/She shall also ensure strict enforcement of this policy. [BP/AR 5144.1]

#### **Drug, Alcohol, Steroid and Tobacco Prevention Programs**

This notice is provided in compliance with the requirements of state and federal law as a part of the District's drug, alcohol, and tobacco prevention programs. The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of illicit drugs, alcohol, or any form of tobacco product on District premises or as a part of any of its activities is wrong, harmful and is strictly prohibited. Tobacco use is prohibited.

All pupils will abide by this prohibition as a condition of attendance. Any violations of District or school standards of conduct, rules and regulations or state or federal laws regarding illicit drugs, alcohol and tobacco will be investigated. Violators will be subject to prosecution in accordance with local, state and federal law and District disciplinary action up to and including expulsion, and/or required to satisfactorily complete a drug abuse assistance, tobacco cessation program, or rehabilitation program selected by the District in conformance with law.

The District's drug alcohol and tobacco education and prevention programs are designed to address the legal, social and health consequences of drug, alcohol and tobacco use and to provide pupils with effective techniques for resisting peer pressure to use illicit drugs, alcohol or tobacco. Information about any drug, alcohol and tobacco counseling, rehabilitation, and re-entry programs available to pupils may be obtained by contacting their school. This information may include programs sponsored or maintained by various community groups or agencies. The District neither supports nor endorses any specific program, agency or firm. The information is provided only to assist parents and pupils who may desire information regarding the resources available to assist them.

High school athletes must sign a pledge they are not using steroids illegally or they will not be allowed to participate. Parents must sign a form notifying them of the restriction. [E.C. 49033, 60041; Health and Safety Code 110321; BP/AR 5131.6]

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FOR ADMINISTRATION OF EPILEPSY MEDICATION (EC § 49468):** The District is required to provide nonmedical school employees with voluntary emergency medical training to provide, in the absence of a school nurse or other licensed nurse onsite, emergency medical assistance to students suffering from epilepsy in accordance with State guidelines. Upon

receipt of a request from a parent or guardian to have a school employee receive such training, the District is required to notify the parent or guardian that the child may qualify for services or accommodations under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. [BP/AR 5141.21]

**IMMUNIZATIONS (H&SC 120325 and 120335):** A pupil may not be admitted to school unless he/she has been fully immunized against hepatitis B, diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, and rubella. Students must be immunized for varicella. All students entering or advancing in grades 7 through 12 must be fully immunized, including a required booster against pertussis (Tdap) whether current, transferring or as new students—in public and private schools. The required immunizations are available from the County Health Department and may be administered by a physician or authorized health care provider. It is this District's policy that there is no "conditional" admittance to schools; immunizations must be up-to-date and documentation must be provided before admission to school is granted. Parents seeking a personal beliefs exemption (PBE) from the required immunizations for their child must provide a PBE form from an authorized health care provider and sign it in their presence. California law requires signed documentation that the parent has been directly informed about vaccines and diseases. The PBE must be provided to the school, prior to the first day of instruction. [AB 2019]

If an outbreak of a communicable disease occurs at a school, the non-immunized student will be excluded for his/her own safety until such a time as directed by health officials or District administration. Parents or guardians may refuse to allow the sharing of personal information related to their child's immunization records by notifying the Shasta County Health Department. [Health and Safety Code 120440; E.C. 48216, 49403; BP/AR 5141.31]

As a parent/guardian you have the right to be informed that your child must be immunized against certain diseases before being admitted to school, unless exempted for medical reasons.

**Religious and Personal Beliefs Exemptions:** January 1, 2016 was the deadline for parents to exempt their children from required immunizations based on their religious or personal beliefs. Students who had a signed waiver based on religious or personal beliefs on file by January 1, 2016, are exempt from the immunization requirement until they complete the "grade span" they were in as of January 1, 2016. Grade spans are defined as: (1) birth through

preschool, (2) Kindergarten through 6th grade, and (3) 7th through 12th grade. Students who entered the District for the first time, or who advanced to 7th grade, after July 1, 2016 are no longer exempt from immunizations based on religious or personal beliefs.

**Medical Exemptions:** Students who have a medical exemption issued before December 31, 2020 will be allowed continued enrollment until they enroll in the next grade span. As of January 1, 2021, the District will only accept medical exemptions that are submitted on the California Department of Public Health's standardized, statewide medical exemption certification form. (Health and Safety Code §§120370(a)(2) and 120372(a).)

#### **CONCUSSIONS AND HEAD INJURIES IN ATHLETICS (EC § 49475):**

Districts that elect to offer athletic programs are required to provide, on a yearly basis, a concussion and head injury information sheet, which must be signed and returned by the athlete or the athlete's parent or guardian before the athlete may initiate practice or competition. For further information contact your school office.

#### **HEALTH SERVICES—NUTRITION**

**PUPIL NUTRITION/NOTICE OF FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS (EC §§ 48980(b), 49510, 49520 and 49558):** Needy children may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Details are available at your child's school or by contacting the District's Food Services Department at (530) 245-7903. Individual records pertaining to student participation in any free or reduced-price meal program may, under appropriate circumstances, be used by school district employees to identify students eligible for public school choice and supplemental educational services pursuant to the federal Every Student Succeeds Act. When a household is selected for verification of eligibility for free and reduced meals, the District must notify the parent that their child(ren)'s eligibility is being verified. [BP/AR 3553]

#### **Student Wellness**

The Governing Board recognizes the link between student health and learning and desires to provide a comprehensive program promoting healthy eating and physical activity for district students. The Superintendent or designee shall build a coordinated school health system that supports and reinforces health literacy through health education, physical education, health services, nutrition

services, psychological and counseling environment, and parent/guardian and community involvement.

To encourage consistent health messages between the home and school environment, the Superintendent or designee may disseminate health information to parents/guardians through district or school newsletters, handouts, parent/guardian meetings, the district or school web site, and other communications. Outreach to parents/guardians shall emphasize performance. [BP/AR 5030]

### **Nutrition Education and Physical Activity Goals**

The Board has adopted goals for nutrition education, physical activity, and other school-based activities that are designed to promote student wellness in a manner that the District determines appropriate. [42 USC 1751]

The District's nutrition education and physical education programs are based on research, consistent with the expectations established in the state's curriculum frameworks and content standards, and designed to build the skills and knowledge that all students need to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Nutrition education shall be provided as part of the health integrated into other academic subjects in the regular educational program. Nutrition education also may be offered through before and after-school programs.

All students in grades K-12 shall be provided opportunities to be physically active on a regular basis. Opportunities for moderate to vigorous physical activity shall be provided through physical education, recess, school athletic programs, extracurricular programs, before- and/or after-school programs, and other structured and unstructured activities. The Superintendent or designee shall encourage staff to serve as positive role models. He/she shall promote and may provide opportunities for regular physical activity among employees. Professional development may include instructional strategies that assess health knowledge and skills and promote healthy behaviors.

The Board prohibits the marketing and advertising of non-nutritious foods and beverages through signage, vending machine fronts, logos, scoreboards, school supplies, advertisements in school publications, coupon or incentive programs, or other means. [BP/AR 6142.7]

### **Nutritional Guidelines for Foods Available at School**

The Board has adopted nutritional guidelines for all foods available on each campus during the school day, with the objectives of promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity. [42 USC 1751]

The Board believes that foods and beverages available to students at District schools should support the health curriculum and promote optimal health. Nutritional standards adopted by the District for all foods and beverages sold to students, including foods and beverages provided through the District's food service program, student stores, vending machines, fundraisers or other venues, shall meet or exceed state and federal nutritional standards. [BP/AR 5030 & BP/AR 3554]

### **Healthy Fundraising Food Choices**

The superintendent or designee shall encourage school organizations to use healthy food items or non-food items for fundraising purposes. He/she also shall encourage school staff to avoid the use of non-nutritious foods as a reward for students' academic performance, accomplishments, or classroom behavior.

School staff shall encourage parents/guardians or other volunteers to support the District's nutrition education program by considering nutritional quality when selecting any snacks which they may donate for occasional class parties and by limiting foods or beverages that do not meet nutritional standards to no more than one such food or beverage per party. Class parties or celebrations shall be held after the lunch period when possible. [BP/AR 3554]

### **Guidelines for Reimbursable Meals**

Foods and beverages provided through federally reimbursable school meal programs shall meet or exceed federal regulations and guidance issued pursuant to 42 USC 1758(f)(1), 1766(a), and 1779(a) and (b), as they apply to schools. [42 USC 1751]

In order to maximize the District's ability to provide nutritious meals and snacks, all District schools shall participate in available federal school nutrition programs, including the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, to the extent possible. [BP/AR 3550]

## **Accountability**

The Superintendent or designee shall report to the Board at least every two years on the implementation of this policy and any other board policies related to nutrition and physical activity. (BP 6142.7 & BP 3555)

## **Posting Requirements (E.C. § 49432)**

Each school shall post the District's policies and regulations on nutrition and physical activity in public view within all school cafeterias or in other central eating areas. [BP 5030]

## **UNIFORM COMPLAINTS—GRADUATION & COURSEWORK REQUIREMENT FOR FOSTER YOUTH, HOMELESS, FORMER JUVENILE COURT, AND STUDENTS LIVING IN ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY HOUSEHOLDS [EC §§ 51225.1 & 51225.2]**

The following rights apply to foster youth, homeless students, former juvenile court students, and students living in the households of parents/guardians who are active duty members of the military:

- (1) Within 30 days of transferring, after the completion of the second year of high school, students must be notified that s/he may be exempt from local graduation requirements and that this exemption continues after the court's jurisdiction over a foster child ends, when a homeless student is no longer homeless, when a student is no longer under the jurisdiction of a juvenile court, or when the student no longer lives in the household of an active duty service member; (Ed. Code § 51225.1(d));
- (2) Accept coursework satisfactorily completed while attending another public school, a juvenile court school, or a nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency, even if the student did not complete the entire course; and must issue full or partial credit for the coursework completed. For students living in active duty military households, "public schools" include schools operated by the United States Department of Defense. (Ed. Code § 51225.2(b));
- (3) Students may not be required to retake a course satisfactorily completed elsewhere. If the student did not complete the entire course, the school district or county office of education may not require that the student retake the portion already completed, unless the school district or county office of education, in consultation with the holder of the student's educational rights, finds that the student is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate from high school. When partial credit is awarded in a particular course, the student must be enrolled in the same or equivalent course in order to continue and complete the entire course (Ed. Code § 51225.2(b) and (d));
- (4) Students may not be prevented from retaking or taking a course to meet the eligibility requirements for admission to the California State University or the University of California (Ed. Code § 51225.2(e));
- (5) Exempt students transferring between schools at any time after the completion of his/her second year of high school from all coursework and other requirements adopted by the district's governing board that are in addition to the statewide coursework requirements for graduation found in Education Code section 51225.3, unless the district makes a finding that the student is reasonably able to complete the district's graduation requirements in time to graduate from high school by the end of the student's fourth year of high school (Ed. Code § 51225.1(a));
- (6) For students deemed reasonably able to complete the district's graduation requirements within the student's fifth year of high school, the district must do all of the following: (a) inform the student of his/her option to remain in school for a fifth year to complete the school district's graduation requirements; (b) inform the student, and the person holding the right to make educational decisions for the student, about how remaining in school for a fifth year to complete the school district's graduation requirements will affect the student's ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution; (c) provide information to the student about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges; and (d) upon agreement with an adult student or with a minor student's educational rights holder, permit the student to stay in school for a fifth year to complete the school district's graduation requirements (Ed. Code § 51225.1(b)(1)-(4));

- (7) Within 30 calendar days of the school transfer, the school district must notify a student who may qualify for the exemption from local graduation requirements, his or her parent/guardian, the person holding the right to make educational decisions for the student, the foster youth's social worker, a former juvenile court student's probation officer, and, in the case of homeless students, the school district's liaison for homeless students, of the availability of the exemption from local graduation requirements and whether the student qualifies for the exemption (Ed. Code § 51225.1(d)(1) - (4))

If the school district fails to provide timely notice of these rights, the student will be eligible for the local graduation requirements exemption even after the student is no longer: (1) homeless, (2) in foster care, (3) under the juvenile court's jurisdiction, or (4) living in the household of an active duty military service member, if the student otherwise qualifies for the exemption. (Ed. Code § 51225.1(d).);

- (8) Students exempted from local graduation requirements who complete statewide coursework requirements before the end of their fourth year of high school may not be required or asked to graduate before the end of their fourth year of high school, if otherwise entitled to remain in attendance. (Ed. Code § 51225.1(e).);
- (9) If a student is exempted from local graduation requirements, the school district must notify the student and the student's educational rights holder of how any of the requirements that are waived will affect the student's ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution and must provide information about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges (Ed. Code § 51225.1(f).);
- (10) Students eligible for the exemption from local graduation requirements and who would otherwise be entitled to remain at the school, shall not be required to accept the exemption or be denied enrollment in, or the ability to complete, courses necessary to attend an institution of higher education, regardless of whether those courses are required for statewide graduation requirements (Ed. Code § 51225.1(g).);

- (11) If a student is not exempted from local graduation requirements or has previously declined the exemption, the school district must exempt the student at any time if he/she requests and qualifies for the exemption (Ed. Code § 51225.1(h).);

- (12) Once exempted from local graduation requirements, the school district shall not revoke the exemption (Ed. Code § 51225.1(i).);

- (13) If a student in foster care is exempted from local graduation requirements, the exemption must continue to apply after the termination of the court's jurisdiction over the student while he/she is enrolled in school or if the student transfers to another school or school district (Ed. Code § 51225.1(j)(1).);

- (14) If a homeless student is exempted from local graduation requirements, the exemption must continue to apply after the student is no longer homeless while s/he is enrolled in school or if the student transfers to another school or school district (Ed. Code § 51225.1(j)(2).);

- (15) If a former juvenile court school student is exempted from local graduation requirements, the exemption must continue to apply after the termination of the court's jurisdiction over the student while s/he is enrolled in school or if the student transfers to another school or school district (Ed. Code § 51225.1(j)(3).);

- (16) For students living in active duty military households, the exemption will continue to apply after: (1) a student transfers to another school or school district, or (2) a student no longer meets the "child of military family" definition. (Ed. Code § 51225.1(j)(4).);

- (17) A school district may not require or request that students transfer schools in order to be exempted from local graduation requirements (Ed. Code § 51225.1(k).); and

- (18) Transfer requests may not be made on a student's behalf solely to qualify the student for an exemption under this section. (Ed. Code § 51225.1(l).)

### Non-Compliance Complaints

Complaints of non-compliance may be filed under the local educational agency's Uniform Complaint Procedures as listed on the district's website.. A complainant not satisfied with the local education agency's decision may appeal to the California Department of Education (CDE) and receive a written decision regarding the appeal within 60 days of the CDE's receipt of the appeal. (Ed. Code §§ 51225.1(m) and 51225.2(f).)

### **JUVENILE COURT STUDENTS—GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND CONTINUING EDUCATION OPTIONS [Assembly Bill 1124]**

In addition to being exempt from local graduation requirements and the right to receive credit for coursework completed while in juvenile court schools, Assembly Bill 1124 provides more extensive graduation and continuing education options for juvenile court students who have qualified for a diploma.

Education Code section 48645.7 has been added to require that county offices of education notify juvenile court students who have qualified for a diploma, their educational rights holders, and their social workers or probation officers of the following:

- (1) The student's right to a diploma without having to complete coursework or other requirements that are in addition to statewide graduation requirements (Ed. Code §§ 48645.7(a)(1)(A) and 48645.5(d));
- (2) How taking coursework and other requirements adopted by the governing board of the county office of education, or continuing education upon release from the juvenile detention facility will affect the student's ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution (Ed. Code § 48645.7(a)(1)(B));
- (3) Information about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges (Ed. Code § 48645.7(a)(1)(C));
- (4) The student's or, if a minor, the education rights holder's option to allow the pupil to defer or decline the diploma in order to take additional coursework if the county office of education makes a finding that the student could benefit from the additional coursework and graduation

requirements adopted by the county office of education. (Ed. Code § 48645.7(b).);

When deciding whether to decline the diploma, the county office of education must advise the student, or if a minor, his/her educational rights holder, whether the student is likely to do all the following upon his/her release from a juvenile detention facility:

- a. Enroll in a school operated by a local educational agency or charter school;
- b. Benefit from continued instruction; and
- c. Graduate from high school. (Ed. Code § 48645.7(c).)

Complaints of non-compliance with juvenile court students' graduation and continuing education rights may be filed with the local educational agency under its Uniform Complaint Procedures. A complainant not satisfied with the local educational agency's decision may appeal to the California Department of Education (CDE) and receive a written decision regarding the appeal within 60 days of the CDE's receipt of the appeal. (Ed. Code § 48645.7(e).)

**UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (UCP) (5 CCR § 4622):** The district is required to annually notify parents, pupils, employees, district and school advisory committees and other interested parties in writing of its required Uniform Complaint Procedures. The Uniform Complaint Procedures apply to complaints involving categorical programs and those alleging unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, bullying, and noncompliance regarding student fees and the legal requirements pertaining to the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP).

You may contact your school office or the District office to obtain a free copy of the district's complaint procedures. The complaint procedure can be used for a variety of issues including but not limited to employee issues, school safety planning requirements in the No Child Left Behind Act, and policies and procedures of the district. Confidentiality and privacy shall be respected in all complaint investigations. Complaints alleging discrimination may be filed by a person on their own behalf or on behalf of another person or group of people within six months of the occurrence or when facts became known. Complaints regarding a special needs student may be filed within 12

months of the occurrence. Staff has been trained to deal with these types of complaints. [E.C. § 56500.2]

1. Complaints made under this procedure shall be directed to the Uniform Complaint Officer who is responsible for processing the claims. A complaint under the Uniform Complaint Procedure should be completed within 60 days from the receipt of the complaint unless the complainant agrees in writing to extend the timeline.
2. You may contact the UCP Officer to obtain a copy of the complaint process.
3. You may choose to have your complaint mediated.
4. There shall be an investigative meeting after receiving the complaint.
5. The compliance officer shall send a written report about the investigation and decision. There are then five days to appeal to the Board of Education.
6. If you are not satisfied with the results the complainant then has 15 days to appeal to the California Department of Education. The appeal must include a copy of the locally filed complaint and a copy of the LEA decision.
7. There is nothing in this process to preclude a complainant from pursuing available civil law remedies outside of the District's complaint procedures. Such remedies may include mediation, attorneys, and legal remedies. Civil law remedies may include, but are not limited to: injunctions and restraining orders.

For discrimination complaints, 60 days must elapse from the time an appeal is filed with CDE before pursuing civil remedies except for an injunction. Complaints may also be forwarded to appropriate state or federal agencies in the following cases:

**American Civil Liberties Act 504** — Office of Civil Rights

**Child Abuse** — Department of Social Services, Protective Services Division, or law enforcement

**Discrimination/Nutritional Services** - U.S. Secretary of Agriculture

**Employment Discrimination** - Department of Fair Employment and Housing, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

**General Education** - Gateway Unified School District

**Health and Safety/Child Development** — Department of Social Services

**Student Records** — Family Policy Compliance Office (FPCO), U.S.

Department of Education [20 USC 7114(D)(7) (No Child left Behind), 20 USC 11138;34 CFR 300.510-511,300.513; E.C. 235. 262.3, 33031, 33032, 33381, 48985, 56000-56885, 59000-59300, 64000(a); 5 CCR 4600; 5 CCR 4620- 46321]

The Gateway Unified School District is primarily responsible for and has established procedures to address allegations of unlawful discrimination and complaints alleging violation of state and federal laws governing educational programs. The Gateway Unified School District designates the following as the Compliance Officer to receive and investigate complaints and ensure District Compliance with the law: Superintendent, District Office, 4411 Mountain Lakes Blvd., Redding, CA 96003 (530) 245-7908. [BP/E 5145.3]

#### **HIGH SCHOOL OPEN CAMPUS (EC § 44808.5):**

The governing board of the Gateway Unified School District, pursuant to Section 44808.5 of the Education Code, has decided to permit the pupils enrolled at Central Valley High School (who have met the school's requirements) to leave the school grounds during the lunch period. Neither the school district nor any officer or employee thereof shall be liable for the conduct or safety of any pupil during such time as the pupil has left the school grounds pursuant to this section. [BP/AR 5112.5]

#### **PARENT NOTIFICATION & INVOLVEMENT (EC §§ 48070.5, 51101):**

A parent has the right to be notified concerning their child's classroom and standardized test performances when their child has been identified as being at risk of retention, and to be informed about school rules, including disciplinary rules and procedures, attendance policies, retention and

promotion policies, dress codes, school visiting procedures and the person to contact should problems arise with their child. [BP 6020] Parents of enrolled students have the right to be included in the educational process and to have access to the system on behalf of their children. These rights are outlined as follows:

- **Classroom Observing** - Parents have the right to visit the classroom(s) in which their child is enrolled. The time and date of the visitation must be arranged in advance with school administration.
- **Teacher Conferencing** - Parents have the right to request a conference with their child's teacher(s) or the principal. Parents should contact the school to schedule a date and time convenient to all participants.
- **Volunteering** - Parents have the right to volunteer their time and resources for the improvement of school facilities and programs. Parents shall contact the District Office Human Resources Department to determine the terms and conditions of this service. Parents have the right to participate as a member of a parent advisory committee, school site council or site-based management leadership team in accordance with established rules and regulations for membership.
- **Policy Development** - Parents and guardians have the right and should be given the opportunity to work in a mutually supportive and respectful partnership with the school to help their child succeed. The governing board shall adopt a jointly created policy that outlines how parents and guardians, school staff and students may share the responsibility for the intellectual, physical, emotional, social development and well-being of their students.

#### **PARENT INVOLVEMENT: BOARD POLICY (BP) 6020**

The Governing Board recognizes that parents/guardians are their children's first and most influential teachers and that sustained parent involvement in the education of their children contributes greatly to student achievement and a positive school environment. The Superintendent or

designee shall work with staff and parents/guardians to develop meaningful opportunities at all grade levels for parents/guardians to be involved in district and school activities; advisory, decision-making, and advocacy roles; and activities to support learning at home.

Parents/guardians shall be notified of their rights to be informed about and to participate in their children's education and of the opportunities available to them to do so.

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

#### **Title I Schools**

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

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

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

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that each school receiving Title I funds develops a school-level parent involvement policy in accordance with 20 USC 6318.

### Non-Title I Schools

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement strategies applicable to each school that does not receive federal Title I funds to encourage the involvement and support of parents/guardians in the education of their children, including, but not limited to, strategies describing how the district and schools will address the purposes and goals described in Education Code 11502. (Education Code 11504)

### **PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT (PPRA)**

The Protection of Pupil Rights (PPRA) requires that districts develop policies that obligate them to obtain prior written consent from parents prior to their student participating in a survey containing one or more of the following items:

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians and ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent; or
8. Income (other than required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program).

The PPRA requires that school districts provide parents with annual notice of these policies. Education Code section 51513 requires written parent consent prior to their students participating in a survey regarding family beliefs, morality and similar issues. [Title 20 of the United States Code Annotated section 1232h]

### **Residency Retention for Migratory Children Ed. Code. 48980 (g)**

Currently migratory children, who are enrolled in a school district due to a parent's or immediate family member's temporary or seasonal employment in an agricultural or fishing activity, as defined by Ed Code section 54441, must be allowed to continue in their schools of origin, regardless of any change of residence during that school year, for the duration of their status as migratory children. When a student's status as a migratory child changes during the school year, the school district must: (1) allow K-8th graders to continue in their schools of origin for the remainder of that school year; and (2) allow 9-12th graders to continue in their schools of origin through graduation.

Migratory children and their parents/guardians must be informed of the impact that remaining in their schools of origin will have on their eligibility to receive migrant education services.

### **CALPADS PARTICIPATION DISCLOSURE LANGUAGE:**

The Gateway Unified School District is participating with the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) program in the electronic transfer of student data for state reporting to the California Department of Education and to districts and/or public postsecondary institutions to which the student is transferring or applying for admission. All data maintained by CALPADS is in compliance with federal and state privacy and confidentiality requirements. Student information will be encoded so that no personally identifiable information will be maintained by CALPADS. CALPADS is linked with [www.CaliforniaColleges.edu](http://www.CaliforniaColleges.edu).

The benefits of participation to the student and parent are that student records can be transferred much more promptly, and that information about student assessment and academic placement will be available at the time of transfer. Schools and districts will benefit from the streamlining and reduction of required state reporting. Parents have the right to inspect student information maintained by the CALPADS program.

### **Public Notification of Nondiscrimination**

To Students, Parents, Employees and the General Public:  
The Gateway Unified School District (GUSD) is committed to equal opportunity for all individuals in education. District programs and activities including membership in student clubs shall be free from discrimination based on race, color, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, religion, actual or potential, family, or marital status, immigration status, or the exclusion of any person because of pregnancy or related conditions, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, or genetic information; the perception of one or more of such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. The GUSD's Career and Technical Education (CTE) program does not discriminate in enrollment in or access to any of the CTE programs available. Admission to these programs is based on age appropriateness, class space, interest, aptitude, and prerequisite coursework (where applicable). The lack of English skills shall not be a barrier to admission to or participation in the District's activities and programs. The GUSD also does not discriminate in its hiring or employment practices. This notice is provided as required by Title VI of the Civil Right Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the California Code of Regulations Title 5, Chapter 5.3 Nondiscrimination. Questions, complaints, or requests for additional information regarding these laws may be forwarded to the District's designated compliance coordinators.

#### **Section 504 Coordinator**

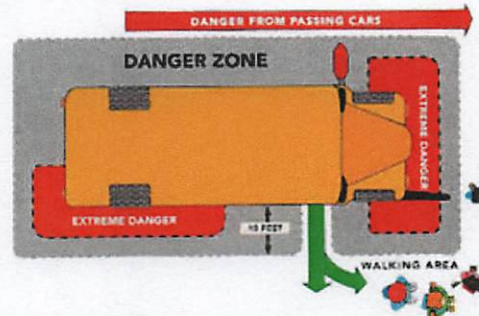
Melanie Sanderson, Director of Student Services  
4411 Mountain Lakes Blvd.  
Redding, CA 96003  
(530) 245-7900

#### **Title IX Coordinator:**

Tina Card, Director of Human Resources  
4411 Mountain Lakes Blvd.  
Redding, CA 96003  
(530) 245-7900

### **SCHOOL BUS/PASSENGER SAFETY (EC §39831.5):**

Districts are required to provide safety regulations to all new students and students who have not previously been transported by school bus. [AR 3543]



### **TRANSPORTATION**

For the safety of your child and others please review the transportation rules. The State of California regulates the laws regarding the transporting of students. Some of these laws are as follows:

#### **Designated Bus Stop**

Each student is assigned a designated bus stop. Students may enter and exit the school bus **ONLY** at their designated stop unless a bus pass is provided to the driver upon entering the bus. Notes from parents to the bus driver are not bus passes. Your student may receive a citation if he/she attempts to enter or exit at an unassigned bus stop without a bus pass. Parents must contact the school to get a bus pass. See bus passes below.

#### **Passenger Restraints (seat belts)**

All passengers in a school bus or in a school pupil activity bus that is equipped with passenger restraint systems in accordance with sections 27316 and 27316.5 of the Vehicle Code shall use the passenger restraint system.

#### **Bus Stop**

Please have your student at the stop at least 5 minutes before the scheduled bus arrival time. Students should walk to the bus stop using sidewalks, (when available), walk with other students, and wear bright clothing or reflective material. Students must respect other students and respect the property of others. Students must stay twelve feet back from the bus stop until the door opens. Any unauthorized crossing of a highway or private road by the student will result in a Level 2 citation. See School Bus Red Light Crossing below.

### **School Bus Red Light Crossing**

Vehicle code 22112 requires all TK-8 students who need to cross a roadway (when a bus is present) to or from a bus stop to be escorted by the driver. Gateway Administrative Regulation 3542 in addition to VC 22112 requires all students TK-12 who need to cross a roadway (when a bus is present) to be escorted by the driver. Gateway Unified School District does not provide for escorted loading of students as a regular part of our transportation service. If your student is late to a bus stop that requires them to cross a roadway they must not cross the roadway until the driver can escort them and the student will be cited for improper bus procedure. Students must be at their bus stop 5 minutes before scheduled pick up time. Any student required to cross a roadway upon unloading from the bus will be escorted by the driver pursuant to VC 22112 and AR 3542.

### **Route Numbers**

The transportation department has setup your home to school transportation using a routing system. All route numbers are located above the entryway door at the front of the bus. Buses are subject to change at any time without notice; please do not use the number of the bus as a reference, only the route number above the door.

### **Transportation for Transitional Kindergarten (TK) and Kindergarten Students**

All TK and kindergarten students must be met by a parent or a designated person, (over the age of 18), on the student's emergency card to be released at his or her bus stop. NO exceptions! This emergency card is located at the school site. If the parent or designated person is not at the bus stop, the student will be returned to the school. After three "no shows" from a parent or designated person the student will be given a bus citation as a warning. If the parent or designated person continues to not be present at the bus stop a second citation will be issued with the student possibly receiving time off the bus. A parent may choose to have a signed walk note on file at the school stating their child may be released from the bus without adult supervision. Note: The Transportation Department will not be responsible for tracking days that your student may walk, or with whom your student may walk with. Your student is either a "Walk" or "No Walk" student.

### **Bus Passes**

If for any reason your student needs to ride a bus other than his or her designated bus, he/she will need a bus pass from the school office before he/she boards the bus. A written note or phone call from a parent or guardian to the school office is required for the student to receive a bus pass. This includes students that spend the night at a friend or relative's house and need to board the bus in the morning.

If for any reason your student needs to ride a bus other than his or her designated bus, he/she will need a bus pass from the school office before he/she boards the bus. A written note or phone call from a parent or guardian to the school office is required for the student to receive a bus pass. This includes students that spend the night at a friend or relative's house and need to board the bus in the morning.

### **Behavior**

Students are expected to behave in a safe and controlled manner. Students that misbehave may be issued a citation and can receive time off the bus. If a student receives a citation, the driver will attempt to contact the parent or guardian. The citation will be sent home with the student (if possible) or mailed. Please look over the citation with your student. Sign the citation and return it to the driver.

### **Electronic Devices**

Student cell phones, iPads or other filming devices shall not be used on the bus. If a student is found to be using such device, the driver will confiscate the device and return it to the student upon departure from the bus.

### **Video Cameras**

"Video cameras may be used on school buses to monitor student behavior while traveling to and from school and school activities. The Board believes that such monitoring will deter misconduct and help to ensure the safety of the students and staff. Students found to be in violation of the district's bus conduct rules shall be subject to discipline in accordance with district policy and regulation." [BP 5131.1



## California Law Regarding Safe Storage of Firearms

---

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform and to remind parents and legal guardians of all students in the Gateway Unified School District of their responsibilities for keeping firearms out of the hands of children as required by California law. Seventy-four percent of children know where their parents' firearms are stored, and 60 percent report that they have handled them<sup>1</sup>. Sadly, over 80 percent of teens who have died by suicide used a firearm that belonged to someone in their home<sup>2</sup>. **These incidents can be easily prevented by storing firearms in a safe and secure manner, including keeping them locked up when not in use and storing them separately from ammunition.**

To help everyone understand their legal responsibilities, this memorandum spells out California law regarding the storage of firearms. Please take some time to review this memorandum and evaluate your own personal practices to assure that you and your family are in compliance with California law.

- With very limited exceptions, California makes a person criminally liable for keeping any firearm, loaded or unloaded, within any premises that are under their custody and control where that person knows or reasonably should know that a child is likely to gain access to the firearm without the permission of the child's parent or legal guardian, and the child obtains access to the firearm and thereby (1) causes death or injury to the child or any other person; (2) carries the firearm off the premises or to a public place, including to any preschool or school grades kindergarten through twelfth grade, or to any school-sponsored event, activity, or performance; **or** (3) unlawfully brandishes the firearm to others.<sup>3</sup>
  - **Note:** The criminal penalty may be significantly greater if someone dies or suffers great bodily injury as a result of the child gaining access to the firearm.

---

<sup>1</sup> Baxley F, Miller M. Parental Misperceptions About Children and Firearms. *Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med.* 2006;160(5):542–547. doi:10.1001/archpedi.160.5.542

<sup>2</sup> Barber, C., Azrael, D., Clark, D. E., & Hemenway, D. (2010). Who are the owners of firearms used in adolescent suicides? *Suicide & life-threatening behavior*, 40(6), 609–611.

<sup>3</sup> See California Penal Code sections 25100 through 25125 and 25200 through 25220.

**Policy 5145.7: Sexual Harassment**

**Status:** ADOPTED

**Original Adopted Date:** 10/10/2012 | **Last Revised Date:** 12/15/2021 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 12/15/2021

The Governing Board is committed to maintaining a safe school environment that is free from harassment and discrimination. The Board prohibits, at school or at school-sponsored or school-related activities, sexual harassment targeted at any student by anyone. The Board also prohibits retaliatory behavior or action against any person who reports, files a complaint or testifies about, or otherwise supports a complainant in alleging sexual harassment.

The district strongly encourages students who feel that they are being or have been sexually harassed on school grounds or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity by another student or an adult, or who have experienced off-campus sexual harassment that has a continuing effect on campus, to immediately contact their teacher, the principal, the district's Title IX Coordinator, or any other available school employee. Any employee who receives a report or observes an incident of sexual harassment shall notify the Title IX Coordinator.

Once notified, the Title IX Coordinator shall ensure the complaint or allegation is addressed through AR 5145.71 - Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures or BP/AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures, as applicable. Because a complaint or allegation that is dismissed or denied under the Title IX complaint procedure may still be subject to consideration under state law, the Title IX Coordinator shall ensure that any implementation of AR 5145.71 concurrently meets the requirements of BP/AR 1312.3.

The Title IX Coordinator shall offer supportive measures to the complainant and respondent, as deemed appropriate under the circumstances.

The Superintendent or designee shall inform students and parents/guardians of the district's sexual harassment policy by disseminating it through parent/guardian notifications, publishing it on the district's web site, and including it in student and staff handbooks. All district staff shall be trained regarding the policy.

**Instruction/Information**

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all district students receive age-appropriate information on sexual harassment. Such instruction and information shall include:

1. What acts and behavior constitute sexual harassment, including the fact that sexual harassment could occur between people of the same sex and could involve sexual violence
2. A clear message that students do not have to endure sexual harassment under any circumstance
3. Encouragement to report observed incidents of sexual harassment even when the alleged victim of the harassment has not complained
4. A clear message that student safety is the district's primary concern, and that any separate rule violation involving an alleged victim or any other person reporting a sexual harassment incident will be addressed separately and will not affect the manner in which the sexual harassment complaint will be received, investigated, or resolved
5. A clear message that, regardless of a complainant's noncompliance with the writing, timeline, or other formal filing requirements, every sexual harassment allegation that involves a student, whether as the complainant, respondent, or victim of the harassment, shall be investigated and action shall be taken to respond to harassment, prevent recurrence, and address any continuing effect on students
6. Information about the district's procedures for investigating complaints and the person(s) to whom a report of sexual harassment should be made
7. Information about the rights of students and parents/guardians to file a civil or criminal complaint, as applicable, including the right to file a civil or criminal complaint while the district investigation of a sexual harassment complaint continues

8. A clear message that, when needed, the district will implement supportive measures to ensure a safe school environment for a student who is the complainant or victim of sexual harassment and/or other students during an investigation

#### **Disciplinary Actions**

Upon completion of an investigation of a sexual harassment complaint, any student found to have engaged in sexual harassment or sexual violence in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action. For students in grades 4-12, disciplinary action may include suspension and/or expulsion, provided that, in imposing such discipline, the entire circumstances of the incident(s) shall be taken into account.

Upon investigation of a sexual harassment complaint, any employee found to have engaged in sexual harassment or sexual violence toward any student shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, in accordance with law and the applicable collective bargaining agreement.

#### **Record-Keeping**

In accordance with law and district policies and regulations, the Superintendent or designee shall maintain a record of all reported cases of sexual harassment to enable the district to monitor, address, and prevent repetitive harassing behavior in district schools.

---