

Students

E-Bikes and other E-Conveyances

The Board of Education is committed to maintaining a safe and secure environment for all students, staff, and visitors. In alignment with the District's efforts to promote and support healthy, sustainable modes of transportation, the Board of Education encourages students and families to utilize non-electric bicycles whenever possible. Starting in third grade, students may ride non-electric bicycles to school. Any student riding a non-electric bicycle to school is required to wear a helmet and to park their non-electric bicycle in the designated parking area on District property. A non-electric bicycle is defined as a device upon which a person may ride, except for an electric bicycle, propelled exclusively by human power through a belt, chain, or gears, and having one or more wheels. (Vehicle Code 231.)

Electronic bicycles ("E-bikes") and other electronic conveyances ("E-conveyances") present unique safety risks when operated by minors. These risks impact both the rider, the surrounding students, and the community. This is due to speed, the type of E-bike or other E-conveyances, and the limited operating experience among younger users.

E-bikes and other E-conveyances are strictly prohibited on school campuses and other District property for students in grades preschool through 8th grade, inclusive, unless an exception applies, as described in this policy.

Definitions

Electric Conveyance ("E-conveyance"): For the purposes of this policy, an E-conveyance is defined as any device designed for personal transportation that is powered in whole or in part by an electric motor, including, but not limited to, electric bicycles as defined in California Vehicle Code section 312.5, electric motos ("E-motos"), electric scooters ("E-scooters"), electric motorized boards ("E-boards"), and any other similar electric-powered mobility device. This term does not include motor vehicles requiring registration under the California Vehicle Code unless otherwise specified.

Electric Bicycle ("E-bike"): For the purpose of this policy, an E-bike is defined as a two- or three-wheeled conveyance with an electric motor that meets the requirements for Class 1, Class 2, or Class 3 E-bikes as set forth in the California Vehicle Code. It excludes e-motorcycles and other conveyances that do not meet the e-bike requirements. (Vehicle Code section 312.5)

BP 5142.4(b)

Electric Moto (“E-moto”): For the purpose of this policy, an E-moto is defined as an off-highway motorcycle subject to identification under the California Vehicle Code and may include an electric moped, electric motorcycle, or electric dirt bike, all of which use throttles to activate the motor without any pedaling required. These conveyances are significantly more powerful and faster than E-bikes. (Vehicle Code 436.1)

Electric Scooter (“E-scooter”): For the purpose of this policy, an E-scooter is defined as any two-wheeled device that has handlebars, has either a floorboard to be stood upon when riding or a seat and footrests in place of the floorboard, and is powered by an electric motor. (Vehicle Code 407.5)

Electric Motorized Board (“E-board”): For the purpose of this policy, an E-board is defined as any wheeled device that has a floorboard designed to be stood upon when riding, is designed to transport only one person, and has an electric propulsion system with a maximum speed of no more than 20 miles per hour. (Vehicle Code 313.5.)

District Campus/Property: Any property owned, leased, or operated by the District, including but not limited to school buildings, campuses, parking lots, athletic fields, playgrounds, bike racks, and any location where a school-sponsored event is taking place.

Educational Programming

District students in elementary and middle school will receive age-appropriate educational programming regarding the safe use of wheeled conveyances.

Students in Elementary School (Grades Preschool-6)

Students in grades Preschool-6, inclusive, are strictly prohibited from possessing or operating E-bikes and other E-conveyances on District property, including the outer areas of the campus, at all times. Starting in third grade, students may ride their non-electric bicycles to and from school per Board Policy 5142.3.

Students in Middle School (Grades 7-8)

Beginning with the 2027-28 school year, students in grades 7-8, inclusive, are strictly prohibited from possessing or operating E-bikes and other E-conveyances on District property, including the outer areas of the campus, at all times.

BP 5142.4(c)

Students in grades 7-8 may ride their non-electric bicycles to and from school per Board Policy 5142.3.

Other E-conveyances, including, but not limited to, E-motos, E-scooters, and E-boards are strictly prohibited on any District property.

Transition for Students in Grades 7-8

For the 2026–27 school year only, a student in grades 7–8, inclusive, may travel to and from school using an E-bike only if the student's parent or legal guardian authorizes the student to bring an E-bike to school, the student successfully completes an E-bike safety training program offered by the school or a local law enforcement agency, and proof of completion is submitted to the school. This temporary exception ends at the conclusion of the 2026–27 school year. Beginning with the 2027–28 school year, students in grades 7 and 8 may not possess or operate an E-bike or E-conveyance on District property, regardless of whether they have completed an E-bike safety training program.

Other E-conveyances, including, but not limited to, E-motos, E-scooters, and E-boards are strictly prohibited on any District property.

Hardship Exemption for Students in Grade 8

Beginning with the 2027-28 school year, the parent or legal guardian of students in 8th grade may request a hardship exemption that would permit the student to travel to and from school using an E-bike. Requests for a hardship exemption will be evaluated by school site staff on a case-by-case basis. Any student who receives a hardship exemption shall be required to complete the District's E-bike training program and shall be subject to all school rules and policies regarding the use of E-bikes.

Students in High School (Grades 9-12) or Above

Beginning with the 2027-28 school year, students in grades 9-12 or above, may travel to and from school using an E-bike only if they successfully complete the District's E-bike safety training program. However, other E-conveyances, including, but not limited to, E-motos, E-scooters, and E-boards are strictly prohibited on any District property. Students in grades 9-12 may ride their non-electric bicycles to and from school per Board Policy 5142.3.

Transition for Students in Grades 9-12 or Above

For the 2026–27 school year only, a student in grades 9-12 or above, may travel to and from school using an E-bike only if the student's parent or legal guardian authorizes the student to bring an E-bike to school, the student successfully completes an E-bike safety training program offered by the school or a local law enforcement agency, and proof of completion is submitted to the school. Beginning with the 2027–28 school year, a student in grades 9-12 or above, who wishes to bring an e-bike to school must complete the District-adopted e-bike safety training program before bringing an e-bike onto District property.

Other E-conveyances, including, but not limited to, E-motos, E-scooters, and E-boards are strictly prohibited on any District property.

In addition:

- E-bikes are required to be parked in designated areas on campus.
- Helmets are required to be worn at all times while walking an E-bike on District property.
- Students cannot ride an E-bike on the school campus or any District property.
- E-bikes must be walked onto and off school campus and any District property.
- Under no circumstances, regardless of whether a student has successfully completed a required E-bike safety training program, shall more than one person be permitted on a single E-bike while traveling to or from school.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop procedures for implementation of this policy. The District shall establish regulations for safe E-bike operation that address storage, security, permits, education, registration stickers, safety, and enforcement. The District has the right to suspend or revoke these E-bike privileges and any required E-bike registration if the student violates this policy or any applicable laws and regulations.

When a student uses an E-bike or E-conveyance in an unauthorized manner, the student may be disciplined, and a school administrator may temporarily confiscate the E-bike or E-conveyance.

The District will not be responsible or liable for a student's E-bike or E-conveyance which is brought onto campus or District property or to a school activity and is lost, stolen, or damaged.

Parental Responsibility and Assumption of Risk

The decision to permit a student to operate or ride an E-bike to or from school, or in connection with school attendance, rests solely with the student's parents or legal guardians. By permitting such use, the parents or legal guardians acknowledge and accept the risks associated with the

student's operation or use of an E-bike. To the fullest extent permitted by law, the District assumes no responsibility or liability for any injury, loss, damage, accident, citation, or other consequence arising out of or related to the parents' or legal guardians' decision to permit the student to operate or use an E-bike.

Policy Review and Legislative Monitoring

As legislation regarding E-bikes and E-conveyances continues to evolve, the Board shall receive an update regarding implementation of this policy regarding policy outcomes and any emerging legislation that may warrant future policy considerations.

Legal Reference:

California Vehicle Code § 231 – Bicycle

California Vehicle Code § 312.5 – Electric Bicycle

California Vehicle Code § 313.5 – Electrically Motorized Board

California Vehicle Code § 406 – Motorized Bicycle or Moped; Disclosure Requirements

California Vehicle Code § 407.5 – Motorized Scooter; Disclosures

California Vehicle Code § 436.1 – Off-Highway Electric Motorcycle

California Vehicle Code § 12804.9 – Examination and Driving Test

California Vehicle Code § 21113 – Public Grounds

California Vehicle Code § 24016 – Electric Bicycles; Manufacturing and Operating Criteria