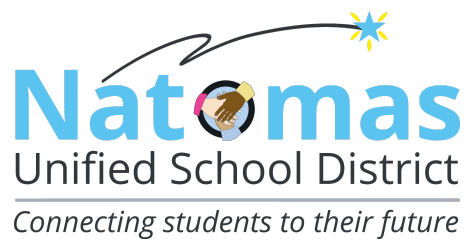


**Natomas Park Elementary**  
**Comprehensive School Safety Plan**

Natomas Unified School District  
2025-26 School Year



**Natomas Park**  
**ELEMENTARY**



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**Comprehensive School Safety Plan**  
**for**  
**Natomas Park Elementary**  
**2025/2026**

*Supplemental to Natomas Unified School District Emergency Plan*

**Dates that the following occurred:**

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Incident Management Team Review:              | 2/12/25 |
| School Site Council Review & Agenda*:         | 2/12/25 |
| Presentation to Certificated Staff & Agenda*: | 3/5/25  |
| Presentation to Classified Staff & Agenda*:   | 3/5/25  |

**\*Attach agenda and sign-in sheets for presentations**

**Approved by:**

*Melissa Webb*

2-13-2025

School Site Council - Print & Sign

Date

*[Signature]*

*2/13/25*

Principal - Print & Sign

Date

Shannon Harris *Shannon Harris*

2/13/25

School Leadership Team - Print & Sign

Date

Superintendent or Designee - Print & Sign

Date

**Safety & Safe Schools Use ONLY:**

|                                     |         |                                 |         |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------|---------|
| Safety & Safe Schools - Review Date | 1/17/25 | School Leadership - Review Date | 2/5/25  |
| Law Enforcement - Review Date       | 1/17/25 | Approved by Board - Date        | 3/19/25 |

## **Safe Haven**

We want all NUSD students to know they are safe and welcome, so the Board of Trustees has declared the district a safe haven committed to acting within legal bounds to protect students and families threatened by hate crimes or deportation based on immigration status.

Passed unanimously on February 8, 2017, the resolution is consistent with existing Board-approved commitments that all students have a right to attend public schools and receive equal access to educational programs, diversity is a strength, parent participation is encouraged, and that a key District goal is to create safe and welcoming learning environments.

Our resolution calls for NUSD to act within legal bounds to prevent and mitigate the collection of information about immigration status, the disclosure of such information, and to support students if immigration enforcement authorities seek to visit a school to interrogate or take a child into custody.

NUSD is one of the most diverse school districts in the United States – 30 percent of our students speak more than one language – and this safe haven resolution is consistent with our Core Values.

Other California school districts also have declared themselves safe havens. Former State Supt. of Public Instruction Tom Torlarkson encouraged such action, noting that a 1982 U.S. Supreme Court decision requires schools to enroll all eligible children regardless of immigration status.

Every NUSD student is a valuable part of our district family, and providing an engaging and safe learning community where all students will demonstrate responsibility, achieve academic and social-emotional growth, embrace diversity, and are prepared to make decisions about their college and career success is NUSDs mission, regardless of immigration status.

For Additional information, please visit the district website at:

[Safe Haven District](#)

## **Comprehensive School Safety Plan (CSSP)**

The safety of our students, faculty and community is of critical importance and with the guidance of required and recommended actions in California Education Code sections 32280-32289.5, each NUSD school site is responsible for the development of a Comprehensive School Safety Plan (CSSP). Each CSSP has been developed by the School Site Council (SSC) Safety Planning Team in partnership with Site Incident Management Team and NUSD Safety and Safe Schools Department.

Upon completion, each CSSP will be reviewed by the School Site Council (SSC), Safety and Safe Schools Department, Superintendent (or Designee), Sacramento PD and Sacramento Fire Department before being presented for approval by the NUSD Board of Trustees. In accordance with California Education Code 32286, each CSSP will be reviewed and adopted by March 1 of each year.

### **Comprehensive School Safety Plan (CSSP) Updates and Meetings**

Natomas Park Elementary School Administration (or designee) will make updates to CSSP documents on an as needed basis. Once changes are made, they will be shared with the Safety and Safe Schools Department and will be shared and reviewed at the next School Site Council (SSC) meeting.

Additionally, Natomas Park Elementary School Incident Management Team and Safety Planning Team members will attend two (2) district meetings a year hosted by the Safety and Safe Schools Department. These meetings will support the planning and implementation of next year's CSSP and provide practical safety scenario training based on current safety trends.

## DATA ASSESSMENT

**Education Code Requirements 32282(a)(1):** Each site is required to do an assessment of the current status of crime at the school and at school-related functions that may be accomplished by reviewing one or more of the following types of information:

- Spring Student Survey (4th-12th)
- Site initiated Parent/Student/Staff Surveys
- Office Referrals
- Attendance Rates / SARB Data
- Suspension / Expulsion Data
- SPSA
- Local area and/or on campus crime analysis data
- Incidents related to bullying, harassment, discrimination & other biased or hate motivated violations
- Property Damage Data

### FINDINGS & ACTIONS

Below you will find an assessment template to document the findings and actions of your school climate data. Once you have identified the data and shared your analysis, share your planned actions to improve the campus safety, culture and environment using CCLI: Plan, Act, Monitor, Adjust.

#### Natomas Park Elementary CSSP Data Assessment

| School Climate Data       |      | Analysis  | CCLI: Plan, Act, Monitor, Adjust  |
|---------------------------|------|---|---|
| Total Grade Enrollment    | 742  | For the 23-24 school year, the prior Principal did not have an Assistant Principal to assist with implementing a school-wide behavior plan. In reviewing the school's current PBIS system, all parts of the system were not complete or have yet to be developed. | Plan: Establish a full-functioning PBIS team led by the Assistant Principal, provide training to members, and revise the current structures.  |
| Suspension Rate YEAR      | 8.6% |   | Act: We have a PBIS team and assigned roles. We have revised our school behavior matrix and begun the development of lesson plans. The Tier 1 team has gone to 1 district training, and the Tier 2 team will be going to training in January. |
| Total Suspensions YEAR    | 153  |   | Monitor: Attendance at district training, benchmarks set by the team  |
| Number of Incidences YEAR |      |   | Adjust: Currently, there is not a smart goal in the SPSA for behavior. The principal will work with the PBIS team to develop a school-wide behavior goal to include in SPSA that is PBIS-focused.   |
| Property Damage YEAR      |      |   | Other:  |

## Section 1

### SCHOOL SAFETY PREPAREDNESS

In addition to the planning and implementation of our CSSP, Natomas Park Elementary School staff will meet at the start of each school year to review NUSD safety measures to ensure policies and procedures are followed in an efficient manner. The following are key elements to the preparedness of possible safety emergencies that could take place:

#### **Part 1: Emergency Safety Preparedness**

- NUSD Tactical Response Plan
- Emergency Notification Process
- Standard Response Protocol and Standard Reunification Method
- Emergency Roles of Staff
- Site Safety Drills
- Outdoor Environmental Guidelines

#### **Part 2: Student & Employee Safety**

- Non-Discrimination/Harassment Policy
- At-Risk Youths
- Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting
- Sexual Harassment Policy & Student Sexual Harassment Policy
  - Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures
- Weapons and Dangerous Instruments
  - Prohibited Items
- Gang Policy
  - Prevention, Intervention and Suppression Measures
  - Parent/Guardian and Community Outreach
- Notifying Teacher of Pupil Engaged in Certain Acts

# SCHOOL SAFETY PREPAREDNESS

## Part 1 - Emergency Safety Preparedness

### **NUSD Tactical Response Plan**

In alignment with AB 1747 and EC 32282(a)(2)(J), Natomas Unified School District, has worked with the Sacramento Police Department to develop a Tactical Response Plan in response to criminal incidents, including procedures related to active shooter incidents on school campuses and at school-related functions.

#### **Prevention**

- Staff are trained in observing and reporting information to administration that can be considered threatening or dangerous
- All visitors to campus are registered through the front office with the use of the E-Visitor program
- Visitors without proper credentials (visitor badges) are addressed by adults on campus and redirected to the office
- Campus access is limited due to safety fencing and use a single entry after start of school day

#### **Preparedness**

Each school has implemented and practiced lockdown procedures in preparation for immediate threats to student and staff safety. These procedures immediately secure the campus against a violent intruder or immediate threat and are practiced regularly.

#### **Response**

In the event of criminal activity and/or immediate threat, schools will initiate the following procedures:

- Lockdown procedures informing staff on the threat
- Call 911 for emergency services
- Follow the district Emergency Notification List
- Continue to inform staff using site procedures on threat status
  - Staff will engage in responses based upon situational awareness
- District Staff will provide support as needed
- District ICS will engage with first responders to assist
- Reunification procedures initiated

#### **Recovery**

- Initiate Steps to return to normal activity based upon situational assessment
- The site and/or district team will debrief appropriate district, school, and community stakeholders.
- Crisis Support Team Leader will ensure counseling services are implemented, if needed.
- Members of the activated teams will provide any pertinent information to the Incident
- Commander for preparation of the Incident Report.
- The site and/or district teams will participate in the incident debriefing meeting

## **NUSD Emergency Notification Process**

### **When there is an EMERGENCY Situation:**

- Call 9-1-1 then call the Safety Line
- In the event of an emergency, after 9-1-1 has been called, contact the Safety Line to report your incident.
- Safety & Safe Schools will provide additional support and communication to district departments as needed.
- If the incident includes violence against an employee, please complete the Workplace Violence Prevention Notice.

### **When there is an URGENT/NON-EMERGENCY Situation:**

- Call the Safety Line
- In the event of an urgent/non-emergency situation, contact the Safety Line to report your incident.
- Safety & Safe Schools will provide additional support and communication to district departments as needed.
- If the incident includes violence against an employee, please complete the Workplace Violence Prevention Notice.

### **When there is a SITE LEVEL Situation:**

- In the event of a site level situation, contact your Supervisor of Schools for further assistance if needed.
- If the situation elevates to emergency, urgent or non-emergency, contact the Safety Line for further assistance.
- If the incident includes violence against an employee, please complete the Workplace Violence Prevention Notice.

## **Emergency Procedures and Standard Reunification Method**

In partnership, Natomas Unified School District has worked with local emergency agencies to identify appropriate response language that is being used during an emergency situation.

Natomas Park Elementary School administration and staff will utilize age appropriate tools and training to prepare students on how to respond when in an emergency situation.

### **Hold**

A Hold will be used when there is a need for students and staff to remain in their current classroom or area until further instruction. Staff are trained to close their classroom door, keep students out of the hallways and common areas and account for all students and adults under their immediate supervision until further instruction.

#### **Examples of when a school might call for a Hold:**

- An altercation in a hallway
- A medical issue that needs attention
- Unfinished maintenance operation in a common area during class changes

### **Shelter-In-Place**

A Shelter-in-Place will be used to protect school occupants from external threats that can be human-made, environmental, chemical or any other situations deemed a potential threat occurring outside of the school building or in the surrounding neighborhood. Staff trained to make sure all doors are locked, students will not be allowed to exit to the outside of the building unless escorted by school personnel when safe and all indoor activities are to continue as usual, account for all students and adults under their immediate supervision and report any injuries or problems.

At any time a shelter-in-place can be elevated to a lockdown.

#### **Examples of when a school might call for a Shelter-In-Place:**

- Unwelcome individual that does not pose a bodily threat
- Chemical spill
- Fallen power line
- Loose animals on campus
- Police activity in the surrounding area

### **Lockdown**

A Lockdown will be used when a threat to safety exists inside or outside the building. Movement will be prohibited within the school. Staff trained to make sure all doors are locked, lights are turned off, occupants are out of sight of doors and windows and the space is as quiet as possible, account for all students and adults under their immediate supervision and report any injuries or problems.

#### **Examples of when a school might call for a Lockdown:**

- An intruder in the building or on school grounds deemed to be of significant threat
- Community disturbance near the school

- Request by law enforcement agency

## **Evacuation - On-Site**

An Evacuation is used to move students and staff out range to avoid a potentially threatening situation that involves the area, classroom or building. Evacuation of the building may be issued by a school administrator or first responders. Staff are trained to direct all students to follow the practiced evacuation procedure, grab their Red/Green safety folder and backpack, account for all students and adults under their immediate supervision and report any injuries or problems.

### **Examples of when a school might call for an Evacuation:**

- Fire to one or more areas/buildings
- Gas leak
- Structure Issue
- Threat to the inside of the buildings

## **Earthquake (Drop, Cover and Hold On)**

Drop, Cover and Hold On will be used to protect school occupants from earthquakes and other incidents where building shaking may occur.

- **DROP** where you are onto your hands and knees: This position protects you from being knocked down and also allows you to stay low and crawl to shelter if nearby
- **COVER** your head and neck with one arm and hand
  - If a sturdy table or desk is nearby, crawl underneath it for shelter
  - If no shelter is nearby, crawl next to an interior wall (away from windows)
- **HOLD ON** until shaking stops
  - Under shelter: hold on to your shelter with one hand; be ready to move with it if it shifts
  - No shelter: hold on to your head and neck with both arms and hands

## Standard Reunification Method

Circumstances may occur at the school that require parents to pick up their students in a formalized, controlled release. This process is called a Reunification and may be necessary due to weather, a power outage, hazmat incident, or if a crisis occurs at the school.

The Standard Reunification Method is a protocol that makes this process more predictable and less chaotic for all involved. Because a reunification is not a typical end of school day event, a reunification may occur at a location other than the school a student attends. If this location is another school, then those students may be subject to a controlled release as well.

### **NOTIFICATION**

Parents may be notified in a number of ways. The school or district will use Parent Square as the main source of notification. In some cases, students may be asked to send a text message to their parents. A reunification text message from a student may look something like this: *“The school has closed, please pick me up at 3:25 at the main entrance. Bring your ID.”*

### **PARENT/GUARDIAN EXPECTATIONS**

If a parent or guardian is notified that a reunification is needed, there are some expectations that parents or guardians should be aware of.

**First, bring identification:** This will streamline processes during reunification.

**Second, be patient:** Reunification is a process that protects both the safety of the student and provides for an accountable change of custody from the school to a recognized custodial parent or guardian.

### **WHAT IF A PARENT CAN'T PICK-UP THEIR STUDENT?**

When a parent can't immediately go to the reunification site, students will only be released to individuals previously identified as a student's emergency contact. Otherwise, the school will hold students until parents can pick up their student.

### **WHAT IF THE STUDENT DROVE TO SCHOOL?**

There may be instances where a student may not be allowed to remove a vehicle from the parking lot. In this case, parents are advised to recover the student. In some circumstances, high school students may be released on their own.

### **HOW IT WORKS**

For students, the school asks that students are orderly and quiet while waiting. Students may be asked to text a message to their parents or guardians. Students are also asked not to send other text messages either in or out of the school or reunification area. Keeping the cellular network usage at a minimum may be important during a reunification.

### **REUNIFICATION CARDS**

**When there is limited to no internet accessibility, the Reunification team will use Reunification Cards during the process.** For parents, there are a couple of steps. If a parent is driving to the school, greater awareness of traffic and emergency vehicles is advised. Parents should park where indicated and not abandon vehicles. Parents are asked to go to the Reunification “Check In” area and form lines based on the first letter of their student's last name. While in line, parents are asked to fill out a reunification card. This card will be separated during the process. Some of the same information is repeated on both

the top and separated bottom of the card. Parents are asked to complete all parts of the card. In the case of multiple students being reunified, a separate card for each student needs to be completed.

### **BRING ID TO CHECK IN**

During check in, identification and custody rights are confirmed. The card is separated and the bottom half given back to the parent. From the “Check In” area parents are directed to the “Reunification” area. There, a runner will take the bottom half of the card and take it to the Student Assembly Area to recover the student or students. Parents should be aware that in some cases, they may be invited into the building for further information.

### **INTERVIEWS AND COUNSELING**

In some cases, parents may be advised that a law enforcement investigation is underway and may be advised that interviews are necessary. In extreme cases, parents may be pulled aside for emergency or medical information.

### **Resources:**

[Standard Reunification Method Parent Handout](#)

## **Emergency Roles of Staff**

*As a public employee, staff are by law "Disaster Service Workers" when assigned. (Calif. Governmental Code, Title 1, Division 4, Chapter 3100 Section 8).*

While following the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command System (ICS) structures and roles, a Site Incident Management Team is created and led by the Incident Commander (Administrator or designee) who is tasked to manage the any emergency operation at the site level and utilize their Site Incident Management Team as needed.

In the event an emergency is beyond the capacity of the Site Incident Management Team, the Incident Commander (or designee) will work with NUSD Incident Command Team to receive support and direction in handling the emergency. NUSD Incident Command Team will work closely with Emergency Services to receive updated information to determine appropriate steps to every situation.

### **Classroom Teacher**

The classroom teacher's primary responsibility is for the safety and welfare of the pupils. The teacher will:

- Keep accurate and current information about the school's emergency plans.
- Provide instruction for the pupils in techniques of survival and the emergency procedures they must follow during drills and actual events.
- Understand and practice effective methods for handling pupils and parents during an emergency.
- Have a readily accessible updated list of students in their charge with pertinent data and phone numbers.
- Make all emergency data and plans available to a substitute teacher.
- Have a sense of permission to act independently, if necessary, based upon emergency needs to ensure student safety.

### **Support Staff (Certificated and Classified)**

Support staff should work in unity with site leadership. In some cases, individuals may have specific assignments. Support staff will:

- Keep accurate and current information about the school emergency plans.
- Know what to do and when to do it.
- Act to support emergency operations to ensure student control.
- Report and be available to react to site needs based upon the judgment of the Incident Commander.

If a classroom teacher or support staff is selected to be a part of the Site Incident Management Team, the following jobs will be designated appropriately:

## Site Incident Management Team

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Incident Commander</b> | Principal or Executive Director            |
| <b>Operations Lead</b>    | Assistant Principal or Designee            |
| <b>Safety Lead</b>        | Lead Secretary, Office Support or Designee |
| <b>Planning Lead</b>      | Lead Secretary, Office Support or Designee |
| <b>Logistics Lead</b>     | Lead Secretary, Office Support or Designee |

**Incident Commander** is the overall leader of a site during an emergency incident. The Incident Commander makes decisions based on the information and suggestions being provided from other members of the team. Incident command will be initiated at the site level and may be transferred to the district level or first responders depending upon the incident.

- This job will be designated to the school site Principal or Executive Director

**Operations Lead** works to coordinate and lead tactical operations that directly deal with the response to the emergency. *The Operations Lead* assigns and manages the direct response to the disaster, which can include the following: Site Facility Check/Security, Search & Rescue, Student Care, and Medical Student Release.

- This job will be designated to the school site Assistant Principal or designee

**Safety Lead** will work alongside *The Operations Lead* to ensure that all activities are conducted in as safe a manner as possible under the existing circumstances. *The Safety Lead* will be familiar with appropriate safety responses and school facilities to allow for appropriate action to be taken. *The Safety Lead* will work with additional Site Incident Management Team members who will be activated at different levels during an incident.

- This job will be designated to Lead Secretary, Office Support or Designee

**Planning Lead** is responsible for providing planning services for the incident by tracking resources, collecting/analyzing information, and maintaining documentation. This team member is responsible for supervising the situation status indicator (status board) and finding facilities for use as school classrooms or administrative use.

- This job will be designated to Lead Secretary, Office Support or Designee

**Logistics Lead** is in charge of ordering, maintaining, and accounting for essential equipment and supplies. They provide food services, supplies, and services for first responders, as necessary. This team member contracts for and purchases goods and services needed to support the incident.

- This job will be designated to Lead Secretary, Office Support or Designee

**Site Facility Check/Security Personnel** ensures access points around danger areas or working areas are secured as well as mark off areas that may not be suitable for entry by students, employees, or visitors while on campus with direction from the *The Operations Lead* or *The Safety Lead*. Work in pairs when possible.

- This job could be designated to Campus Safety Specialist, Playground Assistance, Librarian

**Search and Rescue Team** (2 or more assigned) is responsible for locating students, personnel, or other visitors trapped on the school site due to damage and debris with direction from the *The Operations Lead* or *The Safety Lead*.

- This job could be designated to Campus Safety Specialist, Playground Assistance, Librarian

**Student Care Team Lead** ensures the care and safety of all students on campus with direction from the *The Operations Lead* or *The Safety Lead*.

- This job could be designated to Health Assistant, School Nurse, Secretary

**Student Release Team Lead** initiates the reunification process for students with direction from the *The Incident Commander* or *The Operations Lead*.

- This job could be designated to Attendance Clerk, Secretary or Office Support with assistance from available staff, volunteers or district Emergency Management Team.

## Site Safety Drills EC 32001–32004 & 32289.5

To assure both faculty and students are given the opportunity to practice the following safety drills, Natomas Park Elementary School has prepared a Site Safety Drill schedule that will be used to implement drills during a variety of dates and times. After the completion of these drills, data will be collected from faculty members and students through feedback forms to collect data on the efficiency of the practiced drill. As the data is collected, appropriate changes will be made to ensure the most effective process is being practiced.

### **Drill requirements**

|                         | <b>Elementary Schools</b> | <b>TK-8 Schools</b>   | <b>Secondary Schools</b> |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Lockdown Drill</b>   | <b>Monthly</b>            | <b>Monthly</b>        | <b>2 time a year</b>     |
| <b>Evacuation Drill</b> | <b>4 times a year</b>     | <b>4 times a year</b> | <b>4 times a year</b>    |
| <b>Earthquake Drill</b> | <b>3 time a year</b>      | <b>3 time a year</b>  | <b>3 time a year</b>     |

### **Lockdown**

#### **Locks, Lights, Out of Sight**

A Lockdown is a protocol used to secure individual rooms and keep occupants quiet and in place when a threat to safety exists inside or outside the building. Examples of this include an unwanted intruder, community disturbance near the school, or during school searches (drugs, weapons, etc.). Movement will be prohibited within the school. If necessary, occupants will be seated on the floor in a locked room out of view from any windows and doors leading to the hallway or outside.

### **Evacuation**

An evacuation will be used when there is an immediate or urgent need to move students, faculty and visitors away from a threat or actual occurrence of a hazard. Examples of this include fire, explosion, violent incidents, or other threats to immediate or local surroundings.

### **Earthquake/Drop-Cover-Hold**

The “drop-cover-hold” is standard response to earthquakes. Drop where you are onto your hands and knees. Cover your head and neck with one arm and hand. Hold on to the shelter, and to head and neck until shaking stops. Each year, Natomas Unified School District participates in the California Great Shake-Out performed every October. During this event, all participating entities across California will perform an earthquake drill on the same day, at the same time.

# Outdoor Environmental Guidelines

Outdoor Environmental Guidelines provides direction to staff regarding the ozone pollution forecast and wildfire smoke advisories in the Sacramento region during the warmer months and fire season to ensure students and staff are being safe when partaking in outdoor activities and duties. Using AQI tools on Airnow.org, selected District and school site staff will be receiving daily communication via email to inform them of the daily air quality index (AQI) and heat index (HI). These daily communications will be sent daily May-October.

## Air Quality Index (AQI)

| AIR QUALITY INDEX - PARTICULATE MATTER |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 301+                                   | HAZARDOUS                      |
| 201-300                                | VERY UNHEALTHY                 |
| 151-200                                | UNHEALTHY                      |
| 101-150                                | UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE GROUPS |
| 51-100                                 | MODERATE                       |
| 0-50                                   | GOOD                           |

### RECOMMENDED ACTIONS DURING WILDFIRE SMOKE AND OTHER UNHEALTHY AIR QUALITY EVENTS



#### SCHOOL DISTRICTS

##### HOW TO USE THIS CHART

###### STEP 1

Find the current local air quality conditions (AQI) at [fire.airnow.gov](http://fire.airnow.gov). To find forecasted air quality conditions go to [AirQuality.org](http://AirQuality.org).

###### STEP 2

Once you know the AQI nearest your school or outdoor event, use the table below to help you plan and make decisions during a wildfire smoke event or anytime the AQI increases.

| ACTIVITY   | LEVEL 1<br>GOOD | LEVEL 2<br>MODERATE  | LEVEL 3<br>UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE GROUPS   | LEVEL 4<br>UNHEALTHY  | LEVEL 5<br>VERY UNHEALTHY<br>SCHOOL CLOSURE MAY BE CONSIDERED <sup>2</sup>      | LEVEL 6<br>HAZARDOUS<br>SCHOOL CLOSURE MAY BE CONSIDERED <sup>2</sup>           |
|--|-----------------|--|---|---|---|---|
|  | AQI<br>0-50     | 51-100   | 101-150   | 151-200   | 201-300   | ≥301  |
| <b>RECESS (15 MIN)</b>                             | No Restrictions | Ensure sensitive individuals <sup>1</sup> are medically managing their condition | Sensitive individuals <sup>1</sup> should exercise indoors or avoid vigorous outdoor activities<br><br>Allow individuals who complain of difficulty breathing to play indoors   | Exercise indoors or avoid vigorous outdoor activities<br><br>Sensitive individuals <sup>1</sup> or any individual who complains of difficulty breathing should remain indoors                     | No outdoor activity<br><br>All activity should be moved indoors or discontinued | No outdoor activity<br><br>All activity should be moved indoors or discontinued |
| <b>PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASS (60 MIN)</b>           | No Restrictions | Ensure sensitive individuals <sup>1</sup> are medically managing their condition | Sensitive individuals <sup>1</sup> should exercise indoors or avoid vigorous outdoor activities<br><br>Make indoor space available for sensitive individuals <sup>1</sup><br><br>Increase rest periods and substitutions to lower breathing rates | Exercise indoors or limit vigorous outdoor activity to maximum 15 minutes<br><br>Sensitive individuals <sup>1</sup> or any individual who complains of difficulty breathing should remain indoors | No outdoor activity<br><br>All activity should be moved indoors or discontinued | No outdoor activity<br><br>All activity should be moved indoors or discontinued |
| <b>ATHLETIC PRACTICE/ SCHEDULED SPORTING EVENT</b> | No Restrictions | Ensure sensitive individuals <sup>1</sup> are medically managing their condition | Ensure sensitive individuals <sup>1</sup> are medically managing their condition<br><br>Reduce vigorous exercise to 30 minutes per hour<br><br>Increase rest periods and substitutions to lower breathing rates                                   | Reduce vigorous exercise to 30 minutes per hour<br><br>Increase rest periods and substitutions to lower breathing rates<br><br>Sensitive individuals <sup>1</sup> should remain indoors           | Practice or event should be rescheduled, moved indoors or discontinued          | Practice or event should be rescheduled, moved indoors or discontinued          |
| <b>SCHEDULED OUTDOOR EVENT</b>                     | No Restrictions | Ensure sensitive individuals <sup>1</sup> are medically managing their condition | Ensure sensitive individuals <sup>1</sup> are medically managing their condition  | Decrease duration of events exceeding two hours<br><br>Consider rescheduling or relocating event  | Event should be rescheduled, moved indoors or discontinued                      | Event should be rescheduled, moved indoors or discontinued                      |

<sup>1</sup> Sensitive Individuals include anyone with asthma or other heart/lung conditions. Those with asthma should follow their asthma action plans and keep their quick-relief medicine handy.

<sup>2</sup> To meet waiver approval conditions due to emergency conditions (Form J-13A) from the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, poor air quality must be shown to be caused by an emergency event such as a wildfire.



## **Outdoor Environmental Contingency Plan**

Natomas Park Elementary School Outdoor Environment Contingency Plan addresses the site's responsibilities in emergencies associated with smoke, high AQI, extreme heat, and severe weather. It provides a framework for coordination of protocols and procedures to keep students, staff and community members safe.

### **During School Hours**

When the weather outside does not permit outdoor activities, due to the existence of either smoke, high AQI, extreme heat, or severe weather, staff will be notified and instructed to move indoors.

### **Before School and Lunch Time**

Students and staff are to remain inside when the existence of intense smoke, unhealthy AQI, extreme heat, or severe weather systems are present.

### **After School Activities**

When the weather outside does not permit outdoor extracurricular activities, due to the existence of either smoke, high AQI, extreme heat, or severe weather, staff will be notified and instructed to move indoors. If indoor space is not available or does not provide appropriate space for the activity to continue, parents will be contacted via Parent Square to communicate the change in schedule and the expectation for pick-up procedures for the day.

## **SCHOOL SAFETY PREPAREDNESS**

### **Part 2 - Student & Employee Safety**

#### **Nondiscrimination/Harassment - BP 5145.3(a)**

This policy shall apply to all acts constituting unlawful discrimination or harassment related to school activity or to school attendance occurring within a district school, to acts which occur off campus or outside of school-related or school-sponsored activities but which may have an impact or create a hostile environment at school, and to all acts of the Governing Board and the Superintendent in enacting policies and procedures that govern the district.

The Board desires to provide a welcoming, safe, and supportive school environment that allows all students equal access to and opportunities in the district's academic, extracurricular, and other educational support programs, services, and activities.

The Board prohibits, at any district school or school activity, unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying, targeted at any student by anyone, based on the student's actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, ethnicity, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

Unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, may result from physical, verbal, nonverbal, or written conduct based on any of the categories listed above. Unlawful discrimination also occurs when prohibited conduct is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it affects a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity; creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment; has the effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with a student's academic performance; or otherwise adversely affects a student's educational opportunities. Unlawful discrimination also includes disparate treatment of students based on one of the categories above with respect to the provision of opportunities to participate in school programs or activities or the provision or receipt of educational benefits or services.

Because unlawful discrimination may occur when disciplining students, including suspension and expulsion, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that staff enforce discipline rules fairly, consistently and in a non-discriminatory manner, as specified in Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5144 - Discipline, Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process, and Administrative Regulation 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students With Disabilities).

The Board also prohibits any form of retaliation against any individual who reports or participates in the reporting of unlawful discrimination, files or participates in the filing of a complaint, or investigates or participates in the investigation of a complaint or report alleging unlawful discrimination. Retaliation complaints shall be investigated and resolved in the same manner as a discrimination complaint.

The Superintendent or designee shall facilitate students' access to the educational program by publicizing the district's nondiscrimination policy and related complaint procedures to students, parents/guardians, and employees. In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall post the district's policies prohibiting discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying and other required information on the district's website in a manner that is

easily accessible to parents/guardians and students, in accordance with law and the accompanying administrative regulation. (Education Code 234.1, 234.6)

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training and/or information on the scope and use of the policy and complaint procedures and take other measures designed to increase the school community's understanding of the requirements of law related to discrimination. The Superintendent or designee shall regularly review the implementation of the district's nondiscrimination policies and practices and, as necessary, shall take action to remove any identified barrier to student access to or participation in the district's educational program. The Superintendent or designee shall report the findings and recommendations to the Board after each review.

Regardless of whether a complainant complies with the writing, timeline, and/or other formal filing requirements, all complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, shall be investigated and prompt action taken to stop the discrimination, prevent recurrence, and address any continuing effect on students. Students who engage in unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, in violation of law, Board policy, or administrative regulation shall be subject to appropriate consequence or discipline, which may include suspension or expulsion when the behavior is severe or pervasive as defined in Education Code 48900.4. Any employee who permits or engages in prohibited discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

All allegations of unlawful discrimination in district programs and activities shall be brought, investigated, and resolved in accordance with Board Policy 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures.

### **Record-Keeping**

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a record of all reported cases of unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, to enable the district to monitor, address, and prevent repetitive prohibited behavior in district schools.

### **Nondiscrimination/Harassment - AR 5145.3**

The policy guides school site staff and administration regarding transgender and gender-variant student concerns to continue safe learning environments for all students, and to ensure that every student has equal access to all components of the District's educational program in accordance with the law.

The Governing Board believes that as a general rule, in circumstances where students are separated by gender in school activities, transgender and gender-variant students shall be permitted to participate in accordance with their gender identity that is exclusively and consistently asserted at school.

The Governing Board believes that these students have the right to:

- Be addressed by a name and pronoun corresponding to their gender identity that is exclusively and consistently asserted at school.
- Have access to the restroom, locker room and sleeping facilities that correspond to their gender identity that is exclusively and consistently asserted at school.
- Participate in sports and gym classes that correspond to their gender identity that is exclusively and consistently asserted at school.
- Dress in accordance with their gender identity that is exclusively and consistently asserted at school

School site administration shall coordinate with the District's Department of School Leadership when implementing the foregoing Gender Identity policy.

The district designates the individual(s) identified below as the employee(s) responsible for coordinating the district's efforts to comply with applicable state and federal civil rights laws and to answer inquiries regarding the district's nondiscrimination policies. The individual(s) shall also serve as the compliance officer(s) specified in AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures as the responsible employee to handle complaints alleging unlawful discrimination targeting a student, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, based on the student's actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, ethnicity, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, or any other legally protected status or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. The coordinator/compliance officer(s) may be contacted at: (Education Code 234.1; 5 CCR 4621)

Coordinator III – Human Resources  
1901 Arena Blvd  
Sacramento, CA 95834  
(916) 561-5253  
customerservice@natomasunified.org

### **Measures to Prevent Discrimination**

To prevent unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, and bullying, of students at district schools or in school activities and to ensure equal access of all students to the educational program, the Superintendent or designee shall implement the following measures:

1. Publicize the district's nondiscrimination policy and related complaint procedures, including the coordinator/compliance officer's contact information, to students, parents/guardians, employees, volunteers, and the general public by posting them in prominent locations and providing easy access to them through district-supported communications
2. Post the district's policies and procedures prohibiting discrimination, harassment, student sexual harassment, intimidation, bullying, and cyberbullying, including a section on social media bullying that includes all of the references described in Education Code 234.6 as possible forums for social media, in a prominent location on the district's web site in a manner that is easily accessible to parents/guardians and students (Education Code 234.6)
3. Post the definition of sex discrimination and harassment as described in Education Code 230, including the rights set forth in Education Code 221.8, in a prominent location on the district's web site in a manner that is easily accessible to parents/guardians and students (Education Code 234.6)
4. Post in a prominent location on the district web site in a manner that is easily accessible to parents/guardians and students information regarding Title IX prohibitions against discrimination based on a student's sex, gender, gender identity, pregnancy, and parental status, including the following: (Education Code 221.6, 221.61, 234.6)
  - a. The name and contact information of the district's Title IX Coordinator, including the phone number and email address
  - b. The rights of students and the public and the responsibilities of the district under Title IX, including a list of rights as specified in Education Code 221.8 and web links to information about

those rights and responsibilities located on the web sites of the Office for Equal Opportunity and the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR)

c. A description of how to file a complaint of noncompliance under Title IX, which shall include:

- i. An explanation of the statute of limitations within which a complaint must be filed after an alleged incident of discrimination has occurred and how a complaint may be filed beyond the statute of limitations
- ii. An explanation of how the complaint will be investigated and how the complainant may further pursue the complaint, including web links to this information on the OCR's website
- iii. A web link to the OCR complaints form and the contact information for the office, including the phone number and email address for the office

d. A link to the Title IX information included on the California Department of Education's (CDE) web site

5. Post a link to statewide CDE-compiled resources, including community-based organizations, that provide support to youth who have been subjected to school-based discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying and to their families. Such resources shall be posted in a prominent location on the district's website in a manner that is easily accessible to parents/guardians and students. (Education Code 234.5, 234.6)
6. Provide to students a handbook that contains age-appropriate information that clearly describes the district's nondiscrimination policy, procedures for filing a complaint, and resources available to students who feel that they have been the victim of any such behavior.
7. Annually notify all students and parents/guardians of the district's nondiscrimination policy, including its responsibility to provide a safe, nondiscriminatory school environment for all students. The notice shall inform students and parents/guardians that they may request to meet with the compliance officer to determine how best to accommodate or resolve concerns that may arise from the district's implementation of its nondiscrimination policies. The notice shall also inform all students and parents/guardians that, to the extent possible, the district will address any individual student's interests and concerns in private.
8. Ensure that students and parents/guardians, including those with limited English proficiency, are notified of how to access the relevant information provided in the district's nondiscrimination policy and related complaint procedures, notices, and forms in a language they can understand. If 15 percent or more of students enrolled in a particular district school speak a single primary language other than English, the district's policy, regulation, forms, and notices concerning nondiscrimination shall be translated into that language in accordance with Education Code 234.1 and 48985. In all other instances, the district shall ensure meaningful access to all relevant information for parents/guardians with limited English proficiency.
9. Provide to students, employees, volunteers, and parents/guardians age-appropriate training and/or information regarding the district's nondiscrimination policy; what constitutes prohibited discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying; how and to whom a report of an incident should be made; and how to guard against segregating or stereotyping students when

providing instruction, guidance, supervision, or other services to them. Such training and information shall include details of guidelines the district may use to provide a discrimination-free environment for all district students.

10. At the beginning of each school year, inform school employees that any employee who witnesses any act of unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, against a student is required to intervene if it is safe to do so. (Education Code 234.1)
11. At the beginning of each school year, inform each principal or designee of the district's responsibility to provide appropriate assistance or resources to protect students from threatened or potentially discriminatory behavior and ensure their privacy rights.

### **Enforcement of District Policy**

The Superintendent or designee shall take appropriate actions to reinforce BP 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment. As needed, these actions may include any of the following:

1. Removing vulgar or offending graffiti
2. Providing training to students, staff, and parents/guardians about how to recognize unlawful discrimination, how to report it or file a complaint, and how to respond
3. Disseminating and/or summarizing the district's policy and regulation regarding unlawful discrimination
4. Consistent with laws regarding the confidentiality of student and personnel records, communicating to students, parents/guardians, and the community the school's response plan to unlawful discrimination or harassment
5. Taking appropriate disciplinary action against students, employees, and anyone determined to have engaged in wrongdoing in violation of district policy, including any student who is found to have filed a complaint of discrimination that the student knew was not true

### **Process for Initiating and Responding to Complaints**

Students who feel that they have been subjected to unlawful discrimination described above or in district policy are strongly encouraged to immediately contact the compliance officer, principal, or any other staff member. In addition, students who observe any such incident are strongly encouraged to report the incident to the compliance officer or principal, whether or not the alleged victim files a complaint.

Any school employee who observes an incident of unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, or to whom such an incident is reported shall report the incident to the compliance officer or principal within a school day, whether or not the alleged victim files a complaint.

Any school employee who witnesses an incident of unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, shall immediately intervene to stop the incident when it is safe to do so. (Education Code 234.1)

When a report of unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, is made to or received by the principal or compliance officer, the principal or compliance officer shall notify the student or parent/guardian of the right to file a formal complaint in accordance with AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures or, for complaints of sexual harassment that meet the federal Title IX definition, AR 5145.71 - Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures. Once notified verbally or in writing, the compliance officer shall begin the investigation and shall implement immediate measures necessary to stop the

discrimination and ensure that all students have access to the educational program and a safe school environment. Any interim measures adopted to address unlawful discrimination shall, to the extent possible, not disadvantage the complainant or a student who is the victim of the alleged unlawful discrimination.

Any report or complaint alleging unlawful discrimination by the principal, compliance officer, or any other person to whom a report would ordinarily be made or complaint filed shall instead be made to or filed with the Superintendent or designee who shall determine how the complaint will be investigated.

### **Issues Unique to Intersex, Nonbinary, Transgender and Gender-Nonconforming Students**

*Gender identity* of a student means the student's gender-related identity, appearance, or behavior as determined from the student's internal sense, whether or not that gender-related identity, appearance, or behavior is different from that traditionally associated with the student's physiology or assigned sex at birth.

*Gender expression* means a student's gender-related appearance and behavior, whether stereotypically associated with the student's assigned sex at birth. (Education Code 210.7)

*Gender transition* refers to the process in which a student changes from living and identifying as the sex assigned to the student at birth to living and identifying as the sex that corresponds to the student's gender identity.

*Gender-nonconforming student* means a student whose gender expression differs from stereotypical expectations.

*Intersex student* means a student with natural bodily variations in anatomy, hormones, chromosomes, and other traits that differ from expectations generally associated with female and male bodies.

*Nonbinary student* means a student whose gender identity falls outside of the traditional conception of strictly either female or male, regardless of whether or not the student identifies as transgender, was born with intersex traits, uses gender-neutral pronouns, or uses agender, genderqueer, pangender, gender nonconforming, gender variant, or such other more specific term to describe their gender.

*Transgender student* means a student whose gender identity is different from the gender assigned at birth.

The district prohibits acts of verbal, nonverbal, or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility that are based on sex, gender identity, or gender expression, or that have the purpose or effect of producing a negative impact on the student's academic performance or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment, regardless of whether the acts are sexual in nature. Examples of the types of conduct which are prohibited in the district and which may constitute gender-based harassment include, but are not limited to:

1. Refusing to address a student by a name and the pronouns consistent with the student's gender identity
2. Disciplining or disparaging a student or excluding the student from participating in activities, for behavior or appearance that is consistent with the student's gender identity or that does not conform to stereotypical notions of masculinity or femininity, as applicable
3. Blocking a student's entry to the restroom that corresponds to the student's gender identity
4. Taunting a student because the student participates in an athletic activity more typically favored by a student of the other sex
5. Revealing a student's gender identity to individuals who do not have a legitimate need for the information, without the student's consent
6. Using gender-specific slurs

7. Physically assaulting a student motivated by hostility toward the student because of the student's gender, gender identity, or gender expression

The district's uniform complaint procedures (AR 1312.3) or Title IX sexual harassment procedures (AR 5145.71), as applicable, shall be used to report and resolve complaints alleging discrimination against intersex, nonbinary, transgender, and gender-nonconforming students.

Examples of bases for complaints include, but are not limited to, the above list, as well as improper rejection by the district of a student's asserted gender identity, denial of access to facilities that correspond with a student's gender identity, improper disclosure of a student's gender identity, discriminatory enforcement of a dress code, and other instances of gender based harassment.

To ensure that intersex, nonbinary, transgender, and gender-nonconforming students are afforded the same rights, benefits, and protections provided to all students by law and Board policy, the district shall address each situation on a case-by-case basis, in accordance with the following guidelines:

1. **Right to privacy:** A student's intersex, nonbinary, transgender, or gender nonconforming status is the student's private information. The district shall develop strategies to prevent unauthorized disclosure of students' private information. Such strategies may include, but are not limited to, collecting or maintaining information about student gender only when relevant to the educational program or activity, protecting or revealing a student's gender identity as necessary to protect the health or safety of the student, and keeping a student's unofficial record separate from the official record. The district shall only disclose the information to others with the student's prior written consent, except when the disclosure is otherwise required by law or when the district has compelling evidence that disclosure is necessary to preserve the student's physical or mental well-being. In any case, the district shall only allow disclosure of a student's personally identifiable information to employees with a legitimate educational interest as determined by the district pursuant to 34 CFR 99.31. Any district employee to whom a student's intersex, nonbinary, transgender, or gender-nonconforming status is disclosed shall keep the student's information confidential. When disclosure of a student's gender identity is made to a district employee by a student, the employee shall seek the student's permission to notify the compliance officer. If the student refuses to give permission, the employee shall keep the student's information confidential, unless the employee is required to disclose or report the student's information pursuant to this administrative regulation, and shall inform the student that honoring the student's request may limit the district's ability to meet the student's needs related to the student's status as an intersex, nonbinary, transgender, or gender-nonconforming student. If the student permits the employee to notify the compliance officer, the employee shall do so within three school days. As appropriate given the student's need for support, the compliance officer may discuss with the student any need to disclose the student's intersex, nonbinary, transgender, or gender-nonconformity status or gender identity or gender expression to the student's parents/guardians and/or others, including other students, teacher(s), or other adults on campus. The district shall offer support services, such as counseling, to students who wish to inform their parents/guardians of their status and desire assistance in doing so.
2. **Determining a Student's Gender Identity:** The compliance officer shall accept the student's assertion of gender identity and begin to treat the student consistent with that gender identity unless district personnel present a credible and supportable basis for believing that the student's assertion is for an improper purpose.
3. **Addressing a Student's Transition Needs:** The compliance officer shall arrange a meeting with the student and, if appropriate, the student's parents/guardians to identify and develop strategies for ensuring that the

student's access to educational programs and activities is maintained. The meeting shall discuss the intersex, nonbinary, transgender, or gender-nonconforming student's rights and how those rights may affect and be affected by the rights of other students and shall address specific subjects related to the student's access to facilities and to academic or educational support programs, services, or activities, including, but not limited to, sports and other competitive endeavors. In addition, the compliance officer shall identify specific school site employee(s) to whom the student may report any problem related to the student's status as an intersex, nonbinary, transgender, or gender-nonconforming individual, so that prompt action can be taken to address it. Alternatively, if appropriate and desired by the student, the school may form a support team for the student that will meet periodically to assess whether the arrangements for the student are meeting the student's educational needs and providing equal access to programs and activities, educate appropriate staff about the student's transition, and serve as a resource to the student to better protect the student from gender-based discrimination.

4. **Accessibility to Sex-Segregated Facilities, Programs, and Activities:** When the district maintains sex-segregated facilities, such as restrooms and locker rooms, or offers sexsegregated programs and activities, such as physical education classes, intramural sports, and interscholastic athletic programs, students shall be permitted to access facilities and participate in programs and activities consistent with their gender identity. To address any student's privacy concerns in using sex-segregated facilities, the district shall offer available options such as a gender-neutral or single-use restroom or changing area, a bathroom stall with a door, an area in the locker room separated by a curtain or screen, or use of the locker room before or after the other students. However, the district shall not require a student to utilize these options because the student is intersex, nonbinary, transgender, or gender-nonconforming. In addition, a student shall be permitted to participate in accordance with the student's gender identity in other circumstances where students are separated by gender, such as for class discussions, yearbook pictures, and field trips. A student's right to participate in a sex-segregated activity in accordance with the student's gender identity shall not render invalid or inapplicable any other eligibility rule established for participation in the activity.
5. **Student Records:** Upon each student's enrollment, the district is required to maintain a mandatory permanent student record (official record) that includes the student's gender and legal name. A student's legal name as entered on the mandatory student record required pursuant to 5 CCR 432 shall only be changed with proper documentation. A student's gender as entered on the student's official record required pursuant to 5 CCR 432 shall only be changed with written authorization of a parent/guardian having legal custody of the student. (Education Code 49061) However, when proper documentation or authorization, as applicable, is not submitted with a request to change a student's legal name or gender, any change to the student's record shall be limited to the student's unofficial records such as attendance sheets, report cards, and school identification.
6. **Names and Pronouns:** If a student so chooses, district personnel shall be required to address the student by a name and the pronoun(s) consistent with the student's gender identity, without the necessity of a court order or a change to the student's official district record. However, inadvertent slips or honest mistakes by district personnel in the use of the student's name and/or consistent pronouns will, in general, not constitute a violation of this administrative regulation or the accompanying district policy.
7. **Uniforms/Dress Code:** A student has the right to dress in a manner consistent with the student's gender identity, subject to any dress code adopted on a school site.

To view full Board Policy: [BP 5145.3\(A\) NONDISCRIMINATION/HARASSMENT](#)

To view full Administrative Regulation: [AR 5145.3\(A\) NONDISCRIMINATION/HARASSMENT](#)

To view full Board Policy: [BP 1312.3 - UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES](#)

### **At-Risk Youths - BP 5145.51**

The Governing Board believes that, in order to benefit from a learning environment, students must be as free as possible from the dilemma imposed by personal and societal problems. Danger signs for the various at-risk categories must be taken seriously. District personnel must be concerned for the personal development of students, as well as their academic development.

The Superintendent or designee shall investigate and recommend programs which will address the needs of at-risk youths. At-risk youths include, but are not limited to, those students who abuse drugs or alcohol, are suicidal, exhibit serious attendance problems, drop out of school, are abused or disadvantaged children, or are pregnant or parenting minors.

Program planning should examine, but is not limited, to the following:

1. Classroom learning experiences and the integration of primary prevention programs into the classroom.
2. Staff development requirements.
3. District liability.
4. Community resources.
5. Crisis response/intervention teams.
6. Peer counseling.
7. Parent education.
8. Student Study Teams.
9. K-12 counseling and guidance curriculum.
10. Attendance and policy procedures.
11. Student discipline.
12. Alternative programs.

To view full Board Policy: [5145.51 - AT-RISK YOUTHS](#)

### **Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting - BP 5141.4**

The Governing Board is committed to supporting the safety and well-being of district students and desires to facilitate the prevention of and response to child abuse and neglect. The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement strategies for preventing, recognizing, and promptly reporting known or suspected child abuse and neglect.

The Superintendent or designee may provide a student who is a victim of abuse with school based mental health services or other support services and/or may refer the student to resources available within the community as needed.

#### **Child Abuse Prevention**

The district's instructional program may provide age-appropriate and culturally sensitive child abuse prevention curriculum which explains students' right to live free of abuse, includes instruction in the skills and techniques needed to identify unsafe situations and react appropriately and promptly, informs students of available support resources, and teaches students how to obtain help and disclose incidents of abuse.

The district's program also may include age-appropriate curriculum in sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention. Upon written request of a student's parent/guardian, the student shall be excused from taking such instruction. (Education Code 51900.6)

The Superintendent or designee may display posters, in areas on campus where students frequently congregate, notifying students of the appropriate telephone number to call to report child abuse or neglect. (Education Code 33133.5)

In addition, student identification cards for students in grades 7-12 shall include the National Domestic Violence Hotline telephone number. (Education Code 215.5)

The Superintendent or designee shall, to the extent feasible, seek to incorporate community resources into the district's child abuse prevention programs and may use these resources to provide parents/guardians with instruction in parenting skills and child abuse prevention.

### **Child Abuse Reporting**

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures for the identification and reporting of known and suspected child abuse and neglect in accordance with law. Procedures for reporting child abuse shall be included in the district and/or school comprehensive safety plan. (Education Code 32282)

District employees who are mandated reporters, as defined by law and administrative regulation, are obligated to report all known or suspected incidents of child abuse and neglect.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training regarding the duties of mandated reporters as required by law and as specified in the accompanying administrative regulation. (Education Code 44691; Penal Code 11165.7)

## **Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting - AR 141.4**

### **Definitions**

Child abuse or neglect includes the following: (Penal Code 11165.5, 11165.6)

1. A physical injury or death inflicted by other than accidental means on a child by another person
2. Sexual abuse of a child, including sexual assault or sexual exploitation, as defined in Penal Code 11165.1
3. Neglect of a child as defined in Penal Code 11165.2
4. Willful harming or injuring of a child or the endangering of the person or health of a child as defined in Penal Code 11165.3
5. Unlawful corporal punishment or injury as defined in Penal Code 11165.4

Child abuse or neglect does not include:

1. A mutual affray between minors (Penal Code 11165.6)
2. An injury caused by reasonable and necessary force used by a peace officer acting within the course and scope of employment (Penal Code 11165.5, 11165.6)
3. An injury resulting from the exercise by a teacher, vice principal, principal, or other certificated employee of the same degree of physical control over a student that a parent/guardian would be legally privileged to exercise, not exceeding the amount of physical control reasonably necessary to maintain order, protect property, protect the health and safety of students, or maintain proper and appropriate conditions conducive to learning (Education Code 44807)

4. An injury caused by a school employee's use of force that is reasonable and necessary to quell a disturbance threatening physical injury to persons or damage to property, for purposes of self-defense, or to obtain weapons or other dangerous objects within the 5141.4 AR 2 control of a student (Education Code 49001)

5. Physical pain or discomfort caused by athletic competition or other such recreational activity voluntarily engaged in by a student (Education Code 49001)

6. Homelessness or classification as an unaccompanied minor (Penal Code 11165.15)

Mandated reporters include, but are not limited to, teachers; instructional aides; teacher's aides or assistants; classified employees; certificated pupil personnel employees; administrative officers or supervisors of child attendance; athletic coaches, administrators, and directors; licensees, administrators, and employees of a licensed child day care facility; Head Start program teachers; district police or security officers; licensed nurses or health care providers; and administrators, presenters, and counselors of a child abuse prevention program. (Penal Code 11165.7)

Reasonable suspicion means that it is objectively reasonable for a person to entertain a suspicion, based upon facts that could cause a reasonable person in a like position, drawing when appropriate on the person's training and experience, to suspect child abuse or neglect. However, reasonable suspicion does not require certainty that child abuse or neglect has occurred nor does it require a specific medical indication of child abuse or neglect. (Penal Code 11166)

### **Reportable Offenses**

A mandated reporter shall make a report using the procedures provided below whenever, acting in a professional capacity or within the scope of employment, the mandated reporter has knowledge of or observes a child whom the mandated reporter knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect. (Penal Code 11166)

Any mandated reporter who has knowledge of or who reasonably suspects that a child is suffering serious emotional damage or is at a substantial risk of suffering serious emotional damage, based on evidence of severe anxiety, depression, withdrawal, or untoward aggressive behavior toward self or others, may make a report to the appropriate agency. (Penal Code 11165.9, 11166.05, 11167)

Any district employee who reasonably believes to have observed the commission of a murder, rape, or lewd or lascivious act by use of force, violence, duress, menace, or fear of immediate and unlawful bodily injury against a victim who is a child under age 14 shall notify a peace officer. (Penal Code 152.3, 288)

### **Responsibility for Reporting**

The reporting duties of mandated reporters are individual and cannot be delegated to another person. (Penal Code 11166)

When two or more mandated reporters jointly have knowledge of a known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect, the report may be made by a member of the team selected by mutual agreement and a single report may be made and signed by the selected member of the reporting team. Any member who has knowledge that the member designated to report has failed to do so shall thereafter make the report. (Penal Code 11166)

No supervisor or administrator shall impede or inhibit a mandated reporter from making a report. (Penal Code 11166)

Any person not identified as a mandated reporter who has knowledge of or observes a child whom the person knows or reasonably suspects has been a victim of child abuse or neglect may report the known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect to the appropriate agency. (Penal Code 11166)

## **Reporting Procedures**

### **Initial Telephone**

Report Immediately or as soon as practicable after knowing or observing suspected child abuse or neglect, a mandated reporter shall make an initial report by telephone to any police department (excluding a school district police/security department), sheriff's department, county probation department if designated by the county to receive such reports, or county welfare department. (Penal Code 11165.9, 11166)

Such reports shall be made to the following agency(ies):

Child Protective Services  
PO Box 269057  
Sacramento, CA 95826-9057  
(916) 875-5437

Sacramento Police Department  
5770 Freeport Blvd.  
Sacramento, CA 95822  
(916) 264-5471

When the initial telephone report is made, the mandated reporter shall note the name of the official contacted, the date and time contacted, and any instructions or advice received.

### **Written Report**

Within 36 hours of knowing or observing the information concerning the incident, the mandated reporter shall prepare and either send, fax, or electronically transmit to the appropriate agency a written follow-up report, which includes a completed California Department of Justice (DOJ) form (BCIA 8572). (Penal Code 11166, 11168)

The DOJ form may be obtained from the district office or other appropriate agencies, such as the police department, sheriff's department, or county probation or welfare department.

Reports of suspected child abuse or neglect shall include, if known: (Penal Code 11167)

- a. The name, business address, and telephone number of the person making the report and the capacity that makes the person a mandated reporter
- b. The child's name and address, present location, and, where applicable, school, grade, and class
- c. The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the child's parents/guardians
- d. The name, address, telephone number, and other relevant personal information about the person(s) who might have abused or neglected the child
- e. The information that gave rise to the reasonable suspicion of child abuse or neglect and the source(s) of that information

The mandated reporter shall make a report even if some of this information is not known or is uncertain to the mandated reporter. (Penal Code 11167)

The mandated reporter may give to an investigator from an agency investigating the case, including a licensing agency, any information relevant to an incident of child abuse or neglect or to a report made for serious emotional damage pursuant to Penal Code 11166.05. (Penal Code 11167)

## **Internal Reporting**

The mandated reporter shall not be required to disclose the mandated reporter's identity to a supervisor, the principal, or the Superintendent or designee. (Penal Code 11166)

However, employees reporting child abuse or neglect to an appropriate agency are encouraged, but not required, to notify the principal as soon as possible after the initial telephone report to the appropriate agency. When so notified, the principal shall inform the Superintendent or designee.

The principal so notified shall provide the mandated reporter with any assistance necessary to ensure that reporting procedures are carried out in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation. At the mandated reporter's request, the principal may assist in completing and filing the necessary forms.

Reporting the information to an employer, supervisor, principal, school counselor, co-worker, or other person shall not be a substitute for making a mandated report to the appropriate agency. (Penal Code 11166)

## **Training**

Within the first six weeks of each school year, or within the first six weeks of employment if hired during the school year, the Superintendent or designee shall provide training on mandated reporting requirements to district employees and persons working on their behalf who are mandated reporters. (Education Code 44691; Penal Code 11165.7)

The Superintendent or designee shall use the online training module provided by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS). (Education Code 44691)

The training shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, training in identification and reporting of child abuse and neglect. In addition, the training shall include information that 5141.4 AR 5 failure to report an incident of known or reasonably suspected child abuse or neglect as required by law is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment and/or a fine as specified. (Education Code 44691; Penal Code 11165.7)

The Superintendent or designee shall obtain and retain proof of each mandated reporter's completion of the training. (Education Code 44691)

In addition, at least once every three years, school personnel may receive training in the prevention of child abuse, including sexual abuse, on school grounds, by school personnel, or in school-sponsored programs. (Education Code 44691)

## **Victim Interviews by Social Services**

Whenever CDSS or another government agency is investigating suspected child abuse or neglect that occurred within the child's home or out-of-home care facility, the student may be interviewed by an agency representative during school hours, on school premises. The Superintendent or designee shall give the student the choice of being interviewed in private or in the presence of any adult school employee or volunteer aide selected by the student. (Penal Code 11174.3)

A staff member or volunteer aide selected by a child may decline to be present at the interview. If the selected person accepts, the principal or designee shall inform the person of the following requirements prior to the interview: (Penal Code 11174.3)

1. The purpose of the selected person's presence at the interview is to lend support to the child and enable the child to be as comfortable as possible.

2. The selected person shall not participate in the interview.
3. The selected person shall not discuss the facts or circumstances of the case with the child.
4. The selected person is subject to the confidentiality requirements of the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act, a violation of which is punishable as specified in Penal Code 11167.5.

If a staff member agrees to be present, the interview shall be held at a time during school hours when it does not involve an expense to the school. (Penal Code 11174.3)

### **Release of Child to Peace Officer**

When a child is released to a peace officer and taken into custody as a victim of suspected child abuse or neglect, the Superintendent or designee and/or principal shall not notify the parent/guardian, but rather shall provide the peace officer with the address and telephone number of the child's parent/guardian. (Education Code 48906)

### **Parent/Guardian Complaints**

Upon request, the Superintendent or designee shall provide parents/guardians with procedures for reporting suspected child abuse occurring at a school site to appropriate agencies. For parents/guardians whose primary language is not English, such procedures shall be in their primary language and, when communicating orally regarding those guidelines and/or procedures, an interpreter shall be provided.

To file a complaint against a district employee or other person suspected of child abuse or neglect at a school site, parents/guardians may file a report by telephone, in person, or in writing with any appropriate agency identified above under "Reporting Procedures." If a parent/guardian makes a complaint about an employee to any other employee, the employee receiving the information shall notify the parent/guardian of procedures for filing a complaint with the appropriate agency. The employee shall also file a report when obligated to do so pursuant to Penal Code 11166 using the procedures described above for mandated reporters.

In addition, if the child is enrolled in special education, a separate complaint may be filed with the California Department of Education pursuant to 5 CCR 3200-3205.

### **Notifications**

The Superintendent or designee shall provide to all new employees who are mandated reporters a statement that informs them of their status as mandated reporters, their reporting obligations under Penal Code 11166, and their confidentiality rights under Penal Code 11167. The district also shall provide these new employees with a copy of Penal Code 11165.7, 11166, and 11167. (Penal Code 11165.7, 11166.5)

Before beginning employment, any person who will be a mandated reporter by virtue of the person's position shall sign a statement indicating knowledge of the reporting obligations under Penal Code 11166 and compliance with such provisions. The signed statement shall be retained by the Superintendent or designee. (Penal Code 11166.5)

Employees who work with dependent adults shall be notified of legal responsibilities and reporting procedures pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 15630-15637.

The Superintendent or designee shall also notify all employees that:

1. A mandated reporter who reports a known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect shall not be held civilly or criminally liable for making a report and this immunity shall apply even if the mandated reporter acquired the knowledge or reasonable suspicion of child abuse or neglect outside of the mandated

reporter's professional capacity or outside the scope of employment. Any other person making a report shall not incur civil or criminal liability unless it can be proven that the person knowingly made a false report or made a report with reckless disregard of the truth or falsity of the report. (Penal Code 11172)

2. If a mandated reporter fails to timely report an incident of known or reasonably suspected child abuse or neglect, the mandated reporter may be guilty of a crime punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment. (Penal Code 11166)

3. No employee shall be subject to any sanction by the district for making a report unless it can be shown that the employee knowingly made a false report or made a report with reckless disregard of the truth or falsity of the report. (Penal Code 11166, 11172)

To view full Board Policy: [5141.4 CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING](#)

To view full Administrative Regulation: [5141.4 CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING](#)

### **Sexual Harassment - BP 4119.11 & BP4219.11**

The following policy shall apply to all district employees, interns, volunteers, contractors, job applicants, and other persons with an employment relationship with the district.

The Governing Board is committed to providing a safe work environment that is free of harassment and intimidation. The Board prohibits sexual harassment against district employees and retaliatory behavior or action against any person who complains, testifies, or otherwise participates in the complaint process established for the purpose of this policy. Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, harassment that is based on the sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation of the victim, and harassment based on pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions.

The Superintendent or designee shall take all actions necessary to ensure the prevention, investigation, and correction of sexual harassment, including but not limited to:

1. Providing training to employees in accordance with law and administrative regulation
2. Publicizing and disseminating the district's sexual harassment policy to employees and others to whom the policy may apply
3. Ensuring prompt, thorough, fair, and equitable investigation of complaints
4. Taking timely and appropriate corrective/remedial action(s), which may require interim separation of the complainant and the alleged harasser and subsequent monitoring of developments

The Superintendent or designee shall periodically evaluate the effectiveness of the district's strategies to prevent and address harassment. Such evaluation may involve conducting regular anonymous employee surveys to assess whether harassment is occurring or is perceived to be tolerated, partnering with researchers or other agencies with the needed expertise to evaluate the district's prevention strategies, and using any other effective tool for receiving feedback on systems and/or processes. As necessary, changes shall be made to the harassment policy, complaint procedures, or training.

### **Sexual Harassment Reports and Complaints**

District employees who feel that they have been sexually harassed in the performance of their district responsibilities or who have knowledge of any incident of sexual harassment by or against another employee shall

immediately report the incident to their direct supervisor, a district administrator, or the district's Title IX Coordinator. Employees may bypass their supervisor in filing a complaint if the supervisor is the subject of the complaint. A supervisor or administrator who receives a harassment complaint shall promptly notify the Title IX Coordinator.

Once notified, the Title IX Coordinator shall ensure the complaint or allegation is addressed through AR 4119.12/4219.12/4319.12 - Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures or AR 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment, 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 4119.12/4219.12/4319.12 concurrently meets the requirements of AR 4030.

The Title IX Coordinator shall offer supportive measures to the complainant and respondent, as deemed appropriate under the circumstances. Upon investigation of a sexual harassment complaint, any district employee found to have engaged or participated in sexual harassment or to have aided, abetted, incited, compelled, or coerced another to commit sexual harassment in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, in accordance with law and the applicable collective bargaining agreement.

### **Sexual Harassment - Students - BP 5145.7**

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**

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

2. 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
3. A clear message that students do not have to endure sexual harassment under any circumstance
4. Encouragement to report observed incidents of sexual harassment even when the alleged victim of the harassment has not complained
5. 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
6. 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
7. Information about the district's procedures for investigating complaints and the person(s) to whom a report of sexual harassment should be made
8. 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
9. 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.

To view full Board Policy:

[4119.11 – SEXUAL HARASSMENT](#)

To view full Administrative Regulation:

[4119.11 – SEXUAL HARASSMENT](#)

## **Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures - BP 4119.12**

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (“Title IX”), implemented at 34 C.F.R. § 106 et seq., provides that no person shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic, extracurricular, research, occupational training, or other education program or activity operated by an entity, including a K-12 school district, that receives federal financial assistance. Sex discrimination includes discrimination based on sex stereotypes; sex characteristics; pregnancy or related conditions; parental, family or marital status; sexual orientation, and/or gender identity. (34 C.F.R. §§ 106.10; 106.20.)

In compliance with Title IX, the Natomas Unified School District (“District”) prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates, including but not limited to student programs and/or activities and employment.

Students have the following rights under Title IX:

1. To participate in a District program or activity without being subject to acts of sex discrimination, including but not limited to acts of sex-based harassment.
2. To be reasonably accommodated for pregnancy and related conditions.
3. To reasonable protection of privacy.
4. To be notified of how to receive confidential assistance.
5. To receive adequate notice of the District’s grievance procedures, including informal resolution and a formal investigation.
6. To file a complaint alleging sex discrimination and to do so without being subject to retaliation.
7. To receive supportive measures that are non-disciplinary in nature and appropriate under the totality of the circumstances.
8. To receive adequate notice of the allegations, dismissals, delays, meetings, proceedings, and determinations.
9. To be treated equally during participation in the grievance procedures.
10. To have conflict-of-interest free and bias-free Title IX Coordinators, investigators, and decision-makers.
11. To a reasonably prompt and effective completion of applicable grievance procedure.
12. To an objective evaluation of the relevant evidence and the exclusion of the impermissible evidence.
13. To an equal opportunity to present fact witnesses and other evidence.
14. To an equal opportunity to access the relevant and not otherwise impermissible evidence or an accurate description of this evidence, and a reasonable opportunity to respond to such evidence.
15. To have the District take reasonable steps to prevent and address unauthorized disclosures of evidence gathered during the grievance procedure.
16. To have an advisor of their choice attend all meetings and/or proceedings as well as assist with inspection and review of evidence.
17. If it is determined that sex discrimination occurred, to remedies; disciplinary sanctions for the individual(s) responsible; and other appropriate prompt and effective steps to ensure that sex discrimination does not occur or recur.
18. To appeal or challenge decisions regarding supportive measures, dismissals, and determinations of responsibility, in accordance with the District’s Title IX Grievance Procedures.

Students who are alleged to have engaged in conduct amounting to sex discrimination (“Respondents”) also have the following rights:

1. To be presumed not responsible until grievance procedures are completed and a determination of responsibility is made.

2. To not be disciplined until grievance procedures are completed and a determination of responsibility is made.

Employees have the following rights under Title IX:

1. To participate in a District program or activity without being subject to acts of sex discrimination, including but not limited to acts of sex-based harassment.
2. To be reasonably accommodated for pregnancy and related conditions.
3. To reasonable protection of privacy.
4. To be notified of how to receive confidential assistance.
5. To receive adequate notice of the District's grievance procedures, including informal resolution and a formal investigation.
6. To file a complaint alleging sex discrimination and to do so without being subject to retaliation.
7. To receive supportive measures that are non-disciplinary in nature and appropriate under the totality of the circumstances.
8. To receive adequate notice of the allegations, dismissals, delays, meetings, proceedings, and determinations.
9. To be treated equally during participation in the grievance procedures.
10. To have conflict-of-interest free and bias-free Title IX Coordinators, investigators, and decision-makers.
11. To a reasonably prompt and effective completion of applicable grievance procedures.
12. To an objective evaluation of the relevant evidence and the exclusion of the impermissible evidence.
13. To an equal opportunity to present fact witnesses and other evidence.
14. To an equal opportunity to access the relevant and not otherwise impermissible evidence or an accurate description of this evidence, and a reasonable opportunity to respond to such evidence.
15. To have reasonable steps taken by the District to prevent and address unauthorized disclosures of evidence gathered during the grievance procedure.
16. To have an advisor of their choice attend all meetings and/or proceedings as well as assist with inspection and review of evidence.
17. If it is determined that sex discrimination occurred, to remedies; disciplinary sanctions for the individual(s) responsible; and other appropriate prompt and effective steps to ensure that sex discrimination does not occur or recur.
18. To appeal or challenge decisions regarding supportive measures, dismissals, and determinations of responsibility, in accordance with the District's Title IX Grievance Procedures.

Employees who are alleged to have engaged in conduct amounting to sex discrimination ("Respondents") also have the following rights:

1. To be presumed not responsible until grievance procedures are completed and a determination of responsibility is made.
2. To not be disciplined until grievance procedures are completed and a determination of responsibility is made.

To view full Administrative Regulation:

[4119.12 - TITLE IX SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINT PROCEDURES](#)

To view full Contains exhibit (E):

[4119.12 - TITLE IX SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINT PROCEDURES](#)

To view full Board Policy:

[4219.11 - SEXUAL HARASSMENT](#)

To view full Administrative Regulation:

## [4219.11 - SEXUAL HARASSMENT](#)

To view full Administrative Regulation:

## [4119.12 - TITLE IX SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINT PROCEDURES](#)

To view full Contains exhibit (E):

## [4119.12 - TITLE IX SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINT PROCEDURES](#)

To view full Board Policy:

## [5145.7 – SEXUAL HARASSMENT](#)

To view full Administrative Regulation:

## [5145.7 – SEXUAL HARASSMENT](#)

### **Weapons and Dangerous Instruments - BP 5131.7**

#### **Possession of Weapons**

The Board prohibits any student from possessing weapons, imitation firearms, or other dangerous instruments, as defined in law and administrative regulation, in school buildings, on school grounds, when using district provided transportation, at school-related or school sponsored activities away from school, or while going to or coming from school.

If a student is in possession of a prohibited weapon, imitation firearm, or dangerous instrument which creates a threat or perceived threat of a homicidal act, any employee or other school official who is alerted to or observes such threat shall immediately report the threat to law enforcement.

Under the power granted to the Board to protect the safety of students, staff, and others on district property and to maintain order and discipline in the schools, any school employee is authorized to confiscate any prohibited weapon, imitation firearm, or dangerous instrument from any student on school grounds.

The principal or designee shall notify law enforcement authorities when any student possesses a firearm, explosive, or other prohibited weapon or dangerous instrument without permission, sells or furnishes a firearm, or commits any act of assault with a firearm or other weapon. (Education Code 48902; Penal Code 245, 626.9, 626.10; 20 USC 7961)

Unless a student has obtained prior written permission as specified below, a student possessing or threatening others with any weapon, dangerous instrument, or imitation firearm shall be subject to suspension and/or expulsion in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulations.

All staff shall be made aware of their responsibilities regarding the reporting of potential homicidal acts to law enforcement, and receive training in the assessment and reporting of such threats.

#### **Advance Permission for Possession of a Weapon for Educational Purposes**

The parent/guardian of a student who desires to possess a firearm, imitation firearm, or other prohibited weapon on school grounds for an educational purpose shall submit a written request 5131.7 BP 2 to the principal, at least five school days in advance of the planned possession which explains the planned use of the weapon and the duration, together with a written explanation from the staff person responsible for the school-sponsored activity or class.

The principal may grant permission for such possession when it is determined that possession of a firearm, imitation firearm, or other prohibited weapon on school grounds is necessary for a school-sponsored activity or class or as part of the educational program. Factors that shall be considered include, but are not limited to, the planned use of the weapon, the duration and location of the planned use, whether an audience is expected, and any

perceived adverse effects to the safety and well-being of students or staff. If the principal grants such permission, the student and staff person shall be provided with a written explanation regarding any limitations and the permissible duration of the student's possession.

When the principal or designee grants permission, all necessary precautions shall be taken to ensure the safety of all persons on school grounds and the safekeeping of the weapon, including, but not limited to, inspecting a firearm to verify that no live ammunition is present. Any permitted weapon shall be stored in a locked vehicle or in an appropriate, locked container before and after its authorized use. Any student granted permission to possess a weapon may be suspended and/or expelled if the weapon is possessed or used inappropriately.

### **Possession of Pepper Spray**

To prevent potential misuse that may harm students or staff, students are prohibited from carrying tear gas or tear gas weapons such as pepper spray on campus or at school activities.

### **Reporting of Dangerous Objects**

The Board encourages students to promptly report the presence of weapons, injurious objects, or other suspicious activity to school authorities. The identity of a student who reports such activity shall remain confidential to the extent permitted by law.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies designed to facilitate student reporting of the presence of injurious objects on school grounds, such as tip hotlines, electronic transmissions, or other methods that preserve the student's anonymity. Incident reports and records shall not identify the student who reported the possession. The Superintendent or designee shall also inform staff, students, and parents/guardians that students who report the presence of injurious objects on school campuses are to be protected and their identity shielded.

## **Weapons and Dangerous Instruments - AR 5131.7**

Prohibited weapons and dangerous instruments include, but are not limited to: (Education Code 48915, 49330; Penal Code 626.10, 16100-17360, 30310)

1. Firearms: pistols, revolvers, shotguns, rifles, machine guns, zip guns, stun guns, tasers, cane guns, camouflaging firearms, and any other device from which is expelled through a barrel and capable of propelling a projectile by the force of an explosion or other form of combustion
2. Ammunition or reloaded ammunition
3. Knives, razor blades, and box cutters: any dirks, daggers (or concealed dirks or daggers), cane swords, ice picks, or other weapons with a fixed, sharpened blade fitted primarily for stabbing, weapons with a blade fitted primarily for stabbing, weapons with a blade longer than 3-1/2 inches, folding knives with a blade that locks into place, switchblade knives, and razors with an unguarded blade
4. Explosive and/or incendiary devices: pipe bombs, time bombs, rockets or rocket propelled projectile launchers, cap guns, bullets containing or carrying an explosive agent, containers of inflammable fluids, and other hazardous devices or concealed explosive substances
5. Any instrument that expels a metallic projectile, such as a BB or a pellet, through the force of air pressure, carbon dioxide pressure, or spring action, or any spot marker gun
6. Any other dangerous device, instrument, or weapon, including those defined in Penal Code 16000-34370, including a blackjack, slingshot, billy, nunchaku, sandclub, sandbag, metal knuckles, or any metal plate with three or more radiating points with one or more sharp edges designed for use as a weapon
7. Any imitation firearm, defined as 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

Any employee may take any weapon or dangerous instrument from the personal possession of a student while the student is on school premises or under the authority of the district. (Education Code 49331, 49332)

In determining whether to take possession of the weapon or dangerous instrument, the employee shall use the employee's own judgment as to the dangerousness of the situation and, based upon this analysis, shall take one of the following actions:

1. Confiscate the object and deliver it to the principal immediately
2. Immediately notify the principal, who shall take appropriate action
3. Immediately notify the local law enforcement agency and the principal

When informing the principal about the possession of a weapon or dangerous instrument, the employee shall report the name(s) of persons involved, witnesses, location, and the circumstances of the possession.

The principal shall report any possession of a weapon or dangerous instrument to the student's parents/guardians by telephone or in person, and shall follow this notification with a letter.

The employee shall retain possession of the instrument until the risk of its use as a weapon has dissipated or, upon the request of the student's parent/guardian, until the parent/guardian appears and personally takes possession. (Education Code 49331, 49332)

To view full Board Policy:

[5131.7 - WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS](#)

To view full Administrative Regulation:

[5131.7 - WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS](#)

### **Prohibited Items**

Items that are not allowed on the campus or school sanctioned events include, but are not limited to:

- Aerosol Sprays
- Dangerous Objects such as knives, explosives, firearms, imitation firearms, pellet guns, airsoft guns, brass knuckles, or any other item considered a weapon.
- Gambling Devices
- Lighters
- Laser devices (*Penal Code 417.27*)
- Tobacco and Tobacco Products
- Vaping Devices & Products
- Controlled/Illegal/Imitation substances
- Alcohol
- Items related to violence, gangs, or deemed discriminatory or offensive
- External Speakers
- Items that make loud or excessive noise (air horns)
- Items of no reasonable use to the student at school
  - Firecrackers
  - Stink bombs
  - Screwdrivers
  - Water guns
  - Water balloons

### **Threat Assessment Protocols**

The procedures employed by NUSD for the evaluation and management of threats typically embrace a multi-disciplinary framework. This framework encompasses immediate notification to law enforcement in situations of imminent risk, thorough threat assessments carried out by specialized teams, and appropriate interventions tailored to the severity of the threat. Additionally, each site utilizes "Threat Assessment Protocols" to determine whether a threat is transient or substantive, as determined by school teams. The outcomes of these threat assessments are subsequently communicated to the Safety Department for the purposes of district-wide data collection and analysis. These protocols necessitate collaboration among administrators, educators, counselors, safety support personnel, and/or School Resource Officers to effectively identify, evaluate, and mitigate potential threats.

NUSD also partners with the Sandy Hook Promise, "Say Something Anonymous Reporting System (SSARS)" to provide the school community with the ability to report threats and perceived threats at any time, day or night, throughout the year. Schools are provided with reporting information to display on their websites, in common areas, and within classrooms to facilitate anonymous reporting. Anonymous tips are subsequently reviewed by SSARS staff and forwarded to emergency responders, district personnel, and/or school staff based on the threat's severity.

School staff are also trained and instructed to contact law enforcement directly, as stipulated by SB906, in instances of homicidal threats, and to implement the appropriate threat assessment protocols.

The legislation mandates that any school official who regularly interacts with students in grades 6 to 12, and who becomes aware of or observes any threat or perceived threat, must promptly report it to law enforcement as outlined.

### **Bomb Threat - AR 3516.2**

To maintain a safe and secure environment for district students and staff, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's emergency and disaster preparedness plan and/or each school's comprehensive safety plan includes procedures for managing bomb threats. Additionally, the Superintendent or designee shall regularly review current guidance regarding cybersecurity and digital media awareness and incorporate recommended practices into the district's processes and procedures related to the protection of the district's infrastructure, and the monitoring and response to suspicious and/or threatening digital media content.

#### **Receiving Threats**

Any staff member receiving a bomb threat by telephone shall try to keep the caller on the line for as long as possible in order to gather information about the location and timing of the bomb and the person(s) responsible. To the extent possible, the staff member should also take note of the caller's gender, age, any distinctive features of voice or speech, and any background noises such as music, traffic, machinery, or voices. The staff member should not hang up, even if the caller does, and copy the number and/or letters on the telephone's display, if available.

If the bomb threat is received through regular mail or in writing, the staff member who receives it should handle the letter, note, or package as minimally as possible. If the threat is received through electronic means, such as email, text messaging, or social media, the staff member should not delete the message.

#### **Response Procedure**

The following procedure shall be followed when a bomb threat is received:

1. Any employee or other school official who receives a bomb threat shall immediately call 911 and report the threat or perceived threat to law enforcement. The employee shall also report the threat to the Superintendent or designee.

If the threat is in writing, the employee shall rewrite the threat exactly as is on another sheet of paper, including the date, time and location the document was found, any conditions surrounding the discovery or delivery of the document, and the full names of any other employees who saw the threat. The employee shall secure the document and not alter it in any way.

If the document is small and/or removable, the employee shall place it in a bag or envelope. If the threat is electronic, the employee shall leave the message open, and print, photograph, or copy the message and subject line, and note the date and time of the message.

2. Any student or employee who sees a suspicious package should not touch, tamper with, or move the item, and shall immediately notify law enforcement and the Superintendent or designee.
3. The Superintendent or designee shall immediately contact law enforcement if not yet done, assess the situation, ensure the area is secured, and initiate standard evacuation procedures as specified in the emergency plan.
4. The Superintendent or designee shall turn off any two-way radio equipment which is located in a threatened building.

Law enforcement and/or fire department staff shall conduct the bomb search. No school staff, students, parents/guardians, or others on campus shall search for or handle any explosive or incendiary device.

No one shall reenter the threatened building(s) until the Superintendent or designee declares that reentry is safe based on law enforcement and/or fire department clearance.

To the extent possible, the Superintendent or designee shall maintain communications with staff, parents/guardians, the Governing Board, other governmental agencies, and the media during the period of the incident.

Following the incident, the Superintendent or designee shall provide crisis counseling for students and/or staff as needed.

Any employee or student found to have made a bomb threat shall be subject to disciplinary procedures and/or criminal prosecution.

### **Staff Training**

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training regarding the assessment and reporting of potential threats and procedures for managing bomb threats to district and site administrators, safety personnel, teachers, and other staff members, as appropriate.

To view full Administrative Regulation:

[3516.2 - BOMB THREATS](#)

### **Gangs - BP 5136**

The Governing Board desires to keep district schools free from the threats or harmful influence of any groups who exhibit behavior disruptive to the school environment and/or the safety and well-being of students. The Board additionally desires to provide support and intervention to students who are members of gangs to enable them to successfully disengage from gang involvement and be successful in school.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies for gang prevention that address the reasons that students may become involved in gangs, including the identity, recognition, or status achieved as being part of a gang, protection from gang violence in the community, the need for companionship and an extended family, intimidation to join a gang, desire to join a gang to be in a position to intimidate others, and/or connection with criminal activity.

Gang violence prevention shall start as early as possible and include, but not be limited to, age appropriate education that focuses on developing emotional and social competence, increasing prosocial peer bonds, strengthening attachment and commitment to school, and enhancing cooperative learning skills. Prevention shall also include improving parent/guardian involvement in and support for their children's academic progress, as well as ongoing gang awareness education for parents/guardians, including gang identifiers.

The Superintendent or designee shall take steps to deter gang activity on school campuses, including threats and intimidation of students and staff, recruitment or intimidation of students to join gangs, bullying, fighting, criminal activities, and confrontations between members of different gangs.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that school rules of conduct and any school dress code prohibiting gang-related apparel are enforced consistently. If a student exhibits signs of gang affiliation, staff shall so inform the principal or designee and the student's parent/guardian. The Superintendent or designee shall provide in-service training which helps staff to identify gangs and gang symbols, recognize early manifestations of disruptive activities, and respond appropriately to gang behavior. Staff shall be informed about conflict management techniques and alerted to intervention measures and community resources.

The Superintendent or designee shall also provide staff development on social and emotional learning, classroom management, interactive teaching, and cooperative learning skills. The Superintendent or designee may consider gang activity prevention and intervention when developing programs outside of the school day. The Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with child welfare services, mental health agencies, social services, and local law enforcement authorities in the prevention and intervention of gang activity.

### **Gangs - AR 5136**

#### **Prevention, Intervention, and Suppression Measures**

The Superintendent or designee shall become informed of the gang history in the district and community, conduct assessments of current gang activity at the school sites, and document and follow up on gang-related incidents.

In order to discourage the influence of gangs, the following measures shall be implemented:

1. Any student suspected of gang affiliation based on the display of behavior, gestures, apparel, or paraphernalia shall be referred to the principal or designee, and the following actions taken, as appropriate:
  - a. The student's parent/guardian shall be contacted and may be asked to meet with school staff in order to proactively address the concern and be included as part of the solution.
  - b. The student may be sent home to change clothes if necessary.

- c. The student's behaviors and progress in school shall be documented, including attendance and grades.
- d. Intervention techniques such as mentoring, academic support, and a system of wraparound support service shall be implemented to help the student disengage from gang involvement.
- e. Consistent and graduated discipline and accountability shall be implemented when appropriate and combined with positive support using conflict-resolution strategies and other restorative justice practices demonstrated to be effective with gang-involved youth.
- f. Students shall be offered help in rejecting gang associations, including possible referral to community-based gang suppression and prevention organizations.
- g. Law enforcement shall be notified if the student is suspected of being involved in gangs.

2. Any graffiti on school premises shall be removed, washed down, or painted over as soon as discovered. Graffiti shall be documented and photographed before it is removed. These photographs shall be shared with local law enforcement authorities and used in future disciplinary or criminal action against the offenders. This information can also be used to determine whether a threat or incident is imminent.

3. Classroom and after-school programs may include gang prevention lessons that are taught jointly by teachers, counselors, law enforcement, and/or other organizations that are knowledgeable about gang prevention and shall:
- a. Provide social and emotional learning designed to enhance individual self esteem, provide positive reinforcement for acceptable behavior, and foster interest in a variety of constructive activities
  - b. Explain the dangers of gang membership
  - c. Provide counseling for targeted at-risk students
  - d. Include lessons or role-playing workshops in gang avoidance skills and nonviolent conflict resolution, including communication skills, anti-bullying, anger management, acceptance, and mediation skills
  - e. Assign individual gang members to cooperative learning groups in which they may work toward common goals with students who are not members of their gang
  - f. Provide school-to-career instruction
  - g. Provide positive interaction with local law enforcement

Staff shall actively promote membership in authorized school clubs and student organizations, sports and cultural activities and affiliations with the local community, and community service projects which can provide students companionship, safety, and a sense of purpose and belonging.

### **Parent/Guardian and Community Outreach**

The Superintendent or designee may offer gang prevention classes or counseling for parents/guardians which may address the following topics:

- 1. The reasons students join gangs
- 2. The dangers and consequences of gang membership
- 3. Warning signs which may indicate that students are at risk of becoming involved with gangs, including the use of social media for gang communication and promotion
- 4. The nature of local gang apparel and graffiti
- 5. Effective parenting techniques and planning family time
- 6. Conflict resolution techniques

In addition, the Superintendent or designee may offer community programs that address the scope and nature of local gang problems and strategies by which each segment of the community may alleviate gang problems.

To view full Board Policy:

[5136 - GANGS](#)

To view full Administrative Regulation:

**Notifying Teacher of Pupil Engaged in Certain Acts**

**State of California EDUCATION CODE Section 49079**

(a) A school district shall inform the teacher of each pupil who has engaged in, or is reasonably suspected to have engaged in, any of the acts described in any of the subdivisions, except subdivision (h), of Section 48900 or in Section 48900.2, 48900.3, 48900.4, or 48900.7 that the pupil engaged in, or is reasonably suspected to have engaged in, those acts. The district shall provide the information to the teacher based upon any records that the district maintains in its ordinary course of business, or receives from a law enforcement agency, regarding a pupil described in this section.

(b) A school district, or school district officer or employee, is not civilly or criminally liable for providing information under this section unless it is proven that the information was false and that the district or district officer or employee knew or should have known that the information was false, or the information was provided with a reckless disregard for its truth or falsity.

(c) An officer or employee of a school district who knowingly fails to provide information about a pupil who has engaged in, or who is reasonably suspected to have engaged in, the acts referred to in subdivision (a) is guilty of a misdemeanor, which is punishable by confinement in the county jail for a period not to exceed six months, or by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or both.

(d) For the 1994–95 school year, the information provided shall be from the previous two school years. For the 1996–97 school year and each school year thereafter, the information provided shall be from the previous three school years.

(e) Any information received by a teacher pursuant to this section shall be received in confidence for the limited purpose for which it was provided and shall not be further disseminated by the teacher.

(Amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 345, Sec. 2. Effective January 1, 2001.)

**Environmental Hazards**

**Hazardous Substances - BP 3514.1**

The Governing Board desires to provide a safe school environment that protects students and employees from exposure to potentially hazardous substances that may be used in the district's educational program and in the maintenance and operation of district facilities and equipment.

Insofar as reasonably possible, the Superintendent or designee shall minimize the quantities of hazardous substances stored and used on school property. When hazardous substances must be used, the Superintendent or designee shall give preference to materials that cause the least risk to people and the environment.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all potentially hazardous substances on district properties are inventoried, used, stored, and regularly disposed of in a safe and legal manner. The Superintendent or designee shall develop, implement and maintain a written hazard communication program in accordance with 8 CCR 519 and shall ensure that employees, students, and others as necessary are fully informed about the properties and potential hazards of substances to which they may be exposed.

Teachers shall instruct students about the importance of proper handling, storage, disposal and protection when using any potentially hazardous substance.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop specific measures to ensure the safety of students and staff in school laboratories where hazardous chemicals are used. Such measures shall include the development and implementation of a chemical hygiene plan in accordance with 8 CCR 5191 and instruction to students about proper handling of hazardous substances.

The Superintendent or designee shall not order or purchase for use in grades K-6 any arts and crafts materials containing a substance determined by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment to be toxic. The Superintendent or designee shall not purchase any such toxic material for use in grades 7-12 unless it includes a warning label as specified in Education Code 32065 that identifies any toxic ingredients, warns of potential adverse health effects, and describes procedures for safe use and storage. (Education Code 32064)

## **Integrated Pest Management - AR 3514.2**

### **Definitions**

Integrated pest management (IPM) means a strategy that focuses on long-term prevention or suppression of pest problems through a combination of techniques such as monitoring for pest presence and establishing treatment threshold levels to make the habitat less conducive to pest development, improving sanitation, and employing mechanical and physical controls. (Education Code 17609; Food and Agricultural Code 13181)

School site means any facility used as a child day care facility or for kindergarten, elementary, or secondary school purposes and includes the buildings or structures, playgrounds, athletic fields, vehicles, or any other area of property visited or used by students. (Education Code 17609)

### **Program Components**

The Superintendent or designee shall designate an employee at the district office and/or school site to develop, implement, and coordinate an IPM strategy that incorporates effective, least toxic pest management practices.

The IPM coordinator shall prepare and annually update a districtwide or school site IPM plan based on the template provided by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR).

The IPM plan shall include the name of the district and/or school IPM coordinator, the pesticides expected to be applied at the school site by district employees and/or pest control applicators, and a date that the plan shall be reviewed and, if necessary, updated. (Education Code 17611.5)

The district shall use pesticides that pose the least possible hazard and are effective in a manner that minimizes risks to people, property, and the environment. Such pesticides shall only be used after careful monitoring indicates they are needed according to pre-established guidelines and treatment thresholds. (Food and Agricultural Code 13181) The IPM plan and this administrative regulation shall not apply to reduced-risk pesticides, including self-contained baits or traps, gels or pastes used for crack and crevice treatments, antimicrobials, and pesticides exempt from registration by law. (Education Code 17610.5; 3 CCR 6147) The district's program shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following components:

1. Identifying and monitoring pest population levels and identifying practices that could affect pest populations. Strategies for managing the pest shall be influenced by the pest species and whether that species poses a threat to people, property, or the environment.

2. Setting action threshold levels to determine when pest populations or vegetation at a specific location might cause unacceptable health or economic hazards that would indicate corrective action should be taken.
3. Modifying or eliminating pest habitats to deter pest populations and minimize pest infestations.
4. Considering a full range of possible alternative cost-effective treatments. Such alternative treatments may include taking no action or controlling the pest by physical, horticultural, or biological methods. Cost or staffing considerations alone will not be adequate justification for the use of chemical control agents.
5. Selecting nonchemical pest management methods over chemical methods whenever such methods are effective in providing the desired control or, when it is determined that chemical methods must be used, giving preference to those chemicals that pose the least hazardous effects to people and the environment. No pesticide that is prohibited by DPR or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, as listed on the DPR web site, shall be used at a school site. (Education Code 17610.1)
6. Limiting pesticide purchases to amounts needed for the year. Pesticides shall be stored at a secure location that is not accessible to students and unauthorized staff. They shall be stored and disposed of in accordance with state regulations and product label directions.
7. Informing parents/guardians and employees regarding pesticide use as described in the sections "Notifications" and "Warning Signs" below.
8. Ensuring that persons applying pesticides follow label precautions and are sufficiently trained in the principles and practices of IPM as described in the section "Training" below.
9. Evaluating the effectiveness of treatments to determine if revisions to the IPM plan are needed.

### **Training**

The IPM coordinator and any employee or contractor who may be designated to apply a pesticide at a school site shall annually complete a DPR-approved training course on IPM and the safe use of pesticides in relation to the unique nature of school sites and children's health. (Education Code 17614; Food and Agricultural Code 13186.5)

Any district employee who handles pesticides shall also receive pesticide-specific safety training prior to applying pesticides and annually thereafter in accordance with 3 CCR 6724.

### **Notifications**

Staff and parents/guardians of students enrolled at a school site shall be annually notified, in writing, regarding pesticide products expected to be applied at the school site in the upcoming year. The notification shall include at least the following: (Education Code 17612)

1. The name of each pesticide product expected to be applied in the upcoming year and the active ingredient(s) in it
2. The Internet address (<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/schoolipm>) used to access information on pesticides and pesticide use reduction developed by the DPR pursuant to Food and Agricultural Code 13184
3. The opportunity to view a copy of the IPM plan will be made available on the school district web site.

4. An opportunity for interested persons to register to receive prior notification of each application of a pesticide at the school site
5. Other information deemed necessary by the IPM coordinator

Whenever a person registers to receive notice of individual pesticide application pursuant to item #5 above, the IPM coordinator shall notify such registered persons of individual pesticide applications at least 72 hours prior to the application. The notice shall include the product name, the active ingredient(s) in the product, and the intended date of application. (Education Code 17612)

If a pesticide product not included in the annual notification is subsequently intended for use at a school site, the IPM coordinator shall provide written notification of its intended use to staff and parents/guardians of students enrolled at the school, at least 72 hours prior to the application. (Education Code 17612)

If a school chooses to use a pesticide not exempted pursuant to Education Code 17610.5, it shall post the school or district IPM plan on the school's web site or, if the school does not have a web site, then on the district web site. If neither the school nor district has a web site, then the IPM plan shall be included with the annual notification sent to staff and parents/guardians pursuant to Education Code 17612 as described above. When not required, the IPM coordinator may post or distribute the IPM plan at his/her discretion. (Education Code 17611.5)

Whenever the IPM coordinator deems that the immediate use of a pesticide is necessary to protect the health and safety of students, staff, or other persons at the school site, he/she shall make every effort to provide the required notifications prior to the application of the pesticide. (Education Code 17612)

### **Warning Signs**

The IPM coordinator shall post a warning sign at each area of the school site where pesticides will be applied that shall be visible to all persons entering the treated area. The sign shall be posted at least 24 hours prior to the application and shall remain posted until 72 hours after the application. The warning sign shall prominently display the following information: (Education Code 17612)

1. The term "Warning/Pesticide Treated Area"
2. The product name, manufacturer's name, and the EPA's product registration number
3. Intended areas and dates of application
4. Reason for the pesticide application

When advance posting is not possible due to an emergency condition requiring immediate use of a pesticide to protect the health and safety of students, staff, or other persons or the school site, the warning sign shall be posted immediately upon application and shall remain posted until 72 hours after the application. (Education Code 17609, 17612)

### **Records**

At the end of each calendar year, the IPM coordinator shall submit to DPR, on a form provided by DPR, a copy of the records of all pesticide use at the school site for that year, excluding any pesticides exempted by law and any pesticide use reported by the pest control operator pursuant to Food and Agricultural Code 13186. The IPM coordinator may submit more frequent reports at his/her discretion. (Education Code 17611)

The District shall maintain records of all pesticide use at the school for four years, and shall make the information available to the public, upon request, in accordance with the California Public Records Act. The District may meet this requirement by retaining a copy of the warning sign posted for each pesticide application with a recording on that copy of the amount of the pesticide used. (Education Code 17611)

**Pesticide Use near School Site**

Upon receiving notification pursuant to 3 CCR 6692 that a grower expects to use agricultural pesticides within one-quarter mile of a school site Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., the principal or designee shall notify the Superintendent or designee, IPM coordinator, staff at the school site, and parents/guardians of students enrolled at the school.

The principal or designee may communicate with any grower within one-quarter mile of the school to request that the grower not apply pesticides during evenings or weekends when school activities are scheduled.

To view the full Administrative Regulation:

**[3514.2 - INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT](#)**

## **Section 2**

# **PROVIDING A SAFE & ORDERLY ENVIRONMENT**

Natomas Park Elementary School understands the importance of maintaining a safe and orderly environment to allow students to reach their full academic and social potential. Through daily school site operations and procedures, social and emotional supports, disciplinary procedures and board policy implementations, the following are used to support everyday safety operations of our school community.

### **Part 1: School Site Operations and Procedures**

- Campus Hours of Operations
- Student Drop-off and Pick-up
- Traffic Safety
- Ingress and Egress
- Safe Routes to School
- Closed Campus
- Campus Communication Procedures
- Visitor and Volunteer Policies
  - Classroom Visitation
  - Use of E-Visitor Badge Systems
  - Visitor Assistance BP & AR
  - Visitor/Outsider BP & AR
  - Civility Policy
- Student Dress Code

### **Part 2: Social and Emotional Supports**

- Restorative Justice Practices
- Bullying Prevention
- Mental Health Supports
  - Suiside Prevention
  - Risk Assessment
- Freedom Of Speech/Expression

### **Part 3: Student Conduct & Disciplinary Procedures**

- Student Conduct
- Hate-Motivated Behavior
- Student Discipline
- Suspension and Expulsion Process
- Suspension and Expulsion Process - Students with Disabilities
- Search and Seizure

# Natomas Park Elementary

4700 Crest Drive Sacramento, CA 95835

## **Campus Hours of Operation**

- Front office hours of operation      7:30-3:30 PM
- Campus gates open at                    7:15 AM
- Breakfast starts at                        7:20 AM
- School starts at                            7:45 AM
- School ends at                              1:55 PM
  - Preschool:                                8:00-3:15 PM
  - Kindergarten:                            7:45-1:38 PM
  - 1st-5th:                                    7:45-1:55 PM
- Campus gates close at                    2:00 PM

## **Ingress and Egress**

The Main Office Entrance is located at 4700 Crest Drive, Sacramento, CA 95835

Natomas Park Elementary can be accessed before and after school through the following gate locations:

| Gate Location         | Before School Time | After School Time |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Bus loading gate      | 7:20 am-7:30 am    | 1:38-2:00 PM      |
| Side parking lot gate | 7:20 am-7:30 am    | 1:38- 2:00 PM     |

## **Student Drop-Off Process**

### **Parking Lot**

The parking lot driveway will be used solely as a student drop-off and pick-up area during arrival and dismissal times. Cars are not to be parked and left unattended. The lot will remain open all day but has very limited space. Staff will monitor the gates during the morning from 7:30 to 7:40 a.m. and in the afternoon from 1:38 to 2:10 p.m.

### **Student Pick-Up Process**

The parking lot driveway will be used solely as a student pick-up and drop-off area during arrival and dismissal times. Cars are not to be parked and left unattended. The parking lot will remain open all day but has very limited space. Staff will monitor the gates during the drop-off and pick-up times of 7:30-7:40 am and 1:38-2:10 pm. For older grades (1st-5th), parents are not permitted to pick students up from the classrooms as students will be dismissed and exit gates to be picked up by parents/guardians.

### **If a student needs to be picked up early, please follow these procedures:**

- Only listed parents or guardians are allowed to pick up students UNLESS a parent/guardian has notified the school of other arrangements. Emergency contacts ARE NOT allowed to pick up students without notification from a listed parent/guardian.
- Appointments: To leave the school during class time or between classes, a student should bring a note from the parent/guardian, prior to the beginning of the school day, stating the reason for leaving and the time to be dismissed from school and the school staff must be able to reach the parent/guardian by phone in order to secure permission to leave school.

### **Unscheduled Early Dismissals:**

- A parent/guardian listed on the student's emergency card must be present to sign out a student from the front office.
- Inform the front desk that you are picking up a student for early dismissal
- Have a valid I.D. ready for verification
- The front desk will contact the classroom, and the teacher will send the student up to the office
- Complete the "Sign Out" sheet with parent information, student name, and check-out time

### **TK and Kindergarten Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures**

Transitional kindergarten and kindergarten students will be dropped off in lines on the blacktop located in the school site quad, organized by classroom number. Teachers will begin to pick students up from their corresponding classroom line at 7:45am and walk their students to their designated classroom. For pick-up, the main gates of the school site will be opened at 1:38 pm, and parents/guardians will pick their students up directly from the classroom; students will only be dismissed and released to the approved parent/guardian by the teacher. Late pick-ups will be walked to the main office, where the student will need to be signed out by a verified adult before dismissal.

### **Traffic Safety**

Natomas Park Elementary School is committed to student safety. We reinforce the use of crosswalks when students are walking to and from school. There should be no jaywalking/or students running across the street without using a crosswalk. Please do not park in any crosswalk path during arrival and dismissal times. This is at the request and partnership of the Sacramento police department.

### **Safe Routes to School - BP 5142.2**

The Governing Board recognizes that walking, bicycling, and other forms of active transport to school increase students' physical activity and reduce vehicle traffic and air pollution in the vicinity of schools. As part of the district's coordinated approach to supporting student wellness and safety and enhancing student learning and achievement, the Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement strategies to establish and encourage safe routes to school program activities.

All students shall have equitable access and opportunity to participate in the district's safe routes to school program.

The Superintendent or designee may appoint a program coordinator and identify or establish district and/or school site committees to oversee and coordinate related activities. The Superintendent or designee may collaborate with local public works and public safety departments, transportation agencies, other city and county agencies, school staff, students, parents/guardians and parent organizations, health organizations, community organizations, and/or businesses in the development, implementation, and evaluation of strategies.

Strategies in support of the safe routes to school program shall be based on the grade levels of the students and an assessment of the conditions and needs of each school and the surrounding neighborhoods.

The Superintendent or designee shall explore the availability of grant funds and other sources of funding to support related projects and activities.

The Superintendent or designee shall periodically report to the Board on the implementation of program activities and progress toward program goals. Such reports may include, but are not limited to, levels of participation in promotional and educational activities, survey results of parent/guardian attitudes about allowing their child to walk or bicycle to school, tallies of the numbers of students using various modes of travel to and from school and how these numbers have changed over time, records of student attendance and on-time arrival, and injury data within the school and/or district attendance boundaries.

### **Safe Routes to School - AR 5142.2**

District strategies to improve student safety along routes to school and to promote walking, bicycling, and other forms of active transport to school by students may include:

1. Education activities that promote safety and awareness, such as:
  - a. Instructing students about pedestrian and personal safety related to the use of electric or motorized and non motorized bicycles or scooters, including by local law enforcement, organizations specified in Education Code 38134, and public agencies that provide safety instructions on such bicycles and scooters.
  - b. Instructing students about the health, academic, and environmental benefits of walking, bicycling, and other forms of active transport to school
  - c. Offering driver safety information to high school students, parents/guardians, and the community to promote safety around school campuses and routes
2. Encouragement strategies designed to generate interest in active transport to school, such as:
  - a. Organizing or facilitating "walking school buses" and/or "bicycle trains" whereby students walk or bike to school in groups escorted by parents/guardians or other volunteers as needed
  - b. Organizing special events and activities, such as Walk or Bike to School Day, International Walk to School Month, or year-round competitions
  - c. Publicizing the district's efforts in order to build support of parents/guardians and the community, including providing information about the district's safe routes to school program in parent/guardian communications and in any notifications about transportation options
3. Enforcement strategies to deter unsafe behaviors of drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists, such as:
  - a. Initiating or expanding crossing guard, student safety patrol, and/or parent/guardian safety patrol programs

- b. Partnering with local law enforcement to help ensure that traffic laws are obeyed in the vicinity of schools and to implement appropriate measures such as placement of speed feedback monitors, ticketing, and/or driver safety campaigns
  - c. Monitoring to ensure that students who bicycle to school or who use skateboards, skates, or non motorized scooters wear helmets in accordance with Vehicle Code 21212
4. Engineering strategies that address the design, implementation, operation, and maintenance of traffic control devices or physical measures, such as:
    - a. Working with local government agencies, parents/guardians, school staff, and others as appropriate to gather data about environmental conditions and hazards along routes to school
    - b. Working with local government agencies to make operational and physical improvements that reduce or eliminate hazards, such as reducing motor vehicle traffic speeds in the area and establishing safer and fully accessible crosswalks, walkways, trails, and bikeways
    - c. Assessing the adequacy, accessibility, and safety of bicycle parking at schools and making modifications as needed, such as increasing the number of or relocating bicycle racks and/or equipment storage areas
    - d. Considering safe routes to school when making decisions about siting and designing of new schools
  5. Evaluation to assess progress toward program goals, including:
    - a. Gathering and interpreting data based on indicators established by the Superintendent and the Governing Board
    - b. Presenting data to the Board, program partners, and the public
    - c. Recommending program modifications as needed
  6. Emerging technologies that aid in the prevention and mitigation of accidents
  7. Emergency response in managing injuries after an accident occurs, including, but not limited to, training staff, crossing guards, student and/or parent/guardian safety patrols, and other volunteers who assist with drop-off and pick-up in emergency procedures
  8. Equity, such that resources are distributed in a manner that provides safe access and participation in an equitable manner across the community

To view full Board Policy:

[\*\*5142.2 - SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL\*\*](#)

To view full Administrative Regulation:

[\*\*5142.2 - SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL\*\*](#)

### **Open/Closed Campus - BP 5112.5**

In order to keep students in a supervised, safe and orderly environment, the Governing Board establishes a closed campus at all district schools.

Students shall not leave the school grounds at any time during the school day without written express permission of school authorities. Students who leave school without authorization shall be considered to have an unexcused absence and be subject to disciplinary action.

To view full Board Policy:

[\*\*5112.5 - OPEN/CLOSED CAMPUS\*\*](#)

## **NUSD Campus Communication Processes**

### **Campus Communications**

1. Parent Square
2. All Call System
3. Faculty Call List
4. Radio Communication

### **Parent Square**

Parent Square is the primary communication system used by NUSD schools, staff and families to make daily announcements, send messages and promote upcoming district/school events.

In the event of an emergency, the Principal/designee will use the Parent Square App to send a direct message to all staff with the following details:

- Principal/designee will include necessary information and direction to allow staff to take appropriate action
- Principal/designee will monitor for read receipts, and make individual calls as needed
- Principal/designee will update staff as information becomes available for next steps in the emergency
- Principal/designee will communicate necessary information at the conclusion of the emergency

NUSD designee will use the Parent Square App to send direct communications to families when an emergency occurs in our NUSD community

### **All Call System**

Principal/designee will use the campus all call system to make daily announcements/communications for faculty and students

In the event of an emergency, the Principal/designee will use the campus all call system announcements/communications as long as it is safe to do so

### **Faculty Phone List**

Principal/designee will use the site faculty phone list should above forms of communication fail to reach faculty during an emergency

## **Visitor and Volunteer Policies**

Volunteers are welcomed in our District and are valuable members of our learning community. A volunteer is defined as a non-paid individual who, with school District authorization, assists students, schools, or educational programs. This individual may not always be under the direct supervision of District staff. The service can be on short-term, project specific or on-going basis. A volunteer is required to complete a Volunteer Application, Code of Conduct, take a tuberculosis (TB) test, and have a fingerprint/background check completed prior to rendering service. For complete information regarding becoming a Natomas Unified School District volunteer and to complete an application, please visit the district website.

### **Classroom Visitation**

A parent or guardian has the right to observe instruction and other school activities that involve his or her child in accordance with procedures determined by the governing board of the school district to ensure the safety of pupils and school personnel and to prevent undue interference with instruction or harassment of school personnel. Reasonable accommodation of parents and guardians shall be considered by the governing board of the school district. Upon written request by the parent or guardian, school officials shall arrange for the parental observation of the requested class or classes or activities by that parent or guardian in a reasonable timeframe and in accordance with procedures determined by the governing board of the school district. [E.C. 49091.10(b)] In lieu of a written request by the parent or guardian, the principal, upon his or her discretion, may grant a classroom visit with a verbal request.

### **Use of E-Visitor Badge Systems**

Parents/Guardians who are interested in visiting the classrooms must first report to the front office to obtain an E-visitors badge. At this time, you will be asked to present an ID and to sign in on the visitors sign in sheet. Our staff member will then take a picture of you and print a badge. Once you are done with the visit, parents/guardians are to come back to the office and sign out. The purpose of this badge is to make visitors to school sites and District offices easily identifiable, which will increase safety for all.

## **Volunteer Assistance - BP 1240**

The Board of Trustees recognizes that volunteer assistance in schools can enrich the educational program, increase supervision of students, and contribute to school safety while strengthening the schools' relationships with the community. The Board encourages parents/guardians and other members of the community to share their time, knowledge and abilities with students. The Board also encourages community members to serve as mentors providing support and motivation to students.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement a plan for recruiting, screening and placing volunteers, including strategies for reaching underrepresented groups of parents/guardians and community members. He/she may also recruit community members to serve as mentors and/or make appropriate referrals to community organizations.

The Board prohibits harassment of any volunteer on the basis of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, sexual orientation, or military and veteran status. (Government Code 12940)

As appropriate, the Superintendent or designee shall provide volunteers with information about school goals, programs and practices and an orientation or other training related to their specific responsibilities. Employees who supervise volunteers shall ensure that volunteers are assigned meaningful responsibilities that utilize their skills and expertise and maximize their contribution to the educational program.

Volunteer maintenance work shall be limited to those projects that do not replace the normal maintenance duties of classified staff. The Board nevertheless encourages volunteers to work on approved short-term projects to the extent that they enhance the classroom or school, do not significantly increase maintenance workloads and comply with employee negotiated agreements. Volunteer aides shall not be used to assist certificated staff in performing teaching or administrative responsibilities in place of regularly authorized classified employees who have been laid off. (Education Code 35021) Volunteers shall act in accordance with district policies, regulations and school rules. The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for investigating and resolving complaints regarding volunteers. The Board encourages principals to develop a means for recognizing the contributions of each school's volunteers. The Superintendent or designee shall periodically report to the Board regarding the district's volunteer assistance program.

**Qualifications** The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures for determining whether volunteers possess the qualifications, if any, required by law and administrative regulation for the types of duties they will perform. Prior to assuming a volunteer position to work with students in a district-sponsored student activity program, a volunteer shall obtain both a Department of Justice and Federal Bureau of Investigation criminal background check through the district. (Education Code 49024) A volunteer who possesses a current Activity Supervisor Clearance Certificate from the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, issued prior to July 9, 2010, shall have satisfied district requirements for the criminal background check. (Education Code 49024)

### **Volunteer Assistance - AR 1240**

#### **Duties of Volunteers**

Volunteers may assist certificated personnel in the performance of their duties, in the supervision of adults, and in instructional tasks which, in the judgment of the certificated personnel to whom the volunteer is assigned, may be performed by a person not licensed as a classroom teacher. (Education Code 45343, 45344, 45349)

Volunteers shall not be authorized to assign grades to students, and shall not be used to assist certificated staff in performing teaching or administrative responsibilities in place of regularly authorized classified employees who have been laid off. (Education Code 35021, 45344)

Volunteers may supervise students during lunch, breakfast, or other nutritional periods or may serve as non teaching aides under the immediate supervision and direction of certificated personnel to perform non instructional work which assists certificated personnel in the performance of teaching and administrative responsibilities. (Education Code 35021, 44814, 44815)

Volunteers may work on short-term facilities projects pursuant to Board Policy and the section below entitled "Volunteer Facilities Projects."

#### **Qualifications**

Volunteers providing supervision or instruction of students pursuant to Education Code 45349 shall give evidence of basic skills proficiency. (Education Code 45344.5, 45349)

Any volunteer working with students in a district-sponsored student activity program shall obtain an Activity Supervisor Clearance Certificate or criminal background check in accordance with Board policy. The Superintendent or designee shall determine which volunteer positions in the district are subject to this requirement.

"Student activity programs" include, but are not limited to, scholastic programs, interscholastic programs, and extracurricular activities sponsored by the district or a school booster club, such as cheer team, drill team, dance

team, and marching band. This requirement shall not apply to volunteer supervisors for breakfast, lunch, or other nutritional periods or to volunteer non teaching aides under the immediate supervision and direction of certificated personnel pursuant to Education Code 35021, including parents/guardians volunteering in a classroom or on a field trip or community members providing non instructional services. (Education Code 49024)

The Superintendent or designee shall not assign any person required to register as a sex offender pursuant to Penal Code 290 as a volunteer who assists certificated personnel in the performance of their duties; supervises students during lunch, breakfast, or other nutritional period; or serves as a non teaching aide to perform non instructional tasks. In addition, a person who is required to register as a sex offender because of a conviction for a crime where the victim was a minor under age 16 shall not serve as a volunteer in any capacity in which he/she would be working directly and in an unaccompanied setting with minors on more than an incidental and occasional basis or have supervision or disciplinary power over minors. (Education Code 35021, 45349; Penal Code 290.95)

The Superintendent or designee may require all volunteers to disclose their status as a registered sex offender and/or provide the district with sufficient information in order to allow verification of this status on the Department of Justice's Megan's Law website.

Upon initial volunteer assignment, a volunteer shall have on file with the school a certificate showing that he/she has submitted to a tuberculosis risk assessment and, if tuberculosis risk factors were identified, was examined and found to be free of infectious tuberculosis. (Education Code 49406)

The Superintendent or designee may exempt from tuberculosis testing requirements those volunteers who serve less than a school year and whose functions do not require frequent or prolonged contact with students. (Education Code 49406)

### **Volunteer Facilities Projects**

All volunteer facilities projects shall have approximate start and completion dates and must be approved by the principal in advance. Projects shall also be approved in advance by the Superintendent or designee if they involve the following types of work:

1. Alterations, additions or repairs to buildings and grounds
2. Construction involving wall or roof penetration, drilling or nailing
3. Structural modifications
4. Electrical, electronic, plumbing, or heating and cooling work
5. Painting
6. Installation of carpet, playground equipment, benches, sprinkler systems, marquees or signs
7. Paving
8. Tree planting, pruning or removal

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that volunteers possess the appropriate license and/or have sufficient expertise appropriate to the project. He/she shall also ensure that such projects comply with building and safety codes and other applicable laws and collective bargaining agreements. The district shall provide on-site assistance and supervision for such projects as necessary. Projects shall be inspected upon completion to ensure that the work was done satisfactorily.

### **Visitors/Outsiders - BP 1250**

The Governing Board believes that it is important for parents/guardians and community members to take an active interest in the issues affecting district schools and students. Therefore, the Board encourages interested parents/guardians and community members to visit the schools and participate in the educational program.

To ensure the safety of students and staff and minimize interruption of the instructional program, the Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures which facilitate visits during regular school days. Visits during school hours should be arranged with the principal or designee 24 hours in advance. When a visit involves a conference with a teacher or the principal, an appointment should be scheduled during non-instructional time.

Any person who is not a student or staff member shall register immediately upon entering any school building or grounds when school is in session.

The principal or designee may provide a visible means of identification for all individuals who are not students or staff members while on school premises.

No electronic listening or recording device may be used by any person in a classroom without the teacher's and principal's permission. (Education Code 51512)

The Board encourages all individuals to assist in maintaining a safe and secure school environment by behaving in an orderly manner while on school grounds and by utilizing the district's complaint processes if they have concerns with any district program or employee. In accordance with Penal Code 626.7, the principal or designee may request that any individual who is causing a disruption, including exhibiting volatile, hostile, aggressive, or offensive behavior, immediately leave school grounds.

### **Visitors/Outsiders - AR 1250**

The Superintendent or designee shall post at every entrance to each school and school grounds a notice describing registration requirements, school hours or hours during which registration is required, the registration location, the route to take to that location, and the penalties for violation of registration requirements. (Education Code 32211; Penal Code 627.6)

#### **Registration Procedure**

In order to register, a visitor shall, upon request, furnish the principal or designee with the following information: (Penal Code 627.3)

1. His/her name, address and occupation
2. His/her age, if less than 21
3. His/her purpose for entering school grounds
4. Proof of identity
5. Other information consistent with the provisions of law

#### **Principal's Registration Authority**

The principal or designee may refuse to register any visitor if he/she reasonably concludes that the individual's presence or acts would disrupt the school, students, or employees; would result in damage to property; or would result in the distribution or use of a controlled substance. The principal or designee or school security officer may revoke any visitor's registration if he/she has a reasonable basis for concluding that the individual's presence on school grounds would interfere or is interfering with the peaceful conduct of school activities or would disrupt or is disrupting the school, students, or staff. (Penal Code 627.4)

When a visitor fails to register, or when the principal or designee denies or revokes a visitor's registration privileges, the principal or designee may request that the individual promptly leave school grounds. When a visitor is directed to leave, the principal or designee shall inform him/her that if he/she reenters the school within seven days he/she may be guilty of a misdemeanor subject to a fine and/or imprisonment. (Penal Code 627.7)

### **Appeal Procedure**

Any person who is denied registration or whose registration is revoked may appeal to the Superintendent or principal by submitting, within five days after the person's departure from school, a written request for a hearing. This request must state why he/she believes the denial or revocation was improper and must provide an address to which the hearing notice may be sent. Upon receipt of the request for a hearing, the Superintendent or principal shall promptly mail a notice of the hearing to the person requesting it. A hearing before the Superintendent or principal shall be held within seven days after receipt of the request. (Penal Code 627.5)

To view full Board Policy:

[1240 - VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE](#)

To view full Administrative Regulation:

[1250 - VISITORS/OUTSIDERS](#)

### **Civility - BP 1313**

The Governing Board recognizes the impact that civility has on the effective operation of the district, including its role in creating a safe and positive school climate and enabling a focus on student well-being, learning, and achievement. The Board believes that each person should be treated with dignity and respect in their interactions within the school community.

The Board understands that the First Amendment provides strong protection for speech. However, the Board expects that all speech and expression will comport with norms of civil behavior on district grounds, in district facilities, during district activities or events, and in the use of district electronic/digital systems and platforms.

Civil behavior is polite, courteous, and reasonable behavior which is respectful to others and includes integrity, honesty, acceptance, timeliness, dependability, observance of laws and rules, and effective communication.

The Board and district staff shall model civil behavior as an example of behavior that is expected throughout the district. Practices that promote civil behavior include actively listening, giving full attention to the speaker, and refraining from interruptions; welcoming and encouraging participation, input, and feedback through stakeholder engagement; promptly responding to concerns; and embracing varying and diverse viewpoints. Such practices may be incorporated into governance standards adopted by the Board or Superintendent and/or professional standards or codes of conduct for employees as specified in district policies and regulations.

Students, staff, parents/guardians, and community members should be educated in the recognition, development, and demonstration of civil behavior. The Superintendent or designee may incorporate related concepts in the curriculum, provide staff development activities, and/or communicate this policy to the school community.

Students, staff, parents/guardians, and community members shall not communicate or behave in a manner that causes disruption; hinders the orderly conduct of district operations, the educational program, or any other district program or activity; or creates an unsafe learning or working environment. The Superintendent or designee may respond to disruptive, violent, or threatening behavior in accordance with law and as specified in BP/AR 3515.2 - Disruptions.

Behavior by students or staff that is discriminatory, harassing, or intimidating, including sexual harassment, bullying, and/or hate violence, or behavior that is in any other way unlawful, is prohibited and is subject to discipline in accordance with law and as specified in district policy and regulations.

To view full Board Policy:

[1313 - CIVILITY](#)

### **Disruptions - BP 3515.2**

The Governing Board is committed to providing a safe and orderly environment for students, staff, and others on district property or while engaged in school activities.

The Superintendent or designee shall remove any individual who, by his/her presence or action, disrupts or threatens to disrupt normal operations at a school campus or any other district facility, threatens the health or safety of anyone on district property, or causes or threatens to cause damage to district property or to any property on school grounds.

Under the right circumstances, failure to register or identify oneself may be considered to be disruptive.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a plan describing staff responsibilities and actions to be taken when an individual is causing or threatening to cause a disruption. The plan shall address, as appropriate, visitor registration procedures; campus security measures; evacuation procedures; lock-down procedures; possible responses to an active shooter situation; communications within the school and with parents/guardians, law enforcement, and the media in the event of an emergency; and crisis counseling or other assistance for students and staff after a disruption. In developing such a plan, the Superintendent or designee shall consult with law enforcement to create guidelines for law enforcement support and intervention when necessary.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training to school staff on how to identify and respond to actions or situations that may constitute a disruption.

Any employee who believes that a disruption may occur shall immediately contact the principal. The principal or designee shall notify law enforcement in accordance with education Code 48902 and 20 USC 7151 and in other situations, as appropriate.

### **Safe School Zone**

Possession of a firearm within 1000 feet of any district school is prohibited except when authorized by law. (Penal Code 626.9)

Possession of unauthorized firearms, weapons or dangerous instruments is prohibited on school grounds or buses and at school-related or school-sponsored activities without the written permission of school authorities.

### **Disruptions - AR 3515.2**

The principal or designee may direct any person, except a student, school employee, or other person required by his/her employment to be on school grounds, to leave school grounds or school activity if:

1. The principal or designee has reasonable basis for concluding that the person is committing or has entered the campus with the purpose of committing an act which is likely to interfere with the peaceful conduct,

discipline, good order, or administration of the school or a school activity, or with the intent of inflicting damage to any person or property. (Education Code 44810, 44811; Penal Code 626.7)

2. The person fights or challenges another person to a fight, willfully disturbs another person by loud and unreasonable noise, or uses offensive language which could provoke a violent reaction. (Penal Code 415.5)
3. The person, without lawful business for being present, loiters around a school or re enters a school within 72 hours after he/she was asked to leave. (Penal Code 653b)
4. The person is required to register as a sex offender pursuant to Penal Code 290 and does not have a lawful purpose and written permission from the principal or designee to be on school grounds. (Penal Code 626.81)
5. The person is a specified drug offender, as defined in Penal Code 626.85, and does not have written permission from the principal or designee to be on school grounds. However, such specified drug offender may be on school grounds during any school activity if he/she is a student or the parent/guardian of a student attending the school. (Penal Code 626.85)
6. The person willfully or knowingly creates a disruption with the intent to threaten the immediate physical safety of students, staff, or others while attending, arriving at, or leaving school. (Penal Code 626.8)
7. The person has otherwise established a continued pattern of unauthorized entry on school grounds. (Penal Code 626.8)

The principal or designee shall allow a parent/guardian who was previously directed to leave school grounds to reenter for the purpose of retrieving his/her child for disciplinary reasons, medical attention, or family emergencies, or with the principal or designee's prior written permission. (Penal Code 626.7, 626.85)

When directing any person to leave school premises, the principal or designee shall inform the person that he/she may be guilty of a crime if he/she: (Education Code 32211; Penal Code 626.7, 626.8, 636.85)

1. Fails to leave or remains after being directed to leave
2. Returns to the campus without following the school's posted registration
3. Returns within seven days after being directed to leave

Whenever an individual is causing or threatening to cause a disruption at any district facility other than a school campus, the Superintendent or designee may direct that individual to leave the facility consistent with this regulation and the accompanying Board policy.

### **Appeal Procedure**

Any person who is asked to leave a school building or grounds may appeal to the Superintendent or designee. This appeal shall be made no later than the second school day after the person has departed from the school building or grounds. After reviewing the matter with the principal or designee and the person making the appeal, the Superintendent or designee shall render his/her decision within 24 hours after the appeal is made, and this decision shall be binding. (Education Code 32211)

The decision of the Superintendent or designee may be appealed to the Governing Board. Such an appeal shall be made no later than the second school day after the Superintendent or designee has rendered his/her decision. The Board shall consider and decide the appeal at its next scheduled regular or adjourned regular public meeting. The Board's decision shall be final. (Education Code 32211)

In any circumstance where a person has been directed to leave a school building or ground where the Superintendent's or Board's office is situated, he/she may nevertheless enter the school building or ground solely for the purpose of making the appeal. (Education Code 32211)

To view full Board Policy and Administrative Regulations:

[3515.2 - DISRUPTIONS](#)

### **Dress and Grooming - BP 5132**

The Governing Board believes that appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive learning environment. The Board expects students to wear clothing that is suitable for the school activities in which they participate. Students shall not wear clothing that presents a health or safety hazard or causes a substantial disruption to the educational program.

District and school rules pertaining to student attire shall be included in student handbooks, may be posted in school offices and classrooms, and may be periodically reviewed with all students as necessary.

Students shall not be prohibited from dressing in a manner consistent with their gender identity or gender expression or with their religious or cultural observance. In addition, the dress code shall not discriminate against students based on hair texture and protective hairstyles, including, but not limited to, braids, locks, and twists. (Education Code 212.1)

The principal or designee is authorized to enforce this policy and shall inform any student who does not reasonably conform to the dress code. The dress code shall not be enforced in a manner that discriminates against a particular viewpoint or results in a disproportionate application of the dress code based on students' gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, household income, or body type or size.

School administrators, teachers, and other staff shall be notified of appropriate and equitable enforcement of the dress code.

When practical, students shall not be directed to correct a dress code violation during instructional time or in front of other students.

Repeated violations or refusal to comply with the district's dress code may result in disciplinary action.

#### **Gang-Related Apparel**

The principal, staff, and parents/guardians at a school may establish a reasonable dress code that prohibits students from wearing gang-related apparel when there is evidence of a gang presence that disrupts or threatens to disrupt the school's activities. Such a proposed dress code shall be presented to the Board, which shall approve the plan upon determining that it is necessary to protect the health and safety of the school environment. The dress code policy may be included in the school's comprehensive safety plan. (Education Code 35183)

When determining specific items of clothing that may be defined as gang apparel, the school shall ensure that the determination is free from bias based on race, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, or other protected characteristics.

#### **Uniforms**

The Board may approve a school-initiated dress code requiring students at the school to wear a school uniform whenever the Board determines that such a dress code will promote student achievement, a positive school climate, and/or student safety.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures whereby parents/guardians may choose to have their children exempted from the school uniform policy. Students shall not be penalized academically, otherwise discriminated against, or denied attendance to school if their parents/guardians so decide. (Education Code 35183)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that resources are identified to assist economically disadvantaged students in obtaining uniforms. (Education Code 35183)

### **Dress and Grooming - AP 5132(a)**

In cooperation with teachers, students and parents/guardians, the principal or designee may establish school rules governing student dress and grooming which are consistent with law, Board policy and administrative regulations. These school dress codes shall be regularly reviewed.

The following guidelines shall apply to all regular school activities:

1. Clothing, jewelry, and personal items shall be free of writing, pictures, or any other insignia which is vulgar, lewd, obscene, profane, or sexually suggestive or which promotes the use of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, or other illegal activity.
2. Appropriate shoes must be worn at all times.
3. Hats, caps, and other head coverings shall not be worn indoors.
4. Clothes shall be sufficient to conceal undergarments. See-through tops and bare abdomens are prohibited.

The dress code shall be modified as appropriate to accommodate a student's religious or cultural observance, health condition, or other circumstance deemed necessary by the principal or designee. In addition, the principal or designee may impose dress requirements to accommodate the needs of special school activities, physical education classes, athletic activities, and other extracurricular and cocurricular activities.

No grade of a student participating in a physical education class shall be adversely affected if the student does not wear standardized physical education apparel because of circumstances beyond the student's control. (Education Code 49066)

Students shall be allowed to wear sun-protective clothing, including but not limited to hats, for outdoor use during the school day. (Education Code 35183.5)

### **Gang-Related Apparel**

At individual schools that have a dress code prohibiting gang-related apparel at school or school activities, the principal, staff and parents/guardians participating in the development of the school safety plan shall define "gang-related apparel" and shall limit this definition to apparel that reasonably could be determined to threaten the health and safety of the school environment if it were worn or displayed on a school campus. (Education Code 32282)

Because gang-related symbols are constantly changing, definitions of gang-related apparel shall be reviewed at least once each semester and updated whenever related information is received. As necessary, the school shall collaborate with law enforcement agencies to update the definitions of gang-related apparel.

### **Uniforms**

In schools that require a school-wide uniform, the principal, staff and parents/guardians of the school shall jointly select the specific uniform to be worn. (Education Code 35183)

At least six months before a school uniform policy is implemented, the principal or designee shall notify parents/guardians of this policy. (Education Code 35183)

Parents/guardians shall also be informed of their right to have their child exempted.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish criteria for determining student eligibility for financial assistance when purchasing uniforms.

Students who participate in a nationally recognized youth organization shall be allowed to wear organization uniforms on days when the organization has a scheduled meeting. (Education Code 35183)

To view full Board Policy:

[\*\*5132 - DRESS AND GROOMING\*\*](#)

To view full Administrative Regulations:

[\*\*5132 - DRESS AND GROOMING\*\*](#)

## **PROVIDING A SAFE & ORDERLY ENVIRONMENT**

### **Part 2: Social & Emotional Supports**

#### **General Resources**

[Foster/Homeless Youth Resources](#)  
[Community Resource Guide](#)  
[Community Resource Guide \(Spanish\)](#)  
[WarmLine Family Resource Center Virtual Activities and Workshops for Families](#)

#### **Resources and Enrichment**

[Mental Health Resource](#)

#### **Social Emotional Support Referral Form**

[Referral Form for Parents and Staff](#)  
[Referral Form \(Spanish\)](#)

#### **Local Mental Health Resources**

[National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#)  
[How to Talk to Your Child About Suicide](#)  
[Sacramento County Department of Health Services Stop Stigma Sacramento](#)  
[Peer Support Hotline – Sacramento County Call 211 Sacramento](#)  
[National Alliance on Mental Illness \(NAMI\)](#)  
[Additional Sacramento Area Mental Health Resources](#)

#### **LGBTQ+ Support Services**

For more information or confidential guidance: email [lgbtq@natomasunified.org](mailto:lgbtq@natomasunified.org) or use [this form](#)

### **Mental Health - BP 5141.5**

The Governing Board realizes that mental illness can seriously interfere with the learning process. Recognition of early signs of impaired mental health can lead to more timely diagnosis and treatment, which can benefit both the student and the schools.

The Superintendent shall maintain regulations and procedures which may result in early reporting of symptoms of impaired mental health and lead to timely diagnosis and treatment, as required and intended by law.

To view full Board Policy:

[5141.5 - MENTAL HEALTH](#)

### **Restorative Practices**

Natomas Unified School District (NUSD) is committed to creating safe and welcoming learning environments where students attend and are connected to their schools. NUSD utilizes Restorative Justice in Education (RJE) principles and practices to address the social-emotional needs of students, to provide opportunities to foster positive relationships and to build community to decrease the need for out-of-school suspensions. Restorative Justice practices - also referred to as “Restorative Practices” (RP) draw upon the collective knowledge and expertise of the community members in an effort to devise solutions that are both culturally relevant and responsive to the community’s needs.

### **Bullying - BP 5131.2**

The Governing Board recognizes the harmful effects of bullying on student well-being, student learning and school attendance and desires to provide a safe school environment that protects students from physical and emotional harm. No individual or group shall, through physical, written, verbal, visual, or other means, harass, sexually harass, threaten, intimidate, cyberbully, cause bodily injury to, or commit hate violence against any other

student or school personnel, or retaliate against them for filing a complaint or participating in the complaint resolution process.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies for addressing bullying in district schools with the involvement of students, parents/guardians, and staff. As appropriate, the Superintendent or designee may also collaborate with social services, mental health services, law enforcement, courts, and other agencies and community organizations in the development and implementation of effective strategies to promote safety in schools and the community.

Such strategies shall be incorporated into the comprehensive safety plan and, to the extent possible, into the local control and accountability plan and other applicable district and school plans.

Any complaint of bullying shall be investigated and, if determined to be discriminatory, resolved in accordance with law and the district's uniform complaint procedures specified in AR 1312.3. If, during the investigation, it is determined that a complaint is about nondiscriminatory bullying, the principal or designee shall inform the complainant and shall take all necessary actions to resolve the complaint.

Any employee who permits or engages in bullying or retaliation related to bullying shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

### **Bullying - BP 5131.2**

#### **Definitions**

Bullying is an unwanted, aggressive behavior that involves a real or perceived imbalance of power between individuals with the intent to cause emotional or physical harm. Bullying can be physical, verbal, or social/relational and involves repetition or potential repetition of a deliberate act.

Cyberbullying includes the electronic creation or transmission of harassing communications, direct threats, or other harmful texts, sounds, or images. Cyberbullying also includes breaking into another person's electronic account or assuming that person's online identity in order to damage that person's reputation. (cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression) (cf. 6163.4 - Student Use of Technology)

Examples of the types of conduct that may constitute bullying and are prohibited by the district include, but are not limited to:

1. Physical bullying that inflicts harm upon a person's body or possessions, such as hitting, kicking, pinching, spitting, tripping, pushing, taking or breaking someone's possessions, or making cruel or rude hand gestures
2. Verbal bullying that includes saying or writing hurtful things, such as teasing, name calling, inappropriate sexual comments, taunting, or threats to cause harm
3. Social/relational bullying that harms a person's reputation or relationships, such as leaving a person out of an activity on purpose, influencing others not to be friends with someone, spreading rumors, or embarrassing someone in public
4. Cyberbullying, such as sending demeaning or hateful text messages or emails, sending rumors by email or by posting on social networking sites, or posting embarrassing photos, videos, web site, or fake profiles

## **Measures to Prevent Bullying**

The Superintendent or designee shall implement measures to prevent bullying in district schools, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Ensuring that each school establishes clear rules for student conduct and implements strategies to promote a positive, collaborative school climate
2. Providing to students, through student handbooks and other age-appropriate means, information about district and school rules related to bullying, mechanisms available for reporting incidents or threats, and the consequences for engaging in bullying
3. Encouraging students to notify school staff when they are being bullied or when they suspect that another student is being bullied, and providing means by which students may report threats or incidents confidentially and anonymously
4. Conducting an assessment of bullying incidents at each school and, if necessary, increasing supervision and security in areas where bullying most often occurs, such as classrooms, playgrounds, hallways, restrooms, and cafeterias
5. Annually notifying district employees that, pursuant to Education Code 234.1, any school staff who witnesses an act of bullying against a student has a responsibility to immediately intervene to stop the incident when it is safe to do so

## **Staff Development**

The Superintendent or designee shall make the California Department of Education's online training module on the dynamics of bullying and cyberbullying, which includes the identification of bullying and cyberbullying and the implementation of strategies to address bullying, available annually to all certificated staff and to other employees who have regular interaction with students. (Education Code 32283.5)

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training to teachers and other school staff to raise their awareness about the legal obligation of the district and its employees to prevent discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying of district students. Such training shall be designed to provide staff with the skills to:

1. Discuss the diversity of the student body and school community, including their varying immigration experiences
2. Discuss bullying prevention strategies with students, and teach students to recognize the behavior and characteristics of bullying perpetrators and victims
3. Identify the signs of bullying or harassing behavior
4. Take immediate corrective action when bullying is observed
5. Report incidents to the appropriate authorities, including law enforcement in instances of criminal behavior

Student Instruction As appropriate, the district shall provide students with instruction, in the classroom or other educational settings, that promotes social-emotional learning, effective communication and conflict resolution

skills, character/values education, respect for cultural and individual differences, self-esteem development, assertiveness skills, and appropriate online behavior.

The district shall also educate students about the negative impact of bullying, discrimination, intimidation, and harassment based on actual or perceived immigration status, sexual orientation, religious beliefs and customs, or any other individual bias or prejudice.

Students should be taught the difference between appropriate and inappropriate behaviors, how to advocate for themselves, how to help another student who is being bullied, and when to seek assistance from a trusted adult. As role models for students, staff shall be expected to demonstrate effective problem-solving and anger management skills.

To discourage cyberbullying, teachers may advise students to be cautious about sharing passwords, personal data, or private photos online and to consider the consequences of making negative comments about others online.

### **Reporting and Filing of Complaints**

Any student, parent/guardian, or other individual who believes that a student has been subjected to bullying or who has witnessed bullying may report the incident to a teacher, the principal, a compliance officer, or any other available school employee.

When the circumstances involve cyberbullying, individuals with information about the activity shall be encouraged to save and print any electronic or digital messages that they feel constitute cyberbullying and to notify a teacher, the principal, or other employee so that the matter may be investigated. When a student uses a social networking site or service to bully or harass another student, the Superintendent or designee may file a request with the networking site or service to suspend the privileges of the student and to have the material removed.

### **Discipline/Corrective Actions**

Corrective actions for a student who commits an act of bullying of any type may include counseling, behavioral intervention and education, and, if the behavior is severe or pervasive as defined in Education Code 48900, may include suspension or expulsion in accordance with district policies and regulations.

When appropriate based on the severity or pervasiveness of the bullying, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the parents/guardians of victims and perpetrators and may contact law enforcement.

The Superintendent, principal, or principal's designee may refer a victim, witness, perpetrator, or other student affected by an act of bullying to a school counselor, school psychologist, social worker, child welfare attendance personnel, school nurse, or other school support service personnel for case management, counseling, and/or participation in a restorative justice program as appropriate. (Education Code 48900.9)

If any student involved in bullying exhibits warning signs of suicidal thought or intention or of intent to harm another person, the Superintendent or designee shall, as appropriate, implement district intervention protocols which may include, but are not limited to, referral to district or community mental health services, other health professionals, and/or law enforcement.

To view full Board Policy and Administrative Regulations:

[5131.2 - BULLYING](#)

## **Suicide Prevention - BP 5141.52**

The Governing Board recognizes that suicide is a leading cause of death among youth and that school personnel who regularly interact with students are often in a position to recognize the warning signs of suicide and to offer appropriate referral and/or assistance. In an effort to reduce suicidal behavior and its impact on students and families, the Superintendent or designee shall develop measures and strategies for suicide prevention, intervention and postvention.

In developing measures and strategies for use by the district, the Superintendent or designee may consult with school health professionals, school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, administrators, other staff, parents/guardians, students, suicide prevention experts, local health agencies mental health professionals, and community organizations

1. Staff development on suicide awareness and prevention for teachers, school counselors, and other district employees who interact with students.
2. Instruction to students in problem-solving and coping skills to promote students' mental, emotional, and social health and well-being, as well as instruction in recognizing and appropriately responding to warning signs of suicidal intent in others
3. Methods for promoting a positive school climate that enhances students' feelings of connectedness with the school and that is characterized by caring staff and harmonious interrelationships among students.
4. The provision of information to parents/guardians regarding risk factors and warning signs of suicide, the severity of the suicide problem among youth, the district's suicide prevention curriculum, basic steps for helping suicidal youth, and/or school and community resources that can help youth in crisis.
5. Encouragement for students to notify appropriate school personnel or other adults when they are experiencing thoughts of suicide or when they suspect or have knowledge of another student's suicidal intentions
6. Crisis intervention procedures for addressing suicide threats or attempts
7. Counseling and other postvention strategies for helping students, staff, and others cope in the aftermath of a student's suicide

As appropriate, these measures and strategies shall specifically address the needs of students who are at high risk of suicide, including, but not limited to, students who are bereaved by suicide; students with disabilities, mental illness, or substance use disorders; students who are experiencing homelessness or who are in out-of-home settings such as foster care; and students who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning youth. (Education Code 215)

The Board shall review, and update as necessary, this policy at least every five years. (Education Code 215)

## **Suicide Prevention - AR 5141.52**

Student identification cards shall include the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline telephone number and may also include the Crisis Text Line and/or a local suicide prevention hotline telephone number. (Education Code 215.5)

Suicide prevention training shall be provided to teachers, counselors, and other district employees who interact with students. The training shall be offered under the direction of a district counselor/psychologist and/or in cooperation with one or more community mental health agencies.

Materials for training shall include how to identify appropriate mental health services at the school site and within the community, and when and how to refer youth and their families to those services. Materials also may include

programs that can be completed through self-review of suitable suicide prevention materials. (Education Code 215)

Staff development shall include research and information related to the following topics:

1. The higher risk of suicide among certain groups, including, but not limited to, students who are bereaved by suicide; students with disabilities, mental illness, or substance use disorders; students who are experiencing homelessness or who are in out-of-home settings such as foster care; and students who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning youth
2. Individual risk factors such as previous suicide attempt(s) or self-harm, history of depression or mental illness, family history of suicide or violence, feelings of isolation, interpersonal conflicts, a recent severe stressor or loss, family instability, impulsivity, and other factors (cf. 5131.6 - Alcohol and Other Drugs)
3. Warning signs that may indicate depression, emotional distress, or suicidal intentions, such as changes in students' personality or behavior and verbalizations of hopelessness or suicidal intent
4. Protective factors that may help to decrease a student's suicide risk, such as resiliency, problem-solving ability, access to mental health care, and positive connections to family, peers, school, and community.
5. Instructional strategies for teaching the suicide prevention curriculum and promoting mental and emotional health
6. School and community resources and services, including resources and services that meet the specific needs of high-risk groups
7. Appropriate ways to interact with a student who is demonstrating emotional distress or is suicidal and procedures for intervening when a student attempts, threatens, or discloses the desire to die by suicide, including, but not limited to, appropriate protocols for monitoring the student while the immediate referral of the student to medical or mental health services is being processed
8. District procedures for responding after a suicide has occurred

### **Instruction**

The district's comprehensive health education program shall promote the healthy mental, emotional, and social development of students and shall be aligned with the state content standards and curriculum framework. Suicide prevention instruction shall be incorporated into the health education curriculum at appropriate secondary grades and shall be designed to help students:

1. Identify and analyze signs of depression and self-destructive behaviors and understand how feelings of depression, loss, isolation, inadequacy, and anxiety can lead to thoughts of suicide
2. Develop coping and resiliency skills and self-esteem
3. Learn to listen, be honest, share feelings, and get help when communicating with friends who show signs of suicidal intent
4. Identify trusted adults, school resources, and/or community crisis intervention resources where youth can get help and recognize that there is no stigma associated with seeking services for mental health, substance abuse, and/or suicide prevention.

## **Intervention**

Students shall be encouraged to notify a teacher, principal, counselor, or other adult when they are experiencing thoughts of suicide or when they suspect or have knowledge of another student's suicidal intentions.

Every statement regarding suicidal intent shall be taken seriously. Whenever a staff member suspects or has knowledge of a student's suicidal intentions based on the student's verbalizations or act of self-harm, the staff member shall promptly notify the principal or school counselor, who shall implement district intervention protocols as appropriate.

Although any personal information that a student discloses to a school counselor shall generally not be revealed, released, referenced, or discussed with third parties, the counselor may report to the principal or student's parents/guardians when there is reasonable cause to believe that disclosure is necessary to avert a clear and present danger to the health, safety, or welfare of the student or others within the school community. In addition, the counselor may disclose information of a personal nature to psychotherapists, other health care providers, or the school nurse for the sole purpose of referring the student for treatment. (Education Code 49602)

School employees shall act only within the authorization and scope of their credential or license. An employee is not authorized to diagnose or treat mental illness unless he/she is specifically licensed and employed to do so. (Education Code 215)

Whenever schools establish a peer counseling system to provide support for students, peer counselors shall receive training that includes identification of the warning signs of suicidal behavior and referral of a suicidal student to appropriate adults.

When a suicide attempt or threat is reported, the principal or designee shall ensure student safety by taking the following actions:

1. Immediately securing medical treatment and/or mental health services as necessary
2. Notifying law enforcement and/or other emergency assistance if a suicidal act is being actively threatened
3. Keeping the student under continuous adult supervision until the parent/guardian and/or appropriate support agent or agency can be contacted and has the opportunity to intervene.
4. Removing other students from the immediate area as soon as possible

The principal or designee shall document the incident in writing, including the steps that the school took in response to the suicide attempt or threat.

The Superintendent or designee shall follow up with the parent/guardian and student in a timely manner to provide referrals to appropriate services as needed. If the parent/guardian does not access treatment for the student, the Superintendent or designee may meet with the parent/guardian to identify barriers to treatment and assist the family in providing follow-up care for the student. If follow-up care is still not provided, the Superintendent or designee shall consider whether it is necessary, pursuant to laws for mandated reporters of child neglect, to refer the matter to the local child protective services agency.

For any student returning to school after a mental health crisis, the principal or designee and/or school counselor may meet with the parents/guardians and, if appropriate, with the student to discuss re-entry and appropriate next steps to ensure the student's readiness for return to school and determine the need for ongoing support.

## **Postvention**

In the event that a student dies by suicide, the Superintendent or designee shall communicate with the student's parents/guardians to offer condolences, assistance, and resources.

In accordance with the laws governing confidentiality of student record information, the Superintendent or designee shall consult with the parents/guardians regarding facts that may be divulged to other students, parents/guardians, and staff.

The Superintendent or designee shall implement procedures to address students' and staff's grief and to minimize the risk of imitative suicide or suicide contagion. The Superintendent or designee shall provide students, parents/guardians, and staff with information, counseling, and/or referrals to community agencies as needed. School staff may receive assistance from school counselors or other mental health professionals in determining how best to discuss the suicide or attempted suicide with students.

Any response to media inquiries shall be handled by the district-designated spokesperson who shall not divulge confidential information. The district's response shall not sensationalize suicide and shall focus on the district's postvention plan and available resources. (cf. 1112- Media Relations)

After any suicide or attempted suicide by a student, the Superintendent or designee shall provide an opportunity for all staff who responded to the incident to debrief, evaluate the effectiveness of the strategies used, and make recommendations for future actions.

To view full Board Policy and Administrative Regulations:

[5141.52 - SUICIDE PREVENTION](#)

### **Risk Assessment**

In the event a student is identified as a possible risk to themselves, the Principal or designee may conduct a Risk Assessment to determine the level of potential risk to the students wellbeing. Possible outcomes may require an additional assessment conducted by a School Resource Officer.

### **Freedom Of Speech/Expression - BP 5145.2**

The Board of Trustees believed that free inquiry and exchange of ideas are essential parts of a democratic education. The Board respects students' rights to express ideas and opinions, take stands on issues, and support causes, even when such speech is controversial or unpopular.

#### **On-Campus Expression**

Students shall have the right to exercise freedom of speech and of the press including, but not limited to, the use of bulletin boards; the distribution of printed materials or petitions; the wearing of buttons, badges and other insignia; and the right of expression in official publications. (Education Code 48907)

Student expression on district or school internet websites and online media shall generally be afforded the same protections as printed media.

Students' freedom of expression shall be limited only as allowed by Education Code 48907, 48950 and other applicable state and federal laws.

Students are prohibited from making any expressions or distributing or posting any materials that are obscene, libelous or slanderous. Students also are prohibited from making any expressions that so incite students as to create a clear and present danger of the commission of unlawful acts on school premises, the violation of school rules, or substantial disruption of the school's orderly operation. (Education Code 48907)

The use of “fighting words” or epithets is prohibited in those instances where speech is abusive and insulting, rather than a communication of ideas, and the speech is used in an abusive manner in a situation that presents an actual danger that it will cause a breach of the peace.

School officials shall not engage in prior restraint of material prepared for official school publications except insofar as the content of material violates the law. (Education Code 48907)

The Superintendent or designee shall not discipline any high school student solely on the basis of speech or other communication that would be constitutionally protected when engaged in outside of school, but may impose discipline for harassment, threats or intimidation unless constitutionally protected. (Education Code 48950)

### **Off-Campus Expression**

A student shall be subject to discipline for off-campus expression, including expression on off-campus internet websites, when such expression poses a threat to the safety of other students, staff or school property, or substantially disrupts the educational program. The Superintendent or designee shall document the impact the expression had or could be expected to have on the school program.

## **Freedom Of Speech/Expression - AR 5145.2**

### **School-Sponsored Publications**

Students shall have the right to exercise freedom of speech and of the press in official school publications, except for expression that is obscene, libelous, slanderous, or so incites students as to create a clear and present danger of the commission of unlawful acts on school premises, the violation of lawful school regulations, or the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school. (Education Code 48907)

Official school publications includes material produced by students in journalism, newspaper, yearbook, or writing classes and distributed to the student body either for a fee or free. (Education Code 48907)

Each principal shall develop a school publications code outlining the responsibility of student journalists, editors, and publication advisors.

All student submissions shall be held to professional standards of English and journalism. (Education Code 48907)

If the principal considers material submitted for publication to violate Education Code 48907, he/she shall notify the student, without undue delay, and give specific reasons why the submitted material may not be published. Absent extraordinary circumstances, such notice should be given in sufficient time to allow the student time to either modify the material or to seek review of the principal's determination from the Superintendent or designee. Prior to any restriction of student speech, school officials shall consider any feasible alternative options to restricting the speech.

To the extent that the principal or designee believes that the school and district should be disassociated from a particular idea or opinion, the principal may require student articles to include disclaimers.

### **Distribution of Printed Materials and Petitions by Students**

The principal or designee may provide bulletin boards on which students and student organizations may post materials of general interest. Students also may post or distribute handbills, leaflets and other printed material,

whether produced within or outside of the school. Students may collect signatures on petitions concerning school or nonschool issues.

Printed materials or petitions may be distributed only:

1. Before or after school or during lunch time
2. In locations that do not obstruct the normal flow of traffic within school or at entrances

No student shall use coercion to induce students or any other persons to accept printed matter or to sign petitions. No funds shall be collected for any material distributed.

### **Clothing, Buttons and Badges**

Buttons, badges, armbands, and clothing bearing slogans or sayings may be worn unless their message falls into the categories prohibited by law and Board policy. No employee shall interfere with this practice on the grounds that the message may be controversial or unpopular with students or staff.

To view full Board Policy and Administrative Regulations:

[\*\*5145.2 - FREEDOM OF SPEECH/EXPRESSION\*\*](#)

## **PROVIDING A SAFE & ORDERLY ENVIRONMENT**

### **Part 3: Student Conduct & Disciplinary Procedures**

#### **Student Conduct - BP 5131**

The Governing Board believes that all students have the right to be educated in a safe and positive learning environment free from disruptions. Students shall be expected to exhibit appropriate conduct that does not infringe upon the rights of others or interfere with the school program while on school grounds, going to or coming from school, at school activities, or using district transportation.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that each school develops standards of conduct and discipline consistent with Board policies and administrative regulations. Students and parents/guardians shall be notified of district and school rules related to conduct.

Prohibited student conduct includes, but is not limited to:

1. Conduct that endangers students, staff, or others, including, but not limited to, physical violence, possession of a firearm or other weapon, and terrorist threats
2. Discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students or staff, including sexual harassment, hate-motivated behavior, cyberbullying, hazing or initiation activity, extortion, or any other verbal, written, or physical conduct that causes or threatens to cause violence, bodily harm, or substantial disruption to the school program
3. Conduct that disrupts the orderly classroom or school environment
4. Willful defiance of staff's authority
5. Damage to or theft of property belonging to students, staff, or the district The district shall not be responsible for students' personal belongings which are brought on campus or to a school activity and are lost, stolen, or damaged.
6. Obscene acts or use of profane, vulgar, or abusive language
7. Possession, use, or being under the influence of tobacco, alcohol, or other prohibited substances
8. Possession or use of a laser pointer, unless for a valid instructional or other school related purpose with prior permission of the principal or designee (Penal Code 417.27) Prior to bringing a laser pointer on school premises for a valid instructional or school related purpose, a student shall obtain permission from the principal or designee.
9. Use of a cell phone, smart watch, pager, or other mobile communication device during instructional time or in an unauthorized manner in violation of district policy No student shall be prohibited from possessing or using an electronic signaling device that is determined by a licensed physician or surgeon to be essential for the student's health and the use of which is limited to purposes related to the student's health. (Education Code 48901.5)
10. Plagiarism or dishonesty on school work or tests
11. Wearing of any attire that violates district or school dress codes, including gang related apparel
12. Tardiness or unexcused absence from school
13. Failure to remain on school premises in accordance with school rules

Employees are expected to enforce standards of conduct and, when they observe or receive a report of a violation of these standards, to appropriately intervene or seek assistance. As necessary, the employee shall refer the matter to a supervisor or the principal or designee.

When a school employee suspects that a search of a student or a student's belongings will turn up evidence of the student's violation of the law or school rules, such a search shall be conducted in accordance with BP/AR 5145.12 - Search and Seizure.

When a student uses any prohibited device, or uses a permitted device in an unauthorized manner, a district employee may confiscate the device. The employee shall store the device securely until it is returned to the student or turned over to the principal or designee, as appropriate.

Students who violate district or school rules and regulations may be subject to discipline including, but not limited to, suspension, expulsion, transfer to alternative programs, referral to a student success team or counseling services, or denial of participation in extracurricular or co-curricular activities or other privileges in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation. The Superintendent or designee shall notify local law enforcement as appropriate.

Students also may be subject to discipline, in accordance with law, Board policy, or administrative regulation, for any off-campus conduct during non-school hours which poses a threat or danger to the safety of students, staff, or district property, or substantially disrupts school activities.

To view full Board Policy:

[5131 - CONDUCT](#)

### **Hate Motivated Behavior - BP 5145.9**

The Governing Board is committed to providing a respectful, inclusive, and safe learning environment that protects students from discrimination, harassment, intimidation, bullying, or any other type of behavior that is motivated by hate.

Hate-motivated behavior is any behavior intended to cause emotional suffering, physical injury, or property damage through intimidation, harassment, bigoted slurs or epithets, force or threat of force, or vandalism motivated in part or in whole by bias or hostility toward the victim's real or perceived race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, ethnicity, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information, or any other characteristic identified in Education Code 200 or 220, Government Code 11135, or Penal Code 422.55.

The Superintendent or designee shall design strategies to promote harmonious relationships among students, prevent incidents of hate-motivated behavior to the extent possible, and address such incidents in a timely manner when they occur.

The Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with regional programs and community organizations to promote an environment where diversity is celebrated and hate-motivated behavior is not tolerated. Such collaborative efforts shall focus on the development of effective prevention strategies and response plans, provision of assistance to students affected by hate-motivated behavior, and/or education of students who have perpetrated hate-motivated acts.

The district shall provide students with age-appropriate instruction that:

1. Includes the development of social-emotional learning
2. Promotes an understanding, awareness, appreciation, and respect for human rights, human relations, diversity, and acceptance in a multicultural society
3. Explains the harm and dangers of explicit and implicit biases
4. Discourages discriminatory attitudes and practices

5. Provides strategies to manage conflicts constructively

As necessary, the district shall provide counseling, guidance, and support to students who are victims of hate-motivated behavior and to students who exhibit such behavior. When appropriate, students who engage in hate-motivated behavior shall be disciplined.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide staff with training that:

1. Promotes an understanding of diversity, equity, and inclusion
2. Discourages the development of discriminatory attitudes and practices
3. Includes social-emotional learning and nondiscriminatory instructional and counseling methods
4. Supports the prevention, recognition, and response to hate-motivated behavior
5. Raises the awareness and sensitivity of staff to potentially prejudicial and discriminatory behavior
6. Includes effective enforcement of rules for appropriate student conduct

Employees who engage in hate-motivated behavior shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

Rules prohibiting hate-motivated behavior and procedures for reporting a hate-motivated incident shall be provided to students, staff, and parents/guardians.

This policy shall be posted in a prominent location on the district's website in a manner that is readily and easily accessible to parents/guardians and students. (Education Code 234.6)

### **Complaints**

Any staff member who is notified that hate-motivated behavior has occurred, observes such behavior, or otherwise becomes aware of an incident shall immediately contact the compliance officer responsible for coordinating the district's response to complaints and complying with state and federal civil rights laws. As appropriate, the staff member shall also contact law enforcement.

A student or parent/guardian who believes the student is a victim of hate-motivated behavior is encouraged to report the incident to a teacher, the principal, the district's compliance officer, or other staff member.

Any complaint of hate-motivated behavior shall be investigated and, if determined to be discriminatory, shall be resolved in accordance with law and the district's uniform complaint procedures specified in AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures or other applicable procedure. If, during the investigation, it is determined that a complaint is about nondiscriminatory behavior, the principal or designee shall inform the complainant and shall take all necessary actions to resolve the complaint.

To view full Board Policy:

[\*\*5145.9 HATE MOTIVATED BEHAVIOR\*\*](#)

## **Behavior/Discipline Protocol and Guidelines**

The NUSD Behavior/Discipline Protocol and Guidelines applies to all students attending school in the Natomas Unified School District. The District has authority (e.g. jurisdiction) to discipline a student for any acts that violate Education Code section 48900, 48900.1, 48900.2, 48900.3, 48900.4, 48900.7 when the act is related to a school activity or school attendance within the district or within any other school district. This includes, 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.

The principal or principal's designee will take into account all factors relevant to the severity of the act, as well as prior discipline and means of correction attempted and failed. Except where specified by Education Code Section 48900.5, a student may be suspended when there has been a determination that other means of correction have failed to bring about proper conduct, are not currently feasible, or that the student's presence causes a danger to persons.

The principal or principal's designee may recommend discipline as long as the act is related to a school activity or attendance. As such, the student discipline code also applies to:

- All school-related trips
- Excursions approved by the NUSD Board of Trustees
- Optional District educational programs such as:
  - Summer school
  - After-school programs

Nothing in this procedure prevents the principal or principal's designee, at their discretion, from recommending involuntary transfers or other educational programs that may be more appropriate than recommendation for expulsion, or suspension. In that case, the principal or principal's designees must provide parent(s) with notice of the decision and other alternative educational options (e.g. continuation school).

### **Consequences/Interventions**

Principals and their designees must make recommendations with the understanding that acts leading to disciplinary recommendations may represent "teachable moments." The District fundamentally promotes a positive approach to discipline, where consequences are likely to lead to the behavior that led to discipline not recurring. The goal of progressive consequences and interventions is the teaching of prosocial behavior and the implementation of restorative practices when applicable. Progressive discipline and consequences promote student accountability and behavioral change, and avoiding the need for future disciplinary consequences. Prevention of negative behavior occurs by helping students learn from their conduct that subjected them to discipline, and any mistakes. Essential to progressive discipline requires helping students who have engaged in unacceptable behavior to:

1. Understand why the behavior is unacceptable and the harm it has caused.
2. Understand what they could have done differently in the same situation.

3. Take responsibility for their actions.
4. Be given the opportunity to learn prosocial strategies and skills to use in the future.
5. Understand the progression of more stringent consequences if the behavior reoccurs.

Consequences and interventions are encouraged to promote coping skills the student can employ when they deal directly with the problem, and when principals make fair and impartial recommendations that are designed to prevent the conduct from recurring.

The NUSD Behavior/Discipline Protocol and Guidelines were developed to establish a uniform discipline process for the District that promotes these policies. It is expected that this code will be followed and consistently enforced throughout the Natomas Unified School District. All District staff who are authorized to make disciplinary recommendations and impose disciplinary actions are expected to do so in a prompt, fair and lawful manner and to place an emphasis on the student's rehabilitation and school safety.

All District staff are expected to assure due process is provided for students accused of an act or act(s) violating Education Code section 48900. When choosing interventions and consequences for a student's behavior, District staff should consider the following factors:

1. Age, health, maturation, disabilities and special education status of the student;
2. Student's prior conduct and record of behavior;
3. Student's understanding of the impact of their behavior;
4. Student's willingness to repair the harm caused by their behavior;
5. Seriousness of the behavior/offense and the degree of harm caused;
6. Impact of the incident on the overall school community;
7. Whether the student's violation threatened the safety of any student or staff member; and
8. The likelihood that a lesser intervention or consequence would adequately address the violation

When students act in a manner that violates Ed code 48900 and following consideration of the factors previously mentioned, principals and principal's designees must consider the level of consequence and intervention needed to assist the student in bringing about proper conduct, and base their disciplinary recommendation on the act and these secondary factors. Consequences should be paired with appropriate intervention(s) and restorative practices when applicable.

NUSD utilizes Restorative Justice in Education (RJE) principles and practices to address the social-emotional needs of students, to provide opportunities to foster positive relationships and coping strategies that build community, and to decrease the need for out-of-school suspensions and expulsions. Restorative Justice practices also referred to as "Restorative Practices" (RP) draw upon the collective knowledge and expertise of the community members in an effort to devise solutions that are both culturally relevant and responsive to the community's needs, while ensuring students are held accountable for acts that violate BP 5131 and Ed Code 48900 and the school environment remains a safe and productive one for all students.

## Levels of Response Guidelines for Determining Appropriate Interventions and Consequences

### Level 1

When the act does not violate 48915(a) or (c), these interventions and consequences aim to teach correct behavior so students may learn and demonstrate safe, respectful, and responsible behavior when it does not amount to a mandatory recommendation for suspension or expulsion. Teachers are encouraged to try a variety of teaching and classroom management strategies. Below are possible interventions and consequences that may be used. Level 1 is for acts that should not require referral to the principal the first time they occur.

#### Examples of Classroom Managed Responses

##### **Possible Actions/Interventions**

- Connect student with positive adult ally
- CARE/COST Team referral
- Establish positive relationship with student
- Seat change
- Pre-correction and redirection
- PBIS Consultation
- Parent/Guardian accompany student in class
- Daily progress report for behavior
- Increase positive recognition
- Goal setting with student, possible counseling check-in
- Parent conference
- Restorative Practices
- SEL Curriculum

##### **Possible Consequences**

- Contact parent
- Verbal corrective feedback
- In class break, Teacher detention
- Parent/Guardian conference, Teacher meeting
- Student verbal or written apology
- Loss of class privileges
- Student written reflection
- Teacher and student conference/pose logical consequences
- Class Suspension ([CA Ed Code 48910](#))

### Level 2

These interventions and consequences, used in response to an office discipline referral, aim to correct behavior by stressing the seriousness of the behavior while keeping the student in school. Interventions often involve support staff and aim to engage the student's support system to ensure successful learning, consistency, and change the conditions that contribute to the student's inappropriate or disruptive behavior. Below are possible interventions and consequences that may be used. Level 1 interventions may still apply.

#### Examples of Administrative Responses

##### **Possible Actions/Interventions**

- Increase positive recognition
- Collaborative problem solving
- Establish positive relationship with student
- Refer for substance abuse intervention
- Mentoring, Social/Academic Skills Group
- Check In/Check Out
- Refer to counseling program
- Refer to social emotional/educational supports
- Refer to school/community based mental health services
- Restorative Practices
- PBIS Referral
- No contact contract
- SEL Curriculum

##### **Possible Consequences**

- Parent/Guardian notification required
- Detention (middle and high school)
- Saturday School (high school only)
- Change of class/withdrawal from class
- Conference with student
- Remove privilege/restricted activity
- Restitution/community service
- Relationship development action
- Restorative conferencing
- Agreements/Contracts that leverage preferred school activities/privileges

## Level 3

Level 3 interventions and consequences involve short-term removal of a student from the school environment due to the severity of the behavior or because Level 1 and Level 2 consequences have failed to bring about proper conduct. Level 1 and Level 2 interventions may still be applied in addition to those listed in Level 3. The duration of the suspension is to be limited as much as practicable while adequately addressing the behavior.

### Examples of Administrative Responses

**Possible Actions/Interventions**

- Restorative Practices
- Consult with behavior team
- Consultation with Section 504 or Special Education Department (if student has IEP or 504)
- Refer to school social emotional team
- Re-entry conferencing and monitoring

**Possible Consequences**

- Parent/Guardian notification
- Abeyance Contract (District Level)
- Suspension from school (one to five days) and or
- Saturday School (high school only)

## Level 4

Level 4 involves the removal of the student from the school environment due to the severity of the behavior or because Level 1, 2, or 3 interventions and consequences have failed to bring about proper conduct and/or due to the nature of the act, the student's presence causes a danger to persons. These consequences focus on protecting the safety of the school community and ending self-destructive and dangerous behavior. Level 1, 2 and 3 interventions may still be applied, if applicable.

### Examples of Administrative Removal Responses Including Possible Expulsion

**Possible Actions/Interventions**

- Involuntary transfer to an alternative educational placement (CARE Program- Discovery High School) in consultation with administration (CA Ed Code 48918, [BP 5116.2](#))
- Involuntary transfer to a continuation high school (Discovery High School - must be at least 16 years old) (CA Ed Code 48432.5)
- Voluntary transfer by agreement to an alternative educational placement

**Possible Consequences**

- Parent/Guardian notification
- Abeyance Contract (District Level)
- Suspension from school (5 days)
- May refer for Expulsion (total removal from school if other means of correction have not brought about proper conduct or are not feasible or there is a continuing danger to the physical safety of the student or others
- Mandatory recommendation for Expulsion for violations of CA Ed Code 48915 (a1 A-E)

## Level 5

Mandatory removal from school and referral for expulsion for acts as specified in CA Ed. Code 48915 ((a) and (c)(1-5))

### Mandatory Recommendation for Expulsion and Mandatory Expulsion

**Possible Actions/Interventions**

- Alternative educational placement
- Mandatory recommendation for expulsion
- Mandatory expulsion

**Possible Consequences**

- Parent/Guardian notification
- Suspension from school (5 days)
- Mandatory recommendation for Expulsion for violations of CA Ed Code 48915 (c1-c5)
- Law Enforcement Notification (CA Ed Code 48902)

## **Discipline - BP 5144**

The Governing Board is committed to providing a safe, supportive, and positive school environment which is conducive to student learning and achievement and desires to prepare students for responsible citizenship by fostering self-discipline and personal responsibility. The Board believes that high expectations for student behavior, use of effective school and classroom management strategies, provision of appropriate intervention and support, and parent/guardian involvement can minimize the need for disciplinary measures that exclude students from instruction as a means for correcting student misbehavior.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop effective, age-appropriate strategies for maintaining a positive school climate and correcting student misbehavior at district schools. The strategies shall focus on providing students with needed supports; communicating clear, appropriate, and consistent expectations and consequences for student conduct; and ensuring equity and continuous improvement in the implementation of district discipline policies and practices.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee's strategies for correcting student misconduct shall reflect the Board's preference for the use of positive interventions and alternative disciplinary measures over exclusionary discipline measures. Disciplinary measures that may result in loss of instructional time or cause students to be disengaged from school, such as detention, suspension and expulsion, shall be imposed only when required or permitted by law or when other means of correction have been documented to have failed. (Education Code 48900.5)

School personnel and volunteers shall not allow any disciplinary action taken against a student to result in the denial or delay of a school meal. (Education Code 49557.5)

Seclusion and behavioral restraint are prohibited as a means of discipline and shall not be used to correct student behavior except as permitted pursuant to Education Code 49005.4 and in accordance with district regulations. (Education Code 49005.2)

The Superintendent or designee shall create a model discipline matrix that lists violations and the consequences for each as allowed by law.

The administrative staff at each school may develop disciplinary rules to meet the school's particular needs consistent with law, Board policy, and district regulations. The Board, at an open meeting, shall review the approved school discipline rules for consistency with Board policy and state law. Site-level disciplinary rules shall be included in the district's comprehensive safety plan.

At all times, the safety of students and staff and the maintenance of an orderly school environment shall be priorities in determining appropriate discipline. When misconduct occurs, staff shall attempt to identify the causes of the student's behavior and implement appropriate discipline. When choosing between different disciplinary strategies, staff shall consider the effect of each option on the student's health, well-being, and opportunity to learn.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide professional development as necessary to assist staff in developing the skills needed to effectively and equitably implement the disciplinary strategies adopted for district schools, including, but not limited to, knowledge of school and classroom management skills and their consistent application, effective accountability and positive intervention techniques, and the tools to form strong, cooperative relationships with parents/guardians.

District goals for improving school climate, based on suspension and expulsion rates, surveys of students, staff, and parents/guardians regarding their sense of school safety and connectedness to the school community, and other local measures, shall be included in the district's local control and accountability plan, as required by law.

At the beginning of each school year, the Superintendent or designee shall report to the Board regarding disciplinary strategies used in district schools in the immediately preceding school year and their effect on student learning.

### **Discipline - AR 5144**

#### **Site-Level Rules**

Site-level rules shall be consistent with state law and Board policies and administrative regulations. In developing site-level disciplinary rules, the principal or designee shall solicit the participation, views, and advice of one representative selected by each of the following groups: (Education Code 35291.5)

1. Parents/guardians
2. Teachers
3. School administrators
4. School security personnel, if any
5. Students in grades seven through twelve

Annually, site-level discipline rules shall be reviewed and, if necessary, updated to align with any changes in state law, district discipline policies and regulations, and/or goals for school safety and climate as specified in the district's local control and accountability plan. A copy of the rules shall be filed with the Superintendent or designee for inclusion in the comprehensive safety plan.

School rules shall be communicated to students clearly and in an age-appropriate manner. It shall be the duty of each employee of the school to enforce the school rules on student discipline. (Education Code 35291.5)

#### **Disciplinary Strategies**

To the extent possible, staff shall use disciplinary strategies that keep students in school and participating in the instructional program. Except when students' presence causes a danger to themselves or others or they commit a single act of a grave nature or an offense for which suspension or expulsion is required by law, suspension, supervised suspension, or expulsion shall be used only when other means of correction have failed to bring about proper conduct. Disciplinary strategies may include, but are not limited to:

1. Discussion or conference between school staff, the student, and the student's parents/guardians
2. Referral of the student to the school counselor or other school support service personnel for case management and counseling
3. Convening of a study team, guidance team, resource panel, or other intervention-related team to assess the behavior and develop and implement an individual plan to address the behavior in partnership with the student and the student's parents/guardians
4. When applicable, referral for a comprehensive psychosocial or psychoeducational assessment, including for purposes of creating an individualized education program (IEP) or a Section 504 plan
5. Enrollment in a program for teaching prosocial behavior or anger management
6. Participation in a restorative justice program
7. A positive behavior support approach with tiered interventions that occur during the school day on campus
8. Participation in a social and emotional learning program that teaches students the ability to understand and manage emotions, develop caring and concern for others, make responsible decisions, establish positive relationships, and handle challenging situations capably

9. Participation in a program that is sensitive to the traumas experienced by students, focuses on students' behavioral health needs, and addresses those needs in a proactive manner
10. After-school programs that address specific behavioral issues or expose students to positive activities and behaviors, including, but not limited to, those operated in collaboration with local parent and community groups
11. Detention after school hours as provided in the section below entitled "Detention After School"
12. Community service as provided in the section below entitled "Community Service"
13. In accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation, restriction or disqualification from participation in extracurricular activities
14. Reassignment to an alternative educational environment
15. Suspension and expulsion in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation When, by law or district policy, other means of correction are required to be implemented before a student could be suspended or expelled, any other means of correction implemented shall be documented and retained in the student's records. (Education Code 48900.5)

When, by law or district policy, other means of correction are required to be implemented before a student could be suspended or expelled, any other means of correction implemented shall be documented and retained in the student's records. (Education Code 48900.5)

When a student has been suspended, or other means of correction have been implemented against the student, for an incident of racist bullying, harassment, or intimidation, the principal or designee may engage both the victim and perpetrator in a restorative justice practice suitable to the needs of the students. The principal or designee shall also require the perpetrator to engage in a culturally sensitive program that promotes racial justice and equity and combats racism and ignorance and shall regularly check on the victim to ensure that the victim is not in danger of suffering from any long-lasting mental health issues. (Education Code 48900.5)

Staff shall enforce disciplinary rules fairly, consistently, and in accordance with the district's nondiscrimination policies.

Students shall remain under the supervision of a certificated employee during the period of detention. Students may be offered the choice of serving their detention on Saturday rather than after school.

### **Community Service**

As part of or instead of disciplinary action, the Board, Superintendent, principal, or principal's designee may require a student to perform community service during non-school hours on school grounds or, with written permission of the student's parent/guardian, off school grounds. Such service may include, but is not limited to, community or school outdoor beautification, community or campus betterment, and teacher, peer, or youth assistance programs. (Education Code 48900.6)

This community service option is not available for a student who has been suspended, pending expulsion, pursuant to Education Code 48915. However, if the recommended expulsion is not implemented or the expulsion itself is suspended, then the student may be required to perform community service for the resulting suspension. (Education Code 48900.6)

### **Notice to Parents/Guardians and Students**

At the beginning of the school year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians, in writing, about the availability of district rules related to discipline. (Education Code 35291, 48980)

The Superintendent or designee shall also provide written notice of disciplinary rules to parents/guardians of transfer students at the time of their enrollment in the district.

To view full Board Policy:

[5144 - DISCIPLINE](#)

To view full Administrative Regulation:

[5144 - DISCIPLINE](#)

### **Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process - BP 5144.1**

The Governing Board desires to provide district students access to educational opportunities in an orderly school environment that protects their safety and security, ensures their welfare and well-being, and promotes their learning and development. The Board shall develop rules and regulations setting the standards of behavior expected of district students and the disciplinary processes and procedures for addressing violations of those standards, including suspension and/or expulsion.

The grounds for suspension and expulsion and the procedures for considering, recommending, and/or implementing suspension and expulsion shall be only those specified in law, in this policy, and in the accompanying administrative regulation.

Except when otherwise permitted by law, a student may be suspended or expelled only when the behavior is related to a school activity or school attendance occurring within any district school or another school district, regardless of when it occurs, including, but not limited to, the following: (Education Code 48900(s))

1. While on school grounds
2. While going to or coming from school
3. During the lunch period, whether on or off the school campus
4. During, going to, or coming from a school-sponsored activity

District staff shall enforce the rules concerning suspension and expulsion of students fairly, consistently, equally, and in accordance with the district's nondiscrimination policies.

#### **Appropriate Use of Suspension Authority**

Except when a student's act violates Education Code 48900(a)-(e), as listed in Items #1-5 under "Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades K-12" of the accompanying administrative regulation, or when the student's presence causes a danger to others, suspension shall be used only when other means of correction have failed to bring about proper conduct. (Education Code 48900.5, 48900.6)

A student's parents/guardians shall be notified as soon as possible when there is an escalating pattern of misbehavior that could lead to on-campus or off-campus suspension. No student may be suspended for disruption or willful defiance. (Education Code 48900)

Students shall not be suspended or expelled for truancy, tardiness, or absenteeism from assigned school activities.

#### **On-Campus Suspension**

To ensure the proper supervision and ongoing learning of students who are suspended for any of the reasons enumerated in Education Code 48900 and 48900.2, but who pose no imminent danger or threat to anyone at school and for whom expulsion proceedings have not been initiated, the Superintendent or designee may establish a supervised suspension classroom program which meets the requirements of law.

Except where a supervised suspension is permitted by law for a student's first offense, supervised suspension shall be imposed only when other means of correction have failed to bring about proper conduct. (Education Code 48900.5)

### **Authority to Expel**

A student may be expelled only by the Board. (Education Code 48918(j))

As required by law, the Superintendent or principal shall recommend expulsion and the Board shall expel any student found to have committed any of the following "mandatory recommendation and mandatory expulsion" acts at school or at a school activity off school grounds: (Education Code 48915)

1. Possessing a firearm which is not an imitation firearm, as verified by a certificated employee, unless the student had obtained prior written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, with the principal or designee's concurrence
2. Selling or otherwise furnishing a firearm
3. Brandishing a knife at another person
4. Unlawfully selling a controlled substance listed in Health and Safety Code 11053-11058
5. Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault as defined in Penal Code 261, 266c, 286, 287, 288, or 289, or former 288a, or committing a sexual battery as defined in Penal Code 243.4
6. Possessing an explosive as defined in 18 USC 921

For all other violations listed in the accompanying administrative regulation, the Superintendent or principal shall have the discretion to recommend expulsion of a student. If expulsion is recommended, the Board shall order the student expelled only if it makes a finding of either or both of the following: (Education Code 48915(b) and (e))

1. That other means of correction are not feasible or have repeatedly failed to bring about proper conduct
2. That due to the nature of the violation, the presence of the student causes a continuing danger to the physical safety of the student or others

A vote to expel a student shall be taken in an open session of a Board meeting.

The Board may vote to suspend the enforcement of the expulsion order pursuant to the requirements of law and the accompanying administrative regulation. (Education Code 48917)

No student shall be expelled for disruption or willful defiance. (Education Code 48900)

No child enrolled in a preschool program shall be expelled except under limited circumstances as specified in AR 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education.

### **Due Process**

The Board shall provide for the fair and equitable treatment of students facing suspension and/or expulsion by affording them their due process rights under the law. The Superintendent or designee shall comply with procedures for notices, hearings, and appeals as specified in law and administrative regulation. (Education Code 48911, 48915, 48915.5, 48918)

### **Maintenance and Monitoring of Outcome Data**

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain outcome data related to student suspensions and expulsions in accordance with Education Code 48900.8 and 48916.1, including, but not limited to, the number of students recommended for expulsion, the grounds for each recommended expulsion, the actions taken by the Board, the types of referral made after each expulsion, and the disposition of the students after the expulsion period. For any

expulsion that involves the possession of a firearm, such data shall include the name of the school and the type of firearm involved, as required pursuant to 20 USC 7961. Suspension and expulsion data shall be reported to the Board annually and to the California Department of Education when so required.

In presenting the report to the Board, the Superintendent or designee shall disaggregate data on suspensions and expulsions by school and by numerically significant student subgroups, including, but not limited to, ethnic subgroups, socioeconomically disadvantaged students, English learners, students with disabilities, foster youth, and homeless students. Based on the data, the Board shall address any identified disparities in the imposition of student discipline and shall determine whether and how the district is meeting its goals for improving school climate as specified in its local control and accountability plan.

### **Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process - AR 5144.1**

#### **Definitions**

Suspension means removal of a student from ongoing instruction for adjustment purposes. However, suspension does not mean any of the following: (Education Code 48925)

1. Reassignment to another education program or class at the same school where the student will receive continuing instruction for the length of day prescribed by the Governing Board for students of the same grade level
2. Referral to a certificated employee designated by the principal to advise students
3. Removal from the class, but without reassignment to another class or program, for the remainder of the class period without sending the student to the principal or designee as provided in Education Code 48910, so long as removal from a particular class does not occur more than once every five school days.

*Expulsion* means removal of a student from the immediate supervision and control or the general supervision of school personnel. (Education Code 48925)

#### **Notice of Regulations**

At the beginning of each school year, the principal of each school shall ensure that all students and parents/guardians are notified in writing of all school rules related to discipline, including suspension and expulsion. (Education Code 35291, 48900.1, 48980)

#### **Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades K-12**

Acts for which a student, including a student with disabilities, may be suspended or expelled shall be only those specified as follows and in the sections "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 4-12" and "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 9- 12" below:

1. Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person; willfully used force or violence upon another person, except in self-defense; or committed as an aider or abettor, as adjudged by a juvenile court, a crime of physical violence in which the victim suffered great or serious bodily injury (Education Code 48900(a) and (t))
2. Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished any firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object, unless, in the case of possession of any object of this type, the student had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, with the principal or designee's concurrence (Education Code 48900(b))
3. Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, otherwise furnished, or was under the influence of any controlled substance as defined in Health and Safety Code 11053-11059, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind (Education Code 48900(c))

4. Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any controlled substance as defined in Health and Safety Code 11053-11059, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind, and then sold, delivered, or otherwise furnished to any person another liquid, substance, or material and represented the same as a controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant (Education Code 48900(d))
5. Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion (Education Code 48900(e))
6. Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property (Education Code 48900(f))
7. Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property (Education Code 48900(g))
8. Possessed or used tobacco or products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including, but not limited to, cigars, cigarettes, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets, and betel, except that this restriction shall not prohibit a student from using or possessing prescription products (Education Code 48900(h))
9. Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity (Education Code 48900(i))
10. Unlawfully possessed, offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any drug paraphernalia, as defined in Health and Safety Code 11014.5 (Education Code 48900(j))
11. Knowingly received stolen school property or private property (Education Code 48900(l))
12. Possessed an imitation firearm (Education Code 48900(m)) 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. (Education Code 48900(m))
13. Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault as defined in Penal Code 261, 266c, 286, 287, 288, 289, or former 288a, or committed a sexual battery as defined in Penal Code 243.4 (Education Code 48900(n))
14. Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a student who is a complaining witness or witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for the purpose of preventing that student from being a witness and/or retaliating against that student for being a witness (Education Code 48900(o))
15. Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma (Education Code 48900(p))
16. Engaged in, or attempted to engage in, hazing (Education Code 48900(q)) Hazing means a method of initiation or pre-initiation into a student organization or body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by 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 student. Hazing does not include athletic events or school-sanctioned events. (Education Code 48900(q))
17. Engaged in an act of bullying (Education Code 48900(r))  
*Bullying* means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, directed toward one or more students that has or can reasonably be predicted to have the effect of placing a reasonable student(s) in fear of harm to self or property; cause the student to experience a substantially detrimental effect on physical or mental health; or cause the student to experience substantial interferences with academic performance or ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school. (Education Code 48900(r))

*Bullying* includes any act of sexual harassment, hate violence, or harassment, threat, or intimidation, as defined in Education Code 48900.2, 48900.3, or 48900.4 and below in the section "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 4-12," that has any of the effects described above on a reasonable student.

*Bullying* also includes an act of cyber sexual bullying by a student through the dissemination of, or the solicitation or incitement to disseminate, a photograph or other visual recording that depicts a nude, semi-nude, or sexually explicit photograph or other visual recording of an identifiable minor, when such dissemination is to another student or to school personnel by means of an electronic act and has or can be

reasonably predicted to have one or more of the effects of bullying described above. Cyber sexual bullying does not include a depiction, portrayal, or image that has any serious literary, artistic, educational, political, or scientific value or that involves athletic events or school-sanctioned activities. Electronic act means the creation or transmission originated on or off the school site by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager, of a communication including, but not limited to: (Education Code 48900(r))

a. A message, text, sound, video, or image 5144.1 AR 4

b. A post on a social network Internet web site, including, but not limited to, posting to or creating a burn page or creating a credible impersonation or false profile for the purpose of causing a reasonable student any of the effects of bullying described above.

*Reasonable student* means a student, including, but not limited to, a student who has been identified as a student with a disability, who exercises average care, skill, and judgment in conduct for a person of the student's age, or for a person of the student's age and disability. (Education Code 48900(r))

*Burn page* means an internet web site created for the purpose of causing a reasonable student any of the effects of bullying described above. (Education Code 48900(r))

*Credible impersonation* means to knowingly and without consent impersonate a student for the purpose of bullying the student and such that the student would reasonably believe, or has reasonably believed, that the student was or is the student who was impersonated. (Education Code 48900(r))

*False profile* means a profile of a fictitious student or profile using the likeness or attributes of an actual student other than the student who created the false profile. (Education Code 48900(r))

An electronic act is not considered pervasive conduct solely on the basis that it has been transmitted to the internet or is currently posted on the internet. (Education Code 48900(r))

18. Aided or abetted the infliction or attempted infliction of physical injury on another person, as defined in Penal Code 31 (Education Code 48900(t))

19. Made terrorist threats against school officials and/or school property (Education Code 48900.7)

*A terrorist threat* includes any written or oral statement by a person who willfully threatens to commit a crime which will result in death or great bodily injury to another person or property damage in excess of \$1,000, with the specific intent that the statement is to be taken as a threat, even if there is no intent of actually carrying out the crime. (Education Code 48900.7)

#### **Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 4-12**

A student in grades 4-12 shall be subject to suspension or recommendation for expulsion when it is determined that the student:

1. Committed sexual harassment as defined in Education Code 212.5 (Education Code 48900.2)

*Sexual harassment* means conduct which, when considered from the perspective of a reasonable person of the same gender as the victim, is sufficiently severe or pervasive as to have a negative impact upon the

victim's academic performance or to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. (Education Code 212.5, 48900.2)

2. Caused, attempted to cause, threatened to cause, or participated in an act of hate violence as defined in Education Code 233 (Education Code 48900.3)

*Hate violence* means any act punishable under Penal Code 422.6, 422.7, or 422.75. Such acts include injuring or intimidating a victim, interfering with the exercise of a victim's civil rights, or damaging a victim's property because of the victim's race, ethnicity, religion, nationality, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation; a perception of the presence of any of those characteristics in the victim; or the victim's association with a person or group with one or more of those actual or perceived characteristics. (Education Code 233; Penal Code 422.55)

3. Intentionally engaged in harassment, threats, or intimidation against district personnel or students that is sufficiently severe or pervasive to have the actual and reasonably expected effect of materially disrupting classwork, creating substantial disorder, and invading the rights of school personnel or students by creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment. (Education Code 48900.4)

### **Suspension from Class by a Teacher**

A teacher may suspend a student from class for the remainder of the day and the following day for any of the acts specified in Education Code 48900 and listed as Items #1-19 under "Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades K-12" above. (Education Code 48910)

When suspending a student from class, the teacher shall immediately report this action to the principal or designee and send the student to the principal or designee for appropriate action. If that action requires the continuing presence of the student at school, the student shall be appropriately supervised during the class periods from which the student has been suspended. (Education Code 48910)

As soon as possible after the teacher decides to suspend the student, the teacher shall ask the student's parent/guardian to attend a parent-teacher conference regarding the suspension. A counselor or psychologist may attend the conference if it is practicable, and a school administrator shall attend if either the parent/guardian or teacher so requests. (Education Code 48910)

A student suspended from class shall not be returned to class during the period of the suspension without the approval of the teacher of the class and the principal or designee. (Education Code 48910)

A student suspended from class shall not be placed in another regular class during the period of suspension. However, a student assigned to more than one class per day may continue to 5144.1 AR 6 attend other regular classes except those held at the same time as the class from which the student was suspended. (Education Code 48910)

A teacher may also refer a student, for any of the acts specified above in Education Code 48900, to the principal or designee for consideration of a suspension from school. (Education Code 48910)

The teacher of any class from which a student is suspended may require the student to complete any assignments and tests missed during the removal. (Education Code 48913)

### **Suspension by Superintendent, Principal, or Principal's Designee**

To implement disciplinary procedures at a school site, the principal may, in writing, designate as the principal's designee another administrator or, if the principal is the only administrator at the school site, a certificated employee. As necessary, the principal may, in writing, also designate another administrator or certificated employee as the secondary designee to assist with disciplinary procedures when the principal and the principal's primary designee are absent from the school site.

The Superintendent, principal, or designee shall immediately suspend any student found at school or at a school activity away from school to have committed any of the acts listed in the Board policy under "Authority to Expel" for which a recommendation of expulsion is required. (Education Code 48915(c))

The Superintendent, principal, or designee may impose a suspension for a first offense if it is determined that the student violated any of Items #1-5 listed under "Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades K-12" above or if the student's presence causes a danger to persons. (Education Code 48900.5)

For all other offenses, a student may be suspended only when the Superintendent or principal has determined that other means of correction have failed to bring about proper conduct. (Education Code 48900.5)

When other means of correction are implemented prior to imposing suspension upon a student, including supervised suspension, the Superintendent, principal, or designee shall document the other means of correction used and retain the documentation in the student's record. (Education Code 48900.5)

### **Length of Suspension**

The Superintendent, principal, or designee may suspend a student from school for not more than five consecutive school days. (Education Code 48911)

A student may be suspended from school for not more than 20 school days in any school year. However, if a student enrolls in or is transferred to another regular school, an opportunity school or class, or continuation school or class for the purpose of adjustment, the student may be suspended for not more than 30 school days in a school year. The district may count suspensions that occur while a student is enrolled in another school district toward the maximum number of days for which the student may be suspended in any school year. (Education Code 48903, 48911, 48912)

These restrictions on the number of days of suspension shall not apply when the suspension is extended pending an expulsion. (Education Code 48911)

### **Due Process Procedures for Suspension**

Suspensions shall be imposed in accordance with the following procedures:

1. 1. Informal Conference: Suspension shall be preceded by an informal conference conducted by the Superintendent, principal, or designee with the student and, whenever practicable, the teacher, supervisor, or school employee who referred the student to the principal. At the conference, the student shall be informed of the reason for the disciplinary action, including the other means of correction that were attempted before the suspension as required pursuant to Education Code 48900.5, and the evidence against the student, and shall be given the opportunity to present the student's version and evidence in the student's defense. (Education Code 48911)

This conference may be omitted if the Superintendent, principal, or designee determines that an emergency situation exists involving a clear and present danger to the lives, safety, or health of students or

school personnel. If a student is suspended without this conference, the student, the student's parent/guardian, or if the student is a foster youth, the foster youth's educational rights holder, attorney, and county social worker, or if the student is an Indian child, the Indian child's tribal social worker and, if applicable, county social worker, shall be notified of the student's right to a conference and the right to return to school for the purpose of the conference. The conference shall be held within two school days, unless the student waives the right to it or is physically unable to attend for any reason. In such a case, the conference shall be held as soon as the student is physically able to return to school for the conference. (Education Code 48911)

2. Administrative Actions: All requests for student suspension are to be processed by the principal or designee. A school employee shall report the suspension, including the name of the student and the cause for the suspension, to the Superintendent or designee. (Education Code 48911)
3. Notice to Parents/Guardians: At the time of the suspension, a school employee shall make a reasonable effort to contact the parent/guardian, or if the student is a foster youth, the foster youth's educational rights holder, attorney, and county social worker, or if the student is an Indian child, the Indian child's tribal social worker, and, if applicable, the county social worker, in person, by email, or by telephone. Whenever a student is suspended, the parent/guardian, or, if applicable, the foster youth's educational rights holder, attorney, and county social worker, or the Indian child's tribal social worker and, if applicable, the county social worker, shall also be notified in writing of the suspension. (Education Code 48911)

This notice shall state the specific offense committed by the student. (Education Code 5144.1 AR 8 48900.8)

In addition, the notice may state the date and time when the student may return to school.

4. Parent/Guardian Conference: Whenever a student is suspended, school officials may conduct a meeting with the parent/guardian to discuss the cause(s) and duration of the suspension, the school policy involved, and any other pertinent matter. (Education Code 48914)

If school officials request to meet with the parent/guardian, a foster youth's educational rights holder, attorney, and county social worker, or an Indian child's tribal social worker, and, if applicable, the county social worker, the notice may state that the law requires such individuals to respond to the request without delay. However, the student shall not be penalized for the failure of the parent/guardian, a foster youth's educational rights holder, attorney, and county social worker, or an Indian child's tribal social worker, and, if applicable, the county social worker, to attend such a conference. The student may not be denied reinstatement solely because such individuals failed to attend the conference. (Education Code 48911)

5. Extension of Suspension: If the Board is considering the expulsion of a suspended student from any school or the suspension of a student for the balance of the semester from continuation school, the Superintendent or designee may, in writing, extend the suspension until such time as the Board has made a decision, provided the following requirements are followed: (Education Code 48911)
  - a. The extension of the original period of suspension is preceded by notice of such extension with an offer to hold a conference concerning the extension, giving the student an opportunity to be heard. This conference may be held in conjunction with a meeting requested by the student or parent/guardian to challenge the original suspension.
  - b. The Superintendent or designee determines, following a meeting in which the student and the student's parent/guardian were invited to participate, that the student's presence at the school or at

an alternative school would endanger persons or property or threaten to disrupt the instructional process.

- c. If the student involved is a foster youth or Indian child, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the district's educational liaison of the need to invite the foster youth's educational rights holder, attorney and county social worker, or the Indian child's tribal social worker or, if applicable, the county social worker, to attend the meeting. (Education Code 48853.5, 48911, 48918.1)
- d. If the student involved is a homeless child or youth, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the district liaison for homeless students. (Education Code 48918.1) 5144.1 AR 9
- e. In lieu of or in addition to suspending a student, the Superintendent, principal, or designee may provide services or require the student to participate in an alternative disciplinary program designed to correct the behavior and keep the student in school.

### **Suspension by the Board**

The Board may suspend a student for any of the acts listed under "Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades K-12," "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 4-12," and "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 9-12" above and within the limits specified under "Suspension by Superintendent, Principal, or Designee" above. (Education Code 48912)

The Board may suspend a student enrolled in a continuation school or class for a period not longer than the remainder of the semester. The suspension shall meet the requirements of Education Code 48915. (Education Code 48912.5)

When the Board is considering a suspension, disciplinary action, or any other action (except expulsion) against any student, it shall hold a closed session if a public hearing would lead to disclosure of information that would violate a student's right to privacy under Education Code 49073-49079. (Education Code 35146, 48912)

The Board shall provide the student and parent/guardian with written notice of the closed session by registered or certified mail or personal service. Upon receiving this notice, the student or parent/guardian may request a public meeting, and this request shall be granted if made in writing within 48 hours after receipt of the Board's notice. However, any discussion that conflicts with any other student's right to privacy still shall be held in closed session. (Education Code 35146, 48912)

### **On-Campus Suspension**

A student for whom an expulsion action has not been initiated and who poses no imminent danger or threat to the school, students, or staff may be assigned to on-campus suspension. The following condition may apply: (Education Code 48911.1)

1. Under the supervision of a certificated staff member when necessary if staff are unable to send the student home (i.e., inability to contact parent/guardian) when the suspension is initiated.
2. At the time a student is assigned to on-campus suspension, the principal or designee shall notify the student's parent/guardian, or if the student is a foster youth, the foster youth's educational rights holder, attorney, and county social worker, or, if the student is an Indian child, the Indian child's tribal social worker and, if applicable, county social worker, in person, by email, or by telephone. When the assignment is for longer than one class period, this notification shall be made in writing. (Education Code 48911.1)

### **Superintendent or Principal's Authority to Recommend Expulsion**

Unless the Superintendent or principal determines that expulsion should not be recommended under the circumstances or that an alternative means of correction would address the conduct, the Superintendent or principal shall recommend a student's expulsion for any of the following acts: (Education Code 48915)

1. Causing serious physical injury to another person, except in self-defense
2. Possession of any knife or other dangerous object of no reasonable use to the student
3. Unlawful possession of any controlled substance as listed in Health and Safety Code 11053-11059, except for:
  - a. The first offense for the possession of not more than one ounce of marijuana, other than concentrated cannabis
  - b. The student's possession of over-the-counter medication for use by the student for medical purposes
  - c. Medication prescribed for the student by a physician
4. Robbery or extortion
5. Assault or battery, as defined in Penal Code 240 and 242, upon any school employee

In determining whether to recommend the expulsion of a student, the Superintendent, principal, or designee shall act as quickly as possible to ensure that the student does not lose instructional time. (Education Code 48915)

### **Student's Right to Expulsion Hearing**

Any student recommended for expulsion shall be entitled to a hearing to determine whether the student should be expelled. The hearing shall be held within 30 school days after the Superintendent, principal, or designee determines that the student has committed the act(s) that form the basis for the expulsion recommendation. (Education Code 48918(a))

The student is entitled to at least one postponement of an expulsion hearing for a period of not more than 30 calendar days. The request for postponement shall be in writing. Any subsequent postponement may be granted at the Board's discretion. (Education Code 48918(a))

If the Board finds it impractical during the regular school year to comply with these time requirements for conducting an expulsion hearing, the Superintendent or designee may, for good cause, extend the time period by an additional five school days. Reasons for the extension shall be included as a part of the record when the expulsion hearing is held. (Education Code 48918(a))

If the Board finds it impractical to comply with the time requirements of the expulsion hearing due to a summer recess of Board meetings of more than two weeks, the days during the recess shall not be counted as school days. The days not counted during the recess may not exceed 20 school days, as defined in Education Code 48925. Unless the student requests in writing that the expulsion hearing be postponed, the hearing shall be held not later than 20 calendar days prior to the first day of the next school year. (Education Code 48918(a))

Once the hearing starts, all matters shall be pursued with reasonable diligence and concluded without unnecessary delay. (Education Code 48918(a))

### **Stipulated Expulsion**

After a determination that a student has committed an offense for which the student may be expelled, the Superintendent, principal, or designee shall offer the student, the student's parent/guardian, or, when applicable, other person holding the right to make educational decisions for the student, the option to waive a hearing and

stipulate to the expulsion or to a suspension of the expulsion under certain conditions. The offer shall be made only after written notice of the expulsion hearing pursuant to Education Code 48918 has been given.

The stipulation agreement shall be in writing and shall be signed by the student, the student's parent/guardian, or, when applicable, the person holding the right to make educational decisions for the student. The stipulation agreement shall include notice of all the rights that the student is waiving, including the waiving of the right to have a full hearing, to appeal the expulsion to the County Board of Education, and to consult legal counsel.

A stipulated expulsion agreed to by the student, the student's parent/guardian, or, when applicable, the person holding the right to make educational decisions for the student, shall be effective upon approval by the Board.

### **Rights of Complaining Witness**

An expulsion hearing involving allegations of sexual assault or sexual battery may be postponed for one school day in order to accommodate the special physical, mental, or emotional needs of a student who is the complaining witness. (Education Code 48918.5)

Whenever the Superintendent or designee recommends an expulsion hearing that addresses allegations of sexual assault or sexual battery, the Superintendent or designee shall give the complaining witness a copy of the district's suspension and expulsion policy and regulation and shall advise the witness of the right to: (Education Code 48918.5)

1. Receive five days' notice of the scheduled testimony at the hearing
2. Have up to two adult support persons present at the hearing at the time the witness testifies
3. Have a closed hearing during the time the witness testifies

Whenever any allegation of sexual assault or sexual battery is made, the Superintendent or designee shall immediately advise complaining witnesses and accused students to refrain from personal or telephone contact with each other during the time when an expulsion process is pending. (Education Code 48918.5)

### **Written Notice of the Expulsion Hearing**

Written notice of the expulsion hearing shall be forwarded to the student and the student's parent/guardian at least 10 calendar days before the date of the hearing. The notice shall include: (Education Code 48900.8, 48918(b))

1. The date and place of the hearing
2. A statement of the specific facts, charges, and offense upon which the proposed expulsion is based
3. A copy of district disciplinary rules which relate to the alleged violation
4. Notification of the student's or parent/guardian's obligation, pursuant to Education Code 48915.1, to provide information about the student's status in the district to any other district in which the student seeks enrollment. This obligation applies when a student is expelled for acts other than those described in Education Code 48915(a) or (c).
5. The opportunity for the student or the student's parent/guardian to appear in person or be represented by legal counsel or by a non-attorney adviser. Legal counsel means an attorney or lawyer who is admitted to the practice of law in California and is an active member of the State Bar of California. Non-attorney adviser means an individual who is not an attorney or lawyer, but who is familiar with the facts of the case and has been selected by the student or student's parent/guardian to provide assistance at the hearing.
6. The right to inspect and obtain copies of all documents to be used at the hearing
7. The opportunity to confront and question all witnesses who testify at the hearing
8. The opportunity to question all evidence presented and to present oral and documentary evidence on the student's behalf, including witnesses

### **Additional Notice of Expulsion Hearing for Foster Youth, Homeless Students, and Indian Children**

If the student facing expulsion is a foster student or Indian child, the Superintendent or designee shall also send notice of the hearing to the foster youth's educational rights holder, attorney, and county social worker, or the Indian child's tribal social worker and, if applicable, county social worker, at least 10 calendar days prior to the hearing. (Education Code 48918.1)

If the student facing expulsion is a homeless student, the Superintendent or designee shall also send notice of the hearing to the district liaison for homeless students at least 10 calendar days prior to the hearing. (Education Code 48918.1)

Any notice for these purposes may be provided by the most cost-effective method possible, including by email or a telephone call. (Education Code 48918.1)

### **Conduct of Expulsion Hearing**

1. Closed Session: Notwithstanding Education Code 35145, the Board shall conduct a hearing to consider the expulsion of the student in a session closed to the public unless the student requests in writing at least five days prior to the hearing that the hearing be a public meeting. If such a request is made, the meeting shall be public to the extent that privacy rights of other students are not violated. (Education Code 48918)

Whether the expulsion hearing is held in closed or public session, the Board may meet in closed session to deliberate and determine whether the student should be expelled. If the Board admits any other person to this closed session, the parent/guardian, the student, and the counsel of the student also shall be allowed to attend the closed session. (Education Code 48918(c))

If a hearing that involves a charge of sexual assault or sexual battery is to be conducted in public, a complaining witness shall have the right to testify in closed session when testifying in public would threaten serious psychological harm to the witness and when there are no alternative procedures to avoid the threatened harm, including, but not limited to, a videotaped deposition or contemporaneous examination in another place communicated to the hearing room by closed-circuit television. (Education Code 48918(c))

2. Record of Hearing: A record of the hearing shall be made and may be maintained by any means, including electronic recording, as long as a reasonably accurate and complete written transcription of the proceedings can be made. (Education Code 48918(g))
3. Subpoenas: Before commencing a student expulsion hearing, the Board may issue subpoenas, at the request of either the student or the Superintendent or designee, for the personal appearance at the hearing of any person who actually witnessed the action that gave rise to the recommendation for expulsion. After the hearing has commenced, the Board or the hearing officer or administrative panel may issue such subpoenas at the request of the student or the County Superintendent of Schools or designee. All subpoenas shall be issued in accordance with Code of Civil Procedure 1985-1985.2 and enforced in accordance with Government Code 11455.20. (Education Code 48918(i))

Any objection raised by the student or the Superintendent or designee to the issuance of subpoenas may be considered by the Board in closed session, or in open session if so requested by the student, before the meeting. The Board's decision in response to such an objection shall be final and binding. (Education Code 48918(i))

If the Board determines, or if the hearing officer or administrative panel finds and submits to the Board, that a witness would be subject to unreasonable risk of harm by testifying at the hearing, a subpoena shall not be issued to compel the personal attendance of that witness at the hearing. However, that witness may be compelled to testify by means of a sworn declaration as described in Item #6 below. (Education Code 48918(i))

4. Presentation of Evidence: Technical rules of evidence shall not apply to the expulsion hearing, but relevant evidence may be admitted and used as proof only if it is the kind of evidence on which reasonable persons can rely in the conduct of serious affairs. The decision of the Board to expel shall be supported by substantial evidence that the student committed any of the acts pursuant to Education Code 48900 and listed in "Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades K-12," "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 4-12," and "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 9-12" above. (Education Code 48918(h))
5. Findings of fact shall be based solely on the evidence at the hearing. Although no finding shall be based solely on hearsay, sworn declarations may be admitted as testimony from witnesses whose disclosure of their identity or testimony at the hearing may subject them to an unreasonable risk of physical or psychological harm. (Education Code 48918(f))  
In cases where a search of a student's person or property has occurred, evidence describing the reasonableness of the search shall be included in the hearing record.
6. Testimony by Complaining Witnesses: The following procedures shall be observed when a hearing involves allegations of sexual assault or sexual battery by a student: (Education Code 48918, 48918.5)
  - a. Any complaining witness shall be given five days' notice before being called to testify.
  - b. Any complaining witness shall be entitled to have up to two adult support persons, including, but not limited to, a parent/guardian or legal counsel, present during the testimony.
  - c. Before a complaining witness testifies, support persons shall be admonished that the hearing is confidential.
  - d. The person presiding over the hearing may remove a support person who is disrupting the hearing.
  - e. If one or both support persons are also witnesses, the hearing shall be conducted in accordance with Penal Code 868.5.
  - f. Evidence of specific instances of prior sexual conduct of a complaining witness shall be presumed inadmissible and shall not be heard unless the person conducting the hearing determines that extraordinary circumstances require the evidence to be heard. Before such a determination is made, the complaining witness shall be given notice and an opportunity to oppose the introduction of this evidence. In the hearing on the admissibility of this evidence, the complaining witness shall be entitled to be represented by a parent/guardian, legal counsel, or other support person. Reputation or opinion evidence regarding the sexual behavior of a complaining witness shall not be admissible for any purpose.
  - g. In order to facilitate a free and accurate statement of the experiences of the complaining witness and to prevent discouragement of complaints, the district shall provide a nonthreatening environment.
  - h. The district shall provide a room separate from the hearing room for the use of the complaining witness before and during breaks in testimony.
    - i. At the discretion of the person conducting the hearing, the complaining witness shall be allowed reasonable periods of relief from examination and cross-examination during which the complaining witness may leave the hearing room.

- ii. The person conducting the hearing may:
    - A. Arrange the seating within the hearing room so as to facilitate a less intimidating environment for the complaining witness
    - B. Limit the time for taking the testimony of a complaining witness to normal school hours, if there is no good cause to take the testimony during other hours
    - C. Permit one of the support persons to accompany the complaining witness to the witness stand
7. Decision: The Board's decision as to whether to expel a student shall be made within 40 school days after the student is removed from school, unless the student requests in writing that the decision be postponed. (Education Code 48918(a))

### **Alternative Expulsion Hearing: Hearing Officer or Administrative Panel**

Instead of conducting an expulsion hearing itself, the Board may contract with the county hearing officer or with the Office of Administrative Hearings of the State of California for a hearing officer. The Board may also appoint an impartial administrative panel composed of three or more certificated personnel, none of whom shall be members of the Board or on the staff of the school in which the student is enrolled. (Education Code 48918)

A hearing conducted by the hearing officer or administrative panel shall conform to the same procedures applicable to a hearing conducted by the Board as specified above in "Conduct of Expulsion Hearing," including the requirement to issue a decision within 40 school days of the 5144.1 AR 16 student's removal from school, unless the student requests that the decision be postponed. (Education Code 48918(a) and (d))

The hearing officer or administrative panel shall, within three school days after the hearing, determine whether to recommend expulsion of the student to the Board. If expulsion is not recommended, the expulsion proceeding shall be terminated and the student shall be immediately reinstated and permitted to return to the classroom instructional program from which the referral was made, unless another placement is requested in writing by the student's parent/guardian. Before the student's placement decision is made by the student's parent/guardian, the Superintendent or designee shall consult with the parent/guardian and district staff, including the student's teachers, regarding other placement options for the student in addition to the option to return to the classroom instructional program from which the student's expulsion referral was made. The decision to not recommend expulsion shall be final. (Education Code 48918(e))

If expulsion is recommended, findings of fact in support of the recommendation shall be prepared and submitted to the Board. All findings of fact and recommendations shall be based solely on the evidence presented at the hearing. The Board may accept the recommendation based either upon a review of the findings of fact and recommendations submitted or upon the results of any supplementary hearing the Board may order. (Education Code 48918(f))

In accordance with Board policy, the hearing officer or administrative panel may recommend that the Board suspend the enforcement of the expulsion. If the hearing officer or administrative panel recommends that the Board expel a student but suspend the enforcement of the expulsion, the student shall not be reinstated and permitted to return to the classroom instructional program from which the referral was made until the Board has ruled on the recommendation. (Education Code 48917, 48918)

### **Final Action by the Board**

Whether the expulsion hearing is conducted in closed or open session by the Board, a hearing officer, or an administrative panel or is waived through the signing of a stipulated expulsion agreement, the final action to expel shall be taken by the Board in public. (Education Code 48918(j))

The Board's decision is final. If the decision is to not expel, the student shall be reinstated immediately. If the decision is to suspend the enforcement of the expulsion, the student shall be reinstated under the conditions of the suspended expulsion.

Upon ordering an expulsion, the Board shall set a date when the student shall be reviewed for readmission to a school within the district. For a student expelled for any "mandatory recommendation and mandatory expulsion" act listed in the section "Authority to Expel" in the accompanying Board policy, this date shall be one year from the date the expulsion occurred, except that the Board may set an earlier date on a case-by-case basis. For a student expelled for other acts, this date shall be no later than the last day of the semester following the semester in which the expulsion occurred. If an expulsion is ordered during summer session or the intersession period of a year-round program, the Board shall set a date when the student shall be reviewed for readmission not later than the last day of the semester following the summer session or intersession period in which the expulsion occurred. (Education Code 48916)

At the time of the expulsion order, the Board shall recommend a plan for the student's rehabilitation, which may include: (Education Code 48916)

1. Periodic review, as well as assessment at the time of review, for readmission
2. Recommendations for improved academic performance, tutoring, special education assessments, job training, counseling, employment, community service, or other rehabilitative programs

With parent/guardian consent, students who have been expelled for reasons relating to controlled substances or alcohol may be required to enroll in a county-sponsored drug rehabilitation program before returning to school. (Education Code 48916.5)

### **Written Notice to Expel**

The Superintendent or designee shall send written notice of the decision to expel to the student or parent/guardian. This notice shall include the following:

1. The specific offense committed by the student for any of the causes for suspension or expulsion listed above under "Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades K-12," "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 4-12," or "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 9-12" (Education Code 48900.8)
2. The fact that a description of readmission procedures will be made available to the student and parent/guardian (Education Code 48916)
3. Notice of the right to appeal the expulsion to the County Board (Education Code 48918)
4. Notice of the alternative educational placement to be provided to the student during the time of expulsion (Education Code 48918)
5. Notice of the student's or parent/guardian's obligation to inform any new district in which the student seeks to enroll of the student's status with the expelling district, pursuant to Education Code 48915.1 (Education Code 48918)

### **Decision to Suspend Expulsion Order**

In accordance with Board policy, when deciding whether to suspend the enforcement of an expulsion order, the Board shall take into account the following criteria:

1. The student's pattern of behavior
2. The seriousness of the misconduct
3. The student's attitude toward the misconduct and willingness to follow a rehabilitation program

The suspension of the enforcement of an expulsion shall be governed by the following:

1. The Board may, as a condition of the suspension of enforcement, assign the student to a school, class, or program appropriate for the student's rehabilitation. This rehabilitation program may provide for the involvement of the student's parent/guardian in the student's education. However, a parent/guardian's refusal to participate in the rehabilitation program shall not be considered in the Board's determination as to whether the student has satisfactorily completed the rehabilitation program. (Education Code 48917)
2. During the period when enforcement of the expulsion order is suspended, the student shall be on probationary status. (Education Code 48917)
3. The suspension of the enforcement of an expulsion order may be revoked by the Board if the student commits any of the acts listed under "Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades K-12," "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 4- 12," or "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 9-12" above or violates any of the district's rules and regulations governing student conduct. (Education Code 48917)
4. When the suspension of enforcement of an expulsion order is revoked, a student may be expelled under the terms of the original expulsion order. (Education Code 48917)
5. Upon satisfactory completion of the rehabilitation assignment, the Board shall reinstate the student in a district school. Upon reinstatement, the Board may order the expunging of any or all records of the expulsion proceedings. (Education Code 48917)
6. The Superintendent or designee shall send written notice of any decision to suspend the enforcement of an expulsion order during a period of probation to the student or parent/guardian. The notice shall inform the parent/guardian of the right to appeal the expulsion to the County Board, the alternative educational placement to be provided to the student during the period of expulsion, and the student's or parent/guardian's obligation to inform any new district in which the student seeks to enroll of the student's status with the expelling district, pursuant to Education Code 48915.1(b). (Education Code 48918(j))
7. Suspension of the enforcement of an expulsion order shall not affect the time period and requirements for the filing of an appeal of the expulsion order with the County Board. (Education Code 48917)

### **Appeal**

If a student is expelled from school, the student or parent/guardian is entitled to file an appeal of the Board's decision with the County Board. The appeal must be filed within 30 days of the Board's decision to expel, even if the expulsion order is suspended and the student is placed on probation. (Education Code 48919)

If the student submits a written request for a copy of the written transcripts and supporting documents from the district simultaneously with the filing of the notice of appeal with the County Board, the district shall provide the student with these documents within 10 school days following the student's written request. (Education Code 48919)

**Notification to Law Enforcement Authorities**

Prior to the suspension or expulsion of any student, the principal or designee shall notify appropriate city or county law enforcement authorities of any student acts of assault which may have violated Penal Code 245. (Education Code 48902)

The principal or designee shall notify appropriate city or county law enforcement authorities of any student acts which may involve the possession or sale of narcotics or of a controlled substance, or of any student acts involving the possession, sale, or furnishing of firearms, explosives, or other dangerous weapons in violation of Education Code 48915(c)(1) or (5) or Penal Code 626.9 and 626.10. (Education Code 48902)

Within one school day after a student's suspension or expulsion, the principal or designee shall notify appropriate county or district law enforcement authorities, by telephone or other appropriate means, of any student acts which may violate Education Code 48900(c) or (d), relating to the possession, use, offering, or sale of controlled substances, alcohol, or intoxicants of any kind. (Education Code 48902)

**Placement During Expulsion**

The Board shall refer expelled students to a program of study that is: (Education Code 48915, 48915.01)

1. Appropriately prepared to accommodate students who exhibit discipline problems
2. Not provided at a comprehensive middle, junior, or senior high school or at any elementary school, unless the program is offered at a community day school established at any of these
3. Not housed at the school site attended by the student at the time of suspension

When the placement described above is not available and when the County Superintendent so certifies, students expelled for only acts described in Items #6-12 under "Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades K-12" and Items #1-3 under "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 4-12" above may be referred to a program of study that is provided at another comprehensive middle, junior, or senior high school or at an elementary school. (Education Code 48915)

The program for a student expelled from any of grades K-6 shall not be combined or merged with programs offered to students in any of grades 7-12. (Education Code 48916.1)

**Readmission After Expulsion**

Prior to the date set by the Board for the student's readmission:

1. The Superintendent or designee shall hold a conference with the student's parent/guardian, or other person holding the right to make educational decisions for the student, and the student. At the conference, the student's rehabilitation plan shall be reviewed and the Superintendent or designee shall verify that the provisions of this plan have been met. School regulations shall be reviewed and the student and the student's parent/guardian or other person holding the right to make educational decisions for the student shall be asked to indicate in writing their willingness to comply with these regulations.
2. The Superintendent or designee shall transmit to the Board a recommendation regarding readmission. The Board shall consider this recommendation in closed session. If a written request for open session is received from the student's parent/guardian or other person holding the right to make educational decisions for the student, or adult student, it shall be honored to the extent that privacy rights of other students are not violated.

3. If the readmission is granted, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the student and the student's parent/guardian, or other person holding the right to make educational decisions for the student, by registered mail, of the Board's decision regarding readmission.
4. The Board may deny readmission only if it finds that the student has not satisfied the conditions of the rehabilitation plan or that the student continues to pose a danger to campus safety or to other district students or employees. (Education Code 48916)
5. If the Board denies the readmission of a student, the Board shall determine either to continue the student's placement in the alternative educational program initially selected or to place the student in another program that serves expelled students, including placement in a county community school.
6. The Board shall provide written notice to the expelled student and the student's parent/guardian, or other person holding the right to make educational decisions for the student, describing the reasons for denying readmittance into the regular program. This notice shall indicate the Board's determination of the educational program which the Board has chosen. The student shall enroll in that program unless the parent/guardian chooses to enroll the student in another school district.

No student shall be denied readmission into the district based solely on the student's arrest, adjudication by a juvenile court, formal or informal supervision by a probation officer, detention in a juvenile facility, enrollment in a juvenile court school, or other such contact with the juvenile justice system. (Education Code 48645.5)

#### **Maintenance of Records**

The district shall maintain a record of each suspension and expulsion, including its specific cause(s). (Education Code 48900.8)

Expulsion records of any student shall be maintained in the student's mandatory interim record and sent to any school in which the student subsequently enrolls upon written request by that school. (Education Code 48918(k))

The Superintendent or designee shall, within five working days, honor any other district's request for information about an expulsion from this district. (Education Code 48915.1)

#### **Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities) - AR 5144.2**

A student identified as an individual with a disability pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 USC 1400-1482, is subject to the same grounds and procedures for suspension and expulsion which apply to students without disabilities, except as otherwise specified in this administrative regulation.

Suspension or expulsion of a student with disabilities shall be in accordance with Board Policy 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process and this administrative regulation.

When a student with disabilities exhibits behavior which impedes the student's own learning or that of others, the student's individualized education program (IEP) team shall consider positive behavioral interventions and supports, and other strategies, to address the behavior. (Education Code 56521.2; 20 USC 1414)

#### **Suspension**

The Superintendent or designee may suspend a student with a disability for up to 10 consecutive school days for a single incident of misconduct, and for up to 20 cumulative school days in a school year as long as the pattern of suspension(s) does not constitute a change in placement pursuant to 34 CFR 300.536. (Education Code 48903; 34 CFR 300.530)

The Superintendent or designee shall determine, on a case-by-case basis, whether a pattern of removals of a student from the student's current educational placement for disciplinary reasons constitutes a change of placement. A change of placement shall be deemed to have occurred under either of the following circumstances: (34 CFR 300.536)

1. The removal is for more than 10 consecutive school days
2. The student has been subjected to a series of removals that constitute a pattern because of all of the following:
  - a. The series of removals total more than 10 school days in a school year
  - b. The student's behavior is substantially similar to the student's behavior in previous incidents that resulted in the series of removals
  - c. Additional factors, such as the length of each removal, the total amount of time the student has been removed, and the proximity of the removals to one another

If a student's removal is determined to be a change of placement as specified in Items #1-2 above, the student's IEP team shall determine the appropriate educational services. Such services shall be designed to enable the student to continue to participate in the general education curriculum in another setting, to progress toward meeting the goals set out in the student's IEP, and to address the student's behavior violation so that it does not recur. (20 USC 1412(a)(1)(A); 34 CFR 300.530)

If the IEP of a student with a disability requires the district to provide the student with transportation, the district shall provide the student with an alternative form of transportation at no cost to the student or the student's parent/guardian when, as a result of a suspension, the student is excluded from school bus transportation. (Education Code 48915.5)

The principal or designee shall monitor the number of days, including portions of days, in which a student with an IEP has been suspended during the school year.

#### **Interim Alternative Educational Placement Due to Dangerous Behavior**

The district may unilaterally place a student with a disability in an appropriate interim alternative educational setting for up to 45 school days, without regard to whether the behavior is a manifestation of the student's disability, when the student commits one of the following acts while at school, going to or from school, or at a school-related function: (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(G); 34 CFR 300.530)

1. Carries or possesses a weapon, as defined in 18 USC 930
2. Knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs
3. Sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance as identified in 21 USC 812(c), Schedules I-V
4. Inflicts serious bodily injury upon another person as defined in 18 USC 1365

The student's interim alternative educational setting shall be determined by the student's IEP team. (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(G); 34 CFR 300.531)

On the date the decision to take disciplinary action is made, the student's parent/guardian shall be notified of the decision and provided the procedural safeguards notice pursuant to 34 CFR 300.504. (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(H); 34 CFR 300.530)

A student who has been removed from the student's current placement because of dangerous behavior shall receive services, although in another setting, to the extent necessary to allow the student to participate in the general education curriculum and to progress toward meeting the goals set out in the IEP. As appropriate, the student shall also receive a functional behavioral assessment and behavioral intervention services and modifications that are designed to address the behavior violation so that it does not recur. (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(D); 34 CFR 300.530)

### **Manifestation Determination**

The following procedural safeguards shall apply when a student with a disability is suspended for more than 10 consecutive school days, when a series of removals of a student constitutes a pattern, or when a change of placement of a student is contemplated due to a violation of the district's code of conduct:

1. Notice: On the date the decision to take disciplinary action is made, the student's parent/guardian shall be notified of the decision and provided the procedural safeguards notice pursuant to 34 CFR 300.504. If the student is a foster youth, the notice shall be given to the student's educational rights holder, attorney, and county social worker, and, if the student is an Indian child, the student's tribal social worker and, if applicable, county social worker. (Education Code 48853.5; 20 USC 1415(k)(1)(H); 34 CFR 300.530)
2. Manifestation Determination Review: Immediately if possible, but in no case later than 10 school days after the date the decision to take disciplinary action is made, a manifestation determination review shall be made of the relationship between the student's disability and the behavior subject to the disciplinary action. (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(E); 34 CFR 300.530)

If the student is a foster youth or Indian child, the foster youth's educational rights holder, attorney, or county social worker, or the Indian child's tribal social worker and, if applicable, county social worker, shall be invited to participate in the manifestation determination review. (Education Code 48915.5)

At the manifestation determination review, the district, the student's parent/guardian, and relevant members of the IEP team (as determined by the district and parent/guardian) shall review all relevant information in the student's file, including the student's IEP, any teacher observations, and any relevant information provided by the parents/guardians, to determine whether the conduct in question was either of the following: (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(E); 34 CFR 300.530)

- a. Caused by or had a direct and substantial relationship to the student's disability
- b. A direct result of the district's failure to implement the student's IEP, in which case the district shall take immediate steps to remedy those deficiencies

If the manifestation review team determines that either of the above conditions applies, the student's conduct shall then be determined to be a manifestation of the student's disability. (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(E); 34 CFR 300.530)

3. Determination that Behavior is a Manifestation of the Student's Disability: When the student's conduct has been determined to be a manifestation of the student's disability, the IEP team shall conduct a functional behavioral assessment, unless one had been conducted before the occurrence of the behavior that resulted in the change of placement, and shall implement a behavioral intervention plan for the student. If a behavioral intervention plan has already been developed, the IEP team 5144.2 AR 4 shall review the behavioral intervention plan and modify it as necessary to address the behavior. (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(F); 34 CFR 300.530)

The student shall be returned to the placement from which the student was removed, unless the parent/guardian and Superintendent or designee agree to a change of placement as part of the modification of the behavioral intervention plan. (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(F); 34 CFR 300.530)

4. Determination that Behavior is Not a Manifestation of the Student's Disability: When it has been determined that the student's conduct was not a manifestation of the disability, the student may be disciplined in accordance with the procedures for students without disabilities. However, the student's IEP team shall determine services necessary to enable the student to participate in the general education curriculum in another setting and to allow the student to progress toward meeting the goals set out in the IEP. (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(D); 34 CFR 300.530) As appropriate, the student also shall receive a functional behavioral assessment and behavioral intervention services and modifications that are designed to address the behavior violation so that it does not recur. (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(D); 34 CFR 300.530)

### **Due Process Appeals**

If the parent/guardian disagrees with any district decision regarding placement under 34 CFR 300.530 (suspension and removal for dangerous circumstances), 34 CFR 300.531 (interim alternative placement), or the manifestation determination under 34 CFR 300.530(e), the parent/guardian may appeal the decision by requesting a hearing. The district may request a hearing if the district believes that maintaining the student's current placement is substantially likely to result in injury to the student or others. In order to request a due process hearing, the requesting party shall file a complaint pursuant to 34 CFR 300.507 and 300.508(a) and (b). (20 USC 1415(k)(3); 34 CFR 300.532)

Whenever a hearing is requested as specified above, the parent/guardian or the district shall have an opportunity for an expedited due process hearing consistent with requirements specified in 34 CFR 300.507, 300.508 (a)-(c), and 300.510-300.514.

If the student's parent/guardian or the district has initiated a due process hearing under 34 CFR 300.532 as detailed above, the student shall remain in the interim alternative educational setting pending the decision of the hearing officer or until the expiration of the 45-day time period, whichever occurs first, unless the parent/guardian and district agree otherwise. (20 USC 1415(k)(4); 34 CFR 300.533)

### **Readmission**

Readmission procedures for students with disabilities shall be the same as those adopted for students without disabilities. Upon readmission of a student with disabilities, an IEP team meeting shall be convened to review and, as necessary, modify the student's IEP.

### **Decision Not to Enforce Expulsion Order**

The Governing Board's criteria for suspending the enforcement of an expulsion order shall be applied to students with disabilities in the same manner as they are applied to all other students. (Education Code 48917)

### **Notification to Law Enforcement Authorities**

Law enforcement notification requirements involving students with disabilities shall be the same as those specified for all students in AR 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process.

When giving any required notification concerning a student with disabilities to any law enforcement official, the principal or designee shall require the law enforcement official to certify in writing that the student's information or records will not be disclosed to any other person without the prior written consent of the student's parent/guardian. (Education Code 49076)

## **Report to County Superintendent of Schools**

The Superintendent or designee shall report to the County Superintendent of Schools when any special education student has been expelled or suspended for more than 10 school days. The report shall include the student's name, last known address, and the reason for the action. (Education Code 48203)

## **Procedures for Students Not Yet Eligible for Special Education Services**

A student who has not been determined to be eligible for special education and related services and who has violated the district's code of student conduct may nevertheless assert any of the protections under IDEA, if the district had knowledge of the student's disability. (20 USC 1415(k)(5); 34 CFR 300.534)

*Knowledge* means that, before the occurrence of the behavior that precipitated the disciplinary action, one of the following occurred: (20 USC 1415(k)(5); 34 CFR 300.534)

1. The parent/guardian, in writing, has expressed concern to district supervisory or administrative personnel, or to a teacher of the student, that the student is in need of special education or related services
2. The parent/guardian has requested an evaluation of the student for special education pursuant to 20 USC 1414(a)(1)(B) or 34 CFR 300.300-300.311
3. The teacher of the student or other district personnel has expressed specific concerns directly to the district's director of special education or other supervisory district personnel about a pattern of behavior demonstrated by the student

However, the district shall not be deemed to have knowledge of a student's disability if the student's parent/guardian has not allowed the student to be evaluated for special education services or has refused services or, after evaluating the student pursuant to 34 CFR 300.300- 300.311, the district determined that the student was not an individual with a disability. (20 USC 1415(k)(5); 34 CFR 300.534)

When the district is deemed to not have knowledge of a student's disability, the student shall be disciplined in accordance with procedures established for students without disabilities who engage in comparable behavior. (20 USC 1415(k)(5); 34 CFR 300.534)

If a request is made for an evaluation of a student during the time period in which the student is subject to disciplinary measures pursuant to 34 CFR 300.530, the evaluation shall be conducted in an expedited manner. Until the evaluation is completed, the student shall remain in the educational placement determined by school authorities. (20 USC 1415(k)(5); 34 CFR 300.534)

To view full Board Policy:

[\*\*5144.1 - SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION/DUE PROCESS\*\*](#)

To view full Administrative Regulation:

[\*\*5144.1 - SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION/DUE PROCESS\*\*](#)

To view full Administrative Regulation:

[\*\*5144.2 - SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION/DUE PROCESS \(Students with Disabilities\)\*\*](#)

## **Search and Seizure - BP 5145.12**

The Governing Board is fully committed to promoting a safe learning environment and, to the extent possible, eliminating the possession and use of weapons, illegal drugs, and other controlled substances by students on school premises and at school activities.

As necessary to protect the health and welfare of students and staff, and only as authorized by law, Board policy, and administrative regulation, school officials may search students, their property, and/or district property under their control and may seize illegal, unsafe, or otherwise prohibited items. School officials shall exercise discretion and use good judgment when conducting searches.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that staff who conduct student searches receive training regarding the requirements of the district's policy and administrative regulation and other legal issues, as appropriate.

### **Searches Based on Individualized Suspicion**

School officials may search an individual student, the student's property, or district property under the student's control when there is a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover evidence that the student is violating the law, Board policy, administrative regulation, or other rules of the district or the school. Reasonable suspicion shall be based on specific and objective facts that the search will produce evidence related to the alleged violation.

Any search of a student, the student's property, or district property under the student's control shall be limited in scope and designed to produce evidence related to the alleged violation. Factors to be considered by school officials when determining the scope of the search shall include the danger to the health or safety of students or staff, such as the possession of weapons, drugs, or other dangerous instruments, and whether the item(s) to be searched by school officials are reasonably related to the contraband to be found. In addition, school officials shall consider the intrusiveness of the search in light of the student's age, gender, and the nature of the alleged violation.

The types of student property that may be searched by school officials include, but are not limited to, lockers, desks, purses, backpacks, and student vehicles parked on district property.

A student's personal electronic device may be searched only if a school official, in good faith, believes that an emergency involving danger of death or serious physical injury to the student or others requires access to the electronic device information.

Employees shall not conduct strip searches or body cavity searches of any student. (Education Code 49050)

Searches of individual students shall be conducted in the presence of at least two district employees.

The principal or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of a student subjected to an individualized search as soon as possible after the search.

### **Searches of Student Lockers and Desks**

All student lockers and desks are the property of the district. The principal or designee may conduct a general inspection of school properties that are within the control of students, such as lockers and desks, on a regular, announced basis, with students standing by their assigned lockers or desks. Any items contained in a locker or desk shall be considered to be the property of the student to whom the locker or desk was assigned.

### **Use of Weapons Detectors**

The Board finds that the presence of weapons in the schools threatens the district's ability to provide the safe and orderly learning environment to which district students and staff are entitled. The Board also finds that metal detector searches offer a reasonable means to keep weapons out of the schools and mitigate the fears of students and staff.

The Superintendent or designee shall use metal detectors as necessary to keep weapons out of schools and help provide a safe learning environment. The Superintendent or designee shall establish a plan to ensure that metal detector searches are conducted in a uniform and consistent manner.

### **Use of Contraband Detection Dogs**

In an effort to keep the schools free of dangerous contraband, the district may use specially trained, non aggressive dogs to sniff out and alert staff to the presence of substances prohibited by law or Board policy. The dogs may sniff the air around lockers, desks, or vehicles on district property or at district-sponsored events. Dogs shall not sniff within the close proximity of students or other persons and may not sniff any personal items on those persons without individualized suspicion.

## **Search and Seizure - AR 5145.12**

### **Use of Metal Detectors**

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the following safeguards are used when making metal detector scans:

1. Before walk-through, students shall be asked to empty their pockets and belongings of metallic objects.
2. If an initial metal detector activation occurs, students shall be asked to remove other metallic objects that they may be wearing (e.g., belt and jewelry) and to walk through a second time.
3. If a second activation occurs, a hand-held metal detector shall be used.
4. If the activation is not eliminated or explained, staff shall escort the student to a private area where an expanded search shall be conducted by a staff member of the same gender as the student in the presence of another district employee.
5. The search shall be limited to the detection of the cause of the activation.

### **Use of Contraband Detection Dogs**

Contraband detection dogs shall not be used in classrooms or other district facilities when the rooms are occupied, except for demonstration purposes with the handler present. When used for demonstration purposes, the dog shall be separated from the students and not allowed to sniff any individual.

Prior to conducting an inspection, students shall be asked to leave the room that will be subject to the canine sniff. No student shall be forced to leave personal items behind for inspection, unless school officials have reasonable suspicion to search the item.

Only the dog's official handler shall determine what constitutes an alert by the dog. If the dog alerts on a particular item or place, the student having the use of that item or place, or responsibility for it, shall be called to witness the inspection. If a dog alerts on a locked vehicle, the student who brought the vehicle onto district property shall be asked to unlock it for inspection.

**Notifications**

At the beginning of each school year and upon enrollment, the Superintendent or designee shall inform students and parents/guardians about the district's policies and procedures for searches, including notice regarding:

1. The possibility of random searches of students, their belongings, their vehicles parked on district property, and district properties under a student's control, including lockers or desks
2. The district's contraband dog detection program
3. The use of metal detector scans

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that signs are posted at all schools at which metal detectors are to be used to explain that anyone may be scanned by metal detector for guns, knives, or other illegal weapons when on campus or attending athletic or extracurricular events.

To view full Board Policy:

[5145.12 - SEARCH AND SEIZURE](#)

To view full Administrative Regulation:

[5145.12 - SEARCH AND SEIZURE](#)

## Section 3

# SITE CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

### **CONFIDENTIAL Comprehensive Site Safety Plan:**

- Incident Management Team
- Campus Maps
- Student Demonstration/Protest/Walk-Out Procedures
- Radio Communication
- Utility Shut Off Locations with Pictures
- Faculty Room and Phone Directory
- Bell Schedule
- Outdoor Environmental Contingency Plan
- Emergency Drill Schedule
- Daily Site Supervision Plan
- Start and End of School Gate Chart