

CONCEPTS AND ROLES

The Board of Trustees desires to represent the community and provide leadership in addressing community issues related to education. In order to identify community concerns and enlist support for the schools, the Board shall establish effective two-way communication systems between schools and the community.

Schools, parents/guardians, community members and local organizations must continually collaborate as partners. The Board and the Superintendent or designee shall work together with city and county agencies and organizations to promote and facilitate coordinated services for children, and shall seek to develop partnerships with local businesses.

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)

(cf. 1700 - Relations between Private Industry and the Schools)

The Board recognizes that schools are an important community resource and encourages community members to make appropriate use of school facilities. Community members are also encouraged to attend Board meetings, participate in school activities, and take an active interest in issues that affect the schools. The Board and Superintendent or designee shall keep community members well informed about district needs and accomplishments and shall ensure that they have opportunities to share in developing educational policies, programs and evaluation processes.

(cf. 0420.5 - School-Based Decision Making)

(cf. 0510 - School Accountability Report Card)

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)

(cf. 1312 - Complaints Concerning the Schools)

(cf. 1330 - Use of School Facilities)

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

(cf. 6141 - Curriculum Development and Evaluation)

(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

The Board recognizes that its ability to fulfill the community's expectations for a high-quality educational program depends on the level of support provided by the state and federal government as well as the community. The Board therefore shall study legislative processes and issues, establish ongoing relationships with state and local leaders and the media, adopt positions on key issues, set priorities for advocacy, and collaborate with other organizations and coalitions in legislative and legal advocacy efforts.

(cf. 1112 - Media Relations)

(cf. 1160 - Political Processes)

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

CONCEPTS AND ROLES (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35160 Authority of governing boards

35172 Promotional activities

YOUTH SERVICES

The Board of Trustees realizes that the schools alone cannot meet children's complex individual needs. Parents/guardians, schools, local government, businesses, foundations and community-based organizations all must work together to assess needs, improve conditions for our community's youth, and ensure that the multiple services needed by children and families are coordinated so as to avoid gaps, duplication or delay.

The Board shall support collaborative relationships with city and county leaders to develop local policies and provide effective multi-agency programs that respond to the needs of children and families.

(cf. 1400 - Relations between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)

The Superintendent and staff shall cooperate with public and private agencies to ensure the availability and effective implementation of child care, after-school, nutrition, health and other services for children. District staff shall have opportunities to learn collaborative skills that will enhance their participation in these efforts.

The Board shall regularly evaluate the progress of collaborative efforts and shall monitor district budget, facilities and personnel priorities for opportunities to promote community collaboration and youth services.

The Board shall advocate for local, state and national policies, legislation and programs designed to provide or better coordinate services for children and families.

The district shall provide support services for children and families to the extent possible.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 1160 - Political Processes)

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

(cf. 5136 - Gangs)

(cf. 5141.32 - Child Health and Disability Prevention Program)

(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting)

(cf. 5141.6 - Student Health and Social Services)

(cf. 5146 - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

YOUTH SERVICES (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35160 Authority of governing boards

35160.1 Broad authority of school districts

58700-58702 Tutoring and homework assistance program

WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

18961.5 Computerized data base; families at risk for child abuse; sharing of information; multidisciplinary teams

18986.2-18986.30 Interagency Children's Services Act, especially:

18986.11-18986.15 County interagency collaboration

18986.40-18986.46 Integrated children's services programs

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Collaboration for Kids, March 1995

YOUTH LAW CENTER PUBLICATIONS

Model Form for Consent to Exchange Confidential Information among the Members of an Interagency Collaborative, Youth Law Center, San Francisco, 1995

COMMUNICATION WITH THE PUBLIC

The Board of Trustees appreciates the importance of community involvement and therefore shall strive to keep the community informed of developments within the school system in timely and understandable ways.

The Superintendent or designee shall use all available means of communication to keep the public aware of the goals, programs, achievements and needs of our schools. Members of the community shall have opportunities to become involved in the schools and to express their interests and concerns.

The district shall seek to communicate in ways that accommodate the needs of all members of the public, including the visually or hearing impaired, those who do not understand English and those who do not read.

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)
(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)
(cf. 9321- Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

Mass Mailings or Distributions

The Board recognizes that state law prohibits mass mailings or distributions at public expense which aggrandize elected officers. The name, signature or photograph of an elected district officer may be included in such materials only as permitted by 2 CCR 18901.

In order to promote open communication between Board members and the public, district newsletters and other mass mailings shall include a roster of all Board members' names in accordance with law.

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE
35172 Promotional activities
GOVERNMENT CODE
82041.5 Mass mailing
89001 Newsletter or mass mailing
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2
18901 Mass mailings sent at public expense

CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2

18901. Mass Mailings Sent At Public Expense

- (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a mailing is prohibited by Section 89001 if all of the following criteria are met:
- (1) Any item sent is delivered, by any means, to the recipient at his/her residence, place of employment or business, or post office box. For purposes of this subdivision (a)(1), the item delivered to the recipient must be a tangible item, such as a videotape, record, or button, or a written document.
 - (2) The item sent either:
 - (A) Features an elected officer affiliated with the agency which produces or sends the mailing, or
 - (B) Includes the name, office, photograph or other reference to an elected officer affiliated with the agency which produces or sends the mailing, and is prepared or sent in cooperation, consultation, coordination, or concern with the elected officer;
 - (3)
 - (A) Any of the costs of distribution is paid for with public moneys; or
 - (B) Costs of design, production and printing exceeding \$50 are paid with public moneys, and the design, production or printing is done with the intent of sending the item other than as permitted by this regulation.
 - (4) More than 200 substantially similar items are sent, in a single calendar month, excluding any item sent in response to an unsolicited request and any item described in subdivision (b);
- (b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), mass mailing of the following items is not prohibited by Section 89001:
- (1) Any item in which the elected officer's name appears only in the letterhead or logotype of the stationery, forms (including "For Your Information" or "Compliments of" cards), and envelopes of the agency sending the mailing, or a committee of the agency, or of the elected officer, or in a roster listing containing the names of all elected officers of the agency. In any such item, the names of all elected officers must appear in the same type size, typeface, type color, and location. Such item may not include the elected officer's photograph, signature or any other reference to the elected officer, except as specifically permitted in this subdivision (b)(1) or elsewhere in this regulation.

CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2 (continued)

- (2) A press release sent to members of the media;
- (3) Any item sent in the normal course of business from one governmental entity or officer to another governmental entity or officer;
- (4) Any intra-agency communication sent in the normal course of business to employees, officers, deputies and other staff;
- (5) Any item sent in connection with the payment or collection of funds by the agency sending the mailing, including tax bills, checks and similar documents, in any instance where use of the elected officer's name, office, title or signature is necessary to the payment or collection of the funds. Such item may not include the elected officer's photograph, signature or any other reference to the elected officer except as specifically permitted in this subdivision (b)(5) or elsewhere in this regulation.
- (6) Any item sent by an agency responsible for administering a government program, to persons subject to that program, in any instance where the mailing of such item is essential to the functioning of the program where the item does not include the elected officer's photograph; and where use of the elected officer's name, office, title or signature is necessary to the functioning of the program.
- (7) Any legal notice or other item sent as required by law, court order, or order adopted by an administrative agency pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, and in which use of the elected officer's name, title or signature is necessary in the notice or other mailing. For purposes of this subdivision (b)(7), inclusion of an elected officer's name on a ballot as a candidate for elective office, and inclusion of an elected officer's name and signature on a ballot argument, shall be considered necessary to such a notice or other item.
- (8) A telephone directory, organization chart, or similar listing or roster which includes the names of elected officers as well as other individuals in the agency sending the mailing, where the name of each elected officer and individual listed appears in the same type size, typeface, and type color. Such item may not include an elected officer's photograph, name, signature, or any other reference to an elected officer, except as specifically permitted in this subdivision (b)(8) or elsewhere in this regulation.
- (9) (A) An announcement of any meeting or event of the type listed in paragraphs (i) or (ii).

CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2 (continued)

- (i) An announcement sent to an elected officer's constituents concerning a public meeting which is directly related to the elected officer's incumbent governmental duties, which is to be held by the elected officer, and which the elected officer intends to attend.
 - (ii) An announcement of any official agency event or events for which the agency is providing the use of its facilities or staff or other financial support.
 - (B) Any announcement provided for in this subdivision (9) shall not include the elected officer's photograph or signature and may include only a single mention of the elected officer's name except as permitted elsewhere in this regulation.
- (10) An agenda or other writing that is required to be made available pursuant to Sections 11125.1 and 54957.5 of the Government Code, or a bill, file, history, journal, committee analysis, floor analysis, agenda of an interim or special hearing of a committee of the Legislature, or index of legislation, published by the Legislature.
- (11) A business card which does not contain the elected officer's photograph or more than one mention of the elected officer's name.
- (c) The following definitions shall govern the interpretation of this regulation:
 - (1) "Elected officer affiliated with an agency" means an elected officer who is a member, officer or employee of the agency, or of a subunit thereof such as a committee, or who has supervisory control over the agency, or who appoints one or more members of the agency.
 - (2) "Features an elected officer" means that the item mailed includes the elected officer's photograph or signature, or singles out the elected officer by the manner of display of his/her name or office in the layout of the document, such as by headlines, captions, type size, typeface or type color.
 - (3) "Substantially similar" is defined as follows:
 - (A) Two items are "substantially similar" if any of the following applies:
 - (i) The items are identical, except for changes necessary to identify the recipient and his/her address.

CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2 (continued)

- (ii) The items are intended to honor, commend, congratulate or recognize an individual or group, or individuals or groups, for the same event or occasion; are intended to celebrate or recognize the same holiday; or are intended to congratulate an individual or group, or individuals or groups, on the same type of event, such as birthdays or anniversaries.
 - (iii) Both of the following apply to the items mailed:
 - a. Most of the bills, legislation, governmental action, activities, events, or issues of public concern mentioned in one item are mentioned in the other.
 - b. Most of the information contained in one item is contained in the other.
 - (B) Enclosure of the same informational materials in two items mailed, such as copies of the same bill, public document, or report, shall not, by itself, mean that the two items are "substantially similar." Such informational materials may not include the elected officer's name, photograph, signature or any other reference to the elected officer except as permitted elsewhere in this regulation.
- (4) "Unsolicited request" is defined as follows:
- (A) A written or oral communication (including a petition) which specifically requests a response and which is not requested or induced by the recipient elected officer or by any third person acting at his/her behest. However, an unsolicited oral or written communication (including a petition) which contains no specific request for a response, will be deemed to constitute an unsolicited request for a single written response.
 - (B) An unsolicited request for continuing information on a subject shall be considered an unsolicited request for multiple responses directly related to that subject for a period of time not to exceed 24 months. An unsolicited request to receive a regularly published agency newsletter shall be deemed an unsolicited request for each issue of that newsletter.

CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2 (continued)

- (C) A previously unsolicited request to receive an agency newsletter or mass mailing on an ongoing basis shall not be deemed to have become solicited by the sole fact that the requester responds to an agency notice indicating that, in the absence of a response, his/her name will be purged from the mailing list for that newsletter or mass mailing. A notice in the following language shall be deemed to meet this standard:
- "The law does not permit this office to use public funds to keep you updated on items of interest unless you specifically request that it do so."
- Inclusion of a similar notice in other items shall not constitute a solicitation under this regulation.
- (D) A communication sent in response to an elected officer's participation at a public forum or press conference, or to his/her issuance of a press release, shall be considered an unsolicited request.
- (E) A person who subscribes to newspapers or other periodicals published by persons other than elected officers shall be deemed to have made unsolicited requests for materials published in those subscription publications.

AUTHORITY: Government Code 83112

REFERENCE: Government Code 82041.5 and 89001

MEDIA RELATIONS

The Board of Trustees respects the public's right to information and recognizes that the media significantly influence the community's understanding of school programs. In order to develop and maintain positive media relations, the Board and the Superintendent desire to reasonably accommodate media requests for information and to provide accurate, reliable and timely information.

Media representatives are welcome at all Board meetings and shall receive meeting agendas upon request in accordance with Board policy.

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

Media representatives, like all other visitors, shall register immediately upon entering any school building or grounds when school is in session.

(cf. 1250 - Visitors/Outsiders)

(cf. 3515.2 - Disruptions)

Staff may provide the media with student directory information, including, but not limited to, the name of a student, school of attendance, grade level, honors, and activities, unless the student's parent/guardian has submitted a written request that such information not be disclosed. The district shall not release information that is private or confidential as required by law, Board policy or administrative regulation. No other access to student records or personally identifiable student information may be provided without written parent/guardian permission.

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)

(cf. 9010 - Public Statements)

(cf. 9321.1 - Closed Session Actions and Reports)

Interviewing and Photographing Students

The district shall not impose restraints on students' right to speak freely with media representatives at those times which do not disrupt a student's educational program. However, interviews of students may not create substantial disorder or impinge on the rights of others. Therefore, in order to minimize possible disruption, media representatives who wish to interview students at school shall make prior arrangements with the principal. At their discretion, parents/guardians may instruct their children not to communicate with media representatives.

(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)

MEDIA RELATIONS (continued)

In order to protect the privacy and safety of students, a media representative who wishes to photograph students on school grounds must first make arrangements with the principal or designee.

When interviewing or photographing a special education student, he/she shall not be identified as a special education student without prior, written parent/guardian permission.

Media Communications Plan

In order to help develop strong relations with the media, the Superintendent or designee should develop a proactive media communications plan. This plan may include, but not be limited to, information related to district programs and needs, student awards, school accomplishments and events of special interest.

(cf. 0510 - School Accountability Report Card)

(cf. 1100 - Communication with the Public)

(cf. 1160 - Political Processes)

The plan shall specify the district's and/or site's primary media contact to whom all media inquiries shall be routed. Spokespersons designated to speak to the media on behalf of the district include the Board president, Superintendent and public information officer. Other Board members and staff may be asked by the Superintendent or designee to speak to the media on a case-by-case basis, depending on their expertise on an issue.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training on effective media relations to all designated spokespersons.

(cf. 9240 - Board Development)

Crisis Communications Plan

During a disturbance or crisis situation, the first priority of school staff is to assure the safety of students and staff. However, the Board recognizes the need to provide timely and accurate information to parents/guardians and the community during a crisis. The Board also recognizes that the media have an important role to play in relaying this information to the public. In order to help ensure that the media and district work together effectively, the Superintendent or designee shall develop a crisis communications plan to identify communication strategies to be taken in the event of a crisis.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 3516 - Emergency and Disaster Preparedness Plan)

The crisis communications plan may include but not be limited to identification of a media center location, development of both internal and external notification systems, and strategies for press conference logistics.

MEDIA RELATIONS (continued)

The Superintendent or designee shall include local law enforcement and media representatives in the crisis planning process.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

32210-32212 *Willful disturbance of public school or meeting*

35144 *Special meetings*

35145 *Public meetings*

35160 *Authority of governing boards*

35172 *Promotional activities*

EVIDENCE CODE

1070 *Refusal to disclose news source*

PENAL CODE

627-627.10 *Access to school premises*

COURT DECISIONS

Lopez v. Tulare Joint Union High School District, (1995) 34 Cal.App.4th 1302

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

95 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen.* 509 (1996)

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

911: *A Manual for Schools and the Media During a Campus Crisis*, 2001

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

DISTRICT AND SCHOOL WEB SITES

To enhance communication with students, parents/guardians, staff, community members and the public at large, the Board of Trustees encourages the development and ongoing maintenance of district and school web sites on the Internet. Web sites shall support the educational vision of the district and shall be consistent with the district's plans for communications and media relations.

(cf. 0000 - Vision)

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)

(cf. 0440 - District Technology Plan)

(cf. 1100 - Communication with the Public)

(cf. 1112 - Media Relations)

(cf. 3312 - Contracts)

(cf. 4040 - Employee Use of Technology)

(cf. 5124 - Communication with Parents/Guardians)

(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)

(cf. 6010 - Goals and Objectives)

(cf. 6145.5 - Student Organization and Equal Access)

(cf. 6162.7 - Use of Technology in Instruction)

(cf. 6163.4 - Student Use of Technology)

The Superintendent or designee shall develop guidelines regarding the content of district and school web sites which shall include standards for the ethical and responsible use of information and technology. These guidelines shall be consistent with law, Board policy and administrative regulation.

District and school web sites shall not include content which is obscene, libelous or slanderous, or which creates a clear and present danger of inciting students to commit unlawful acts on school premises, violate school rules or substantially disrupt the school's orderly operation.

Any links to external sites shall follow the same guidelines applicable to district and school web sites.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that copyright laws are not violated in the use of material on district or school web sites.

(cf. 4132/4232/4332 - Publication or Creation of Materials)

(cf. 6162.6 - Use of Copyrighted Materials)

Content

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that web site content protects the privacy rights of students, parents/guardians, staff, Board members and other individuals.

DISTRICT AND SCHOOL WEB SITES (continued)

No personal information about students or their parents/guardians, including phone numbers, or home addresses, shall be published on a district or school web page. Student directory information shall not be published if parents/guardians have requested that it be withheld.

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)
(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)
(cf. 5022 - Student and Family Privacy Rights)
(cf. 5125 - Student Records)
(cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)

Photographs of students shall be used only with written permission from the students' parents/guardians.

Home addresses or telephone numbers of staff members shall not be posted.

District and school web sites shall not post the home address or telephone number of any elected or appointed official without the prior written permission of that individual. (Government Code 6254.21)

(cf. 1100 - Communication with the Public)

No public safety officer shall be required as a condition of employment to consent to the use on the Internet of his/her photograph or identity as a public safety officer for any purpose if that officer reasonably believes that the disclosure may result in a threat, harassment, intimidation or harm to the officer or his/her family. (Government Code 3307.5)

(cf. 3515.3 - District Police/Security Department)

The Superintendent or designee may establish standards for the design of district and school web sites in order to maintain a consistent identity, professional appearance and ease of use.

Staff and students may submit materials for web site publication to the district or school webmaster who shall ensure that the content adheres to district guidelines and policies.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

DISTRICT AND SCHOOL WEB SITES (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35182.5 *Contracts for advertising*

35258 *Internet access to school accountability report cards*

48907 *Exercise of free expression; rules and regulations*

48950 *Speech and other communication*

49073 *Release of directory information*

60048 *Commercial brand names, contracts or logos*

GOVERNMENT CODE

3307.5 *Publishing identity of public safety officers*

6254.21 *Publishing addresses and phone numbers of board members*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 17

101-1101 *Federal copyright law*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232g *Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 16

312.1-312.11 *Children's Online Privacy*

COURT DECISIONS

Aaris v. Las Virgenes Unified School District, (1998) 64 Cal.App.4th 1112

Perry Education Association v. Perry Local Educators' Association, (1983) 460 U.S. 37

Board of Education, Island Trees Union Free School District, et.al. v. Pico, (1982) 457 U.S. 853

DISTRICT AND SCHOOL WEB SITES

Content

District and school web sites shall provide current and useful information regarding district programs, activities and operations. Such information shall be appropriate for both internal and external audiences.

The content of web sites may include, but not be limited to, district or school news, district mission and goals, agendas and minutes of Board of Trustees meetings, policy information, messages from the Board or administrators, information about curriculum and instruction, school calendars, student projects, school clubs and activities, lunch menus, transportation schedules, school map, school handbook, parent conferences, educational resources, links to other educational sites and contacts for further information.

The Superintendent or designee shall make the information contained in the School Accountability Report Card accessible on the Internet and shall ensure that such information is updated annually. (Education Code 35258)

(cf. 0510 - School Accountability Report Card)

Student work may be published on a web site provided that both the student and his/her parent/guardian provide written permission or the work is part of an existing publication such as a newspaper or school newsletter.

Students, staff or other individuals may not use district or school web sites to provide access to their personal web pages or online services.

If any copyrighted material is posted on a district or school web site, the web site shall include a notice crediting the original producer of the material and noting how and when permission to reprint the material was granted.

(cf. 6162.6 - Use of Copyrighted Materials)

Roles and Responsibilities

The district webmaster shall be responsible for the content and publication of the district web site upon approval of the Superintendent or designee. He/she shall review all content before publication, upload content to the district web server, regularly check links for accuracy and appropriateness, keep the web server free of outdated or unused files, and provide technical assistance as needed to school webmasters.

The school webmaster shall perform similar duties related to the content and maintenance of the school's web site upon approval of the school principal. The principal or school webmaster shall notify the Superintendent or designee regarding the creating and updating of a school web site.

DISTRICT AND SCHOOL WEB SITES (continued)

Security

The web site host computer shall have security procedures that prohibit unauthorized persons from accessing system-level controls or making changes to web site content. To the extent possible, the host computer shall be in a lockable room with restricted access.

COMMENDATIONS AND AWARDS

The Board of Trustees believes that individuals and organizations deserve recognition when they provide contributions or long-standing service to the district. The Board believes that commending such service promotes increased community understanding and participation.

(cf. 1700 - Relations between Private Industry and the Schools)

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures by which Board members, employees or members of the community may suggest persons or organizations for Board recognition. At the Board's discretion, letters of recognition, Board resolutions, plaques or awards may be presented.

The Board encourages similar forms of recognition for achievement or services as part of school-level commendation programs.

(cf. 4156.2/4256.2/4356.2 - Awards and Recognition)

(cf. 5126 - Awards for Achievement)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35160 Authority of governing boards

35160.1 Broad authority of school districts

44015 Awards to employees and students

COMMENDATIONS AND AWARDS

From time to time, the Board may wish to recognize an individual.

Recognition may include, but is not limited to:

1. **Plaques or awards** to be presented at a Board meeting, for providing the district or community with special, unusual or long-term assistance.
2. **Board Resolution** to be read at a Board meeting, for distinguished service to children and youth.
3. **Letter of Recognition** to be prepared by the Superintendent or designee on behalf of the Board, for significant achievement and/or service by groups such as the basketball team, choir, band, and parent/guardian/community organizations.
4. **Receptions and other informal recognition activities.**

POLITICAL PROCESSES

The Board of Trustees has a responsibility to actively advocate fiscal and public policy that supports the district's schools and the children in the community. To the extent possible, the Board shall be proactive in defining the district's advocacy agenda based on the needs of the district and the direction set forth in the district's vision and goals.

(cf. 0000 - Vision)

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

(cf. 9010 - Public Statements)

The Board may establish reasonable regulations related to Board members and employees engaging in political activity during working hours and on district premises. (Education Code 7055)

(cf. 4119.25/4219.25/4319.25 - Political Activities of Employees)

Legislation

The Board's responsibility as an advocate for the district may include lobbying at the state and national levels.

Because local governments also make decisions which impact the district's schools, the Board and the Superintendent or designee shall work to establish ongoing relationships with city and county officials and agencies, and shall inform them of the potential effect of local issues on the schools.

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)

(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)

(cf. 7131 - Relations with Local Agencies)

The Board shall identify issues that will affect its schools and the children in its community, establish goals and priorities for legislative advocacy, solicit community input and adopt legislative positions. The Superintendent or designee shall establish a coordinated plan for carrying out the advocacy agenda, including specific activities, target groups or individuals, staff responsibilities and timelines.

In order to strengthen legislative advocacy efforts, the district may work with organizations and coalitions and may join associations whose representatives lobby on behalf of their members.

As necessary, the Superintendent or designee may draft legislative proposals which serve the district's interests.

POLITICAL PROCESSES (continued)

The Board may provide fair and impartial information about legislative issues affecting schools and children and shall inform the community about its legislative advocacy activities. However, the Board shall not urge the public to lobby the legislature on behalf of the district.

(cf. 1100 - Communication with the Public)

(cf. 1112 - Media Relations)

Ballot Measures/Candidates

The Board may study the potential effect of ballot measures on the district's schools. Any Board discussion of the effect of such measures shall include an opportunity for Board members, staff and members of the public to speak on all sides of the issue. Following such study, the Board may adopt positions in support of or in opposition to ballot measures of importance to education.

The Board's positions shall be publicized only through normal district procedures for reporting Board actions and in a manner that does not attempt to influence voters.

(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

No district funds, services, supplies or equipment shall be used to urge the support or defeat of any ballot measure or candidate, including any candidate for election to the Board. (Education Code 7054)

District resources shall not be used to disseminate campaign literature or to purchase advertisements, bumper stickers, posters or similar promotional items that advocate an election result.

(cf. 1325 - Advertising and Promotion)

The Superintendent or designee may use district resources to provide students, parents/guardians and community members with fair and impartial information related to ballot measures, including information about the impact of ballot measures on the district. (Education Code 7054)

In preparing or distributing such information, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the totality of the circumstances, including language, style, tenor and timing, does not expressly advocate passage or defeat of a measure or candidate.

The Superintendent or designee may research, draft and prepare a bond measure or other initiative for the ballot, but shall not use district resources to secure signatures in order to qualify the measure for the ballot.

POLITICAL PROCESSES (continued)

Upon request, Board members and district administrators may appear at any time before a citizens' group to explain why the Board called for an election on a bond measure and to answer questions. (Education Code 7054.1)

If the presentation occurs during working hours, the district representative shall not urge a citizens' group to vote for or against the bond measure.

For informational purposes, the Superintendent or designee may conduct a poll related to a ballot issue. Such a poll shall not advocate a particular position on the issue.

Legal Advocacy

The Board recognizes that some issues are more appropriately addressed judicially rather than legislatively. When a legal issue is likely to set a state or national precedent, the district may join with other districts or parties in order to challenge the issue through litigation or other appropriate means.

(cf. 9124 - Attorney)

Political Forums

Forums on political issues may be held in district facilities as long as the forum is made available to all sides of the issue on an equitable basis. (Education Code 7058)

(cf. 1330 - Use of School Facilities)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

POLITICAL PROCESSES (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

7054 *Use of district property*

7054.1 *Requested appearance*

7055 *Local rules*

7056 *Soliciting or receiving political funds*

7058 *Use of forum*

35160 *Authority of governing boards*

35172 *Promotional activities*

GOVERNMENT CODE

50023 *Attending legislature to support or oppose legislation*

53060.5 *Attendance at legislative body; expenses*

54953.5 *Right to record proceedings*

54953.6 *Broadcasts of proceedings*

81000-91015 *Political Reform Act*

COURT DECISIONS

Stanson v. Mott, (1976) 17 Cal. 3d 206

Miller v. Miller, (1978) 87 Cal.App.3d 762

League of Women Voters v. Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee, (1988) 203 Cal.App.3d 529, 250 Cal. Rptr. 161, rev.den.

Choice-in-Education League et al v. Los Angeles Unified School District, (1993) 17 Cal.App.4th 415

Yes on Measure A v. City of Lake Forest, (1997) 60 Cal.App.4th 620

Scherer v. Buchanan, First Appellate District, Civil No. A076648

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

73 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen.* 255 (1990)

Management Resources:

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Advice letter #7837, March 18, 1996 (use of public funds to publicize board positions)

FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

FPPC No. 93/345 (1996)

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Political Activities of School Districts: Legal Issues, 1998

Maximizing School Board Leadership: Community Leadership, 1996

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEES

The Board of Trustees recognizes that citizen advisory committees enable the Board to better understand the beliefs, attitudes and opinions held by the community.

The Board may establish citizen advisory committees to consider school problems and issues as the need arises or when required by law. Such committees shall serve in a strictly advisory capacity; they may make recommendations regarding Board policy, but their actions shall not be binding on the Board. The Board may dissolve any advisory committees not required by law at any time.

Advisory committees should include representation from all affected parties. With Board approval, the Superintendent or designee may appoint committee members.

Within budget allocations, the Superintendent or designee may approve requests for committee travel and may reimburse committee members for expenses at the same rates and under the same conditions as those provided for district employees.

(cf. 3350 - Travel Expenses)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

8070 Vocational education advisory committee

11503 Parent involvement program

35147 School site councils and advisory committees

35172 Promotional activities

44032 Travel expense payment

44033 Automobile allowances

52012 School site council

52065 American Indian advisory committee

52176 Advisory committees (LEP program)

52852 Site council, school-based program coordination

54425 Advisory committees; compensatory education

54444.1-54444.2 Services to migrant children; parent advisory councils

54724 Site council, motivation and maintenance program

56190-56194 Community advisory committee, special education

62002.5 Continuing parent advisory committees; schools receiving funds from economic impact aid or bilingual education act

GOVERNMENT CODE

820.9 Members of local public boards not vicariously liable

54950-54963 The Ralph M. Brown Act

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Committee Charge

When committees are appointed, committee members shall receive a written statement including, but not limited to:

1. The committee members' names and the procedure to be used in the selection of the committee chairperson and other committee officers
2. The specific charges of the committee, including its topic(s) for study or well-defined area(s) of activity
3. The specific period of time that the committee is expected to serve
4. Legal requirements regarding meeting conduct and public notifications
5. Resources available to help the committee complete its tasks
6. Timelines for progress reports and/or final report
7. Relevant Board of Trustees policies and administrative regulations

Advisory committee members are not vicariously liable for injuries caused by the act or omission of the district. (Government Code 820.9)

Committees Subject to Brown Act Requirements

The following citizen advisory committees shall comply with open meeting, notice and public participation requirements of law (the Brown Act):

- (cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)*
- (cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)*
- (cf. 9321.1 - Closed Session Actions and Reports)*
- (cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)*

1. Advisory committees established pursuant to Education Code 56190-56194 related to special education

(cf. 0430 - Comprehensive Local Plan for Special Education)

2. Advisory committees established pursuant to Education Code 8070 related to career technical education

(cf. 6178 - Vocational Education)

3. Other committees created by formal Board action

(cf. 9130 - Board Committees)

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEES (continued)

Committees Not Subject to Brown Act Requirements

The following councils and advisory committees are exempted from the Brown Act and must conform with procedural meeting requirements established in Education Code 35147:

1. School site councils established pursuant to Education Code 52012, 52852 or 54724 related to school improvement, school-based program coordination or school-based student motivation and maintenance programs

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

(cf. 0420.1 - School-Based Program Coordination)

(cf. 0420.3 - School-Based Student Motivation and Maintenance Program)

2. Any advisory committee established pursuant to Education Code 52065 related to American Indian early childhood education

3. Any advisory committee established pursuant to Education Code 52176 related to programs for students of limited English proficiency

(cf. 6174 - Education for English Language Learners)

4. Any advisory committee established pursuant to Education Code 54425 related to compensatory education

(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)

5. Any advisory committee established pursuant to Education Code 54444.2 related to migrant education programs

(cf. 6175 - Migrant Education Program)

6. Parent advisory committees established pursuant to Education Code 62002.5 related to economic impact aid and bilingual education

7. Committees established pursuant to Education Code 11503 related to parent involvement

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

Meetings of the above councils or committees shall be open to the public, and any member of the public shall have the opportunity to address the council or committee during the meeting on any item within its jurisdiction. Notice of the meeting shall be posted at the school site or other appropriate accessible location at least 72 hours before the meeting, specifying the date, time and location of the meeting and containing an agenda that describes each item of business to be discussed or acted upon. (Education Code 35147)

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEES (continued)

The above councils or committees shall not take action on any item not listed on the agenda unless all members present unanimously find that there is a need to take immediate action and that this need came to the group's attention after the agenda was posted. In addition to addressing items on the agenda, members of the council, committee or public may ask questions or make brief statements that do not have a significant effect on district students or employees or that can be resolved solely by providing information. (Education Code 35147)

Councils or committees violating the above procedural requirements must, at the demand of any person, reconsider the item at the next meeting, first allowing for public input on the item. (Education Code 35147)

Any materials provided to a school site council shall be made available to any member of the public upon request. (Education Code 35147)

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

The Superintendent or designee may create citizen advisory committees to advise the administration; such committees do not report to the Board and are not subject to open meeting laws.

(cf. 2230 - Representative and Deliberative Groups)

SCHOOL-CONNECTED ORGANIZATIONS

The Board of Trustees recognizes that parents/guardians may wish to organize clubs for the purpose of supporting the educational program and/or extracurricular programs such as athletic teams, debate teams, and musical groups. The Board supports such activities and welcomes parental interest and participation. Parent/guardian clubs shall be especially careful not to seek advantages for the activities they support if those advantages might be detrimental to the entire school program.

The Board requires parent/guardian clubs to have a written statement of purpose and bylaws. The Board recognizes that these organizations are independent of the school or district. In order to protect the district and students, the Superintendent or designee shall establish appropriate controls for the relationship between such organizations and the district.

(cf. 1321 - Solicitation of Funds from and by Students)
(cf. 3290 - Gifts, Grants and Bequests)

Groups desiring to be recognized as school-connected organizations shall request authorization from the Board in accordance with conditions established in administrative regulations.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35160 Authority of governing boards

38131 Use of civic center by public

38134 Groups which may use school facilities without charge

Management Resources:

CDE LEGAL ADVISORIES

1101.89 School District Liability and "Hold Harmless" Agreements, LO: 4-89

SCHOOL-CONNECTED ORGANIZATIONS

Requests for authorization as a school-connected organization shall contain:

1. The name of the organization
2. The date of application
3. Membership quotas or qualifications
4. The names, addresses and phone numbers of all officers
5. A brief description of the organization's purpose
6. A list of specific annual objectives
7. The name of the bank where the group's account will be located and the names of those authorized to withdraw funds
8. The signature of a site administrator who supports the request for authorization
9. Desired use for any money remaining at the end of the year if the organization is not continued or authorized to continue in the future
10. Evidence of liability insurance as required by law

(cf. 1330 - Use of School Facilities)

Authorizations shall be automatically renewed each year. The Superintendent may recommend that authorizations be revoked by the Board if considered necessary.

Any program, fund-raiser or other activity sponsored by parent/guardian clubs shall be authorized and conducted according to Board policy, administrative regulations and school rules. Announcements of events and related parent/guardian permission slips shall clearly indicate that the activity or event is sponsored by the parent/guardian organization, not by the school or district.

(cf. 3541.1 - Transportation for School-Related Trips)

Parent/guardian clubs shall not hire district employees without prior approval from the Superintendent or designee.

SCHOOL-CONNECTED ORGANIZATIONS (continued)

School-connected organizations shall present the Superintendent or designee an annual financial statement showing all expenditures and all income from fund-raisers. School-connected organizations automatically grant the district the right to audit their financial records at any time, either by district personnel or by a CPA.

VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE

The Board of Trustees encourages parents/guardians and other members of the community to share their time, knowledge and abilities with students. Volunteer assistance in schools enriches the educational program, enhances supervision of students and contributes to school safety while strengthening the schools' relationships with the community. The Board also encourages community members to serve as mentors providing support and motivation to students.

(cf. 1000 - Concepts and Roles)
(cf. 1700 - Relations Between Private Industry and the Schools)
(cf. 4127/4227/4327 - Temporary Athletic Team Coaches)
(cf. 4222 - Teacher Aides/Paraprofessionals)
(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)
(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)
(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)

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.

(cf. 0420.3 - School-Based Student Motivation and Maintenance Program)
(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)
(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures to protect the safety of students and adults. These procedures shall include laws related to tuberculosis testing and may also include laws related to criminal record checks.

Volunteers shall be provided with information about school goals, programs and practices and shall receive an orientation and other training related to their specific responsibilities as appropriate. Employees who supervise volunteers shall ensure that volunteers are assigned meaningful responsibilities that capitalize on their skills and expertise and maximize their contribution to the educational program.

Volunteers shall act in accordance with district policies, regulations and school rules. At their discretion, employees who supervise volunteers may ask any volunteer who violates school rules to leave the campus. Employees also may confer with the principal or designee regarding any such volunteers. The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for investigating and resolving complaints regarding volunteers.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 3515.2 - Disruptions)

VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE (continued)

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 short-term projects to the extent that they enhance the classroom or school, do not significantly increase maintenance workloads and comply with employee commitments and contracts.

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)

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.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35021 Volunteer aides

35021.1 Automated records check

44010 Sex offense; definition

44227.5 Classroom participation by college methodology faculty

44814-44815 Supervision of students during lunch and other nutrition periods

45125 Fingerprinting requirements

45340-45349 Instructional aides

45360-45367 Teacher aides

49406 Examination for tuberculosis

GOVERNMENT CODE

3100-3109 Oath or affirmation of allegiance

3543.5 Prohibited interference with employees' rights

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

1596.871 Fingerprints of individuals in contact with child day care facility clients

LABOR CODE

3364.5 Persons performing voluntary services for school districts

PENAL CODE

290 Registration of sex offenders

290.4 Information re sex offenders

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 22

101170 Criminal record clearance

101216 Health screening, volunteers in child care centers

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6319 Qualifications and duties of paraprofessionals, Title I programs

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

62 *Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen.* 325 (1979)

COURT DECISIONS

Whisman Elementary School District, 15 Public Employee Reporter for California, 22043

Management Resources:

NATIONAL PTA PUBLICATIONS

National Standards for Parent/Family Involvement Programs, 1997

Building Successful Partnerships: A Guide for Developing Parent and Family Involvement Programs, 2000

WEB SITES

California PTA: <http://www.capta.org>

National PTA: <http://www.pta.org>

California Partners in Education: <http://www.capie.org>

National Coalition for Parent Involvement in Education: <http://www.ncpie.org>

U.S. Department of Education, Partnership for Family Involvement in Education: <http://pfie.ed.gov>

CDE: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

California Department of Justice, Megan's Law mapping: <http://www.meganslaw.ca.gov>

VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE

Duties of Volunteers

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

(cf. 4222 - Teacher Aides/Paraprofessionals)

Volunteers may supervise students during lunch and/or breakfast periods or may serve as nonteaching aides under the immediate supervision and direction of certificated personnel to perform noninstructional 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 of Trustees policy and administrative regulation.

Qualifications of Volunteers

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

(cf. 4212 - Appointment and Conditions of Employment)

A person who is required to register as a sex offender pursuant to Penal Code 290 shall not serve as a volunteer instructional aide or as a volunteer nonteaching aide under the direct supervision of a certificated employee. (Education Code 35021)

The Superintendent or designee shall verify by reasonable means that persons serving as volunteer instructional aides and nonteaching volunteer aides are not required to register as a sex offender pursuant to Penal Code 290.

(cf. 3515.5 - Sex Offender Notification)

No volunteer shall be assigned to provide supervision or instruction of students unless he/she has submitted evidence of an examination within the past 60 days to determine that he/she is free of active tuberculosis. Volunteers who skin test negative shall thereafter be required to take a tuberculosis test every four years in accordance with Education Code 49406. (Education Code 45106, 45347, 45349, 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 ASSISTANCE (continued)

Volunteer Facilities Projects

All volunteer facilities projects shall have approximate start and completion dates and must be approved by the Superintendent in advance.

Projects approved by the Superintendent shall also be approved in advance by the Board of Trustees 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. Installation of playground equipment and benches
6. Installation of sprinkler systems
7. Paving
8. Installation of marquees and signs

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.

(cf. 3514 - Environmental Safety)
(cf. 3514.1 - Hazardous Substances)
(cf. 7111 - Evaluating Existing Buildings)
(cf. 7140 - Architectural and Engineering Services)

VISITORS/OUTSIDERS

The Board of Trustees encourages parents/guardians and interested members of the community to visit the schools and view the educational program.

To ensure minimum 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 first arranged with the teacher and principal or designee. If a conference is desired, an appointment should be set with the teacher during noninstructional time.

To ensure the safety of students and staff and avoid potential disruptions, all visitors shall register immediately upon entering any school building or grounds when school is in session.

For purposes of school safety and security, the principal or designee may design a visible means of identification for visitors while on school premises.

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

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

32210 *Willful disturbance of public school or meeting*

32211 *Threatened disruption or interference with classes; misdemeanor*

32212 *Classroom interruptions*

35160 *Authority of governing boards*

35292 *Visits to schools (board members)*

51512 *Prohibited use of electronic listening or recording device*

EVIDENCE CODE

1070 *Refusal to disclose news source*

LABOR CODE

230.8 *Discharge or discrimination for taking time off*

PENAL CODE

626-626.10 *Schools*

627-627.10 *Access to school premises, especially:*

627.1 *Definitions*

627.2 *Necessity of registration by outsider*

627.7 *Misdemeanors; punishment*

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

95 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 509 (1996)*

VISITORS/OUTSIDERS

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

Unless otherwise directed by the principal or designee, a staff member shall accompany visitors while they are on school grounds.

Registration Procedure

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

1. His/her name and address
2. His/her purpose for entering school grounds
3. Proof of identity
4. Other information consistent with the provisions of law

Denial of Registration

The following provisions of law shall apply to outsiders. Outsiders do not include students, parents/guardians, district employees, elected public officials, or other persons listed in Penal Code 627.1.

1. The principal or designee may refuse to register any visitor if he/she reasonably concludes that the outsider'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 an outsider's registration if he/she has a reasonable basis for concluding that the outsider'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)

(cf. 3515.2 - Disruptions)

2. The principal or designee may request that a visitor who has failed to register, or whose registration privileges have been denied or revoked, promptly leave school grounds. When an outsider is directed to leave, the principal or designee shall inform the outsider that if he/she reenters the school within seven days he/she will be guilty of a misdemeanor subject to a fine and/or imprisonment. (Penal Code 627.7)

VISITORS/OUTSIDERS (continued)

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)

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Because demands on the educational system exceed available public funding, the Board of Trustees recognizes that members of the community are often willing to make voluntary contributions that will provide needed additional funds for the school district. The Board therefore approves and encourages the creation of an independent educational foundation to actively raise funds that will enhance educational opportunities for our students.

The Board desires to work cooperatively with the foundation in determining the purposes for which funds may be used to meet the changing needs of the district and its students.

(cf. 3290 - Gifts, Grants and Bequests)
(cf. 9140 - Board Representatives)

The Board supports foundation allocations that serve all district schools equitably.

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

Legal Reference:

COURT DECISIONS
Serrano v. Priest (1976) 18 Cal. 3d 728

Management Resources:

California Consortium of Education Foundations, @cceflink.org

COMPLAINTS CONCERNING THE SCHOOLS

The Board of Trustees believes that the quality of the educational program can improve when the district listens to complaints, considers differences of opinion, and resolves disagreements through an established, objective process.

The Board encourages complainants to resolve problems early and informally whenever possible. If a problem remains unresolved, the individual should submit a formal complaint as early as possible in accordance with appropriate district procedures. District procedures shall be readily accessible to the public.

Individual Board members do not have authority to resolve complaints. If approached directly with a complaint, however, Board members should listen to the complaint and show their concern by referring the complainant to the Superintendent or designee so that the problem may receive proper consideration.

- (cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)*
- (cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)*
- (cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)*
- (cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)*

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35146 *Closed sessions*

GOVERNMENT CODE

950-950.8 *Actions against public employees*

54957-54957.8 *Closed sessions*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

3080 *Application of section 4600-4671*

4600-4671 *Uniform complaint procedures*

COMPLAINTS CONCERNING DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

The Board of Trustees accepts responsibility for providing a means by which the public can hold employees accountable for their actions. The Board desires that complaints be resolved expeditiously without disrupting the educational process.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop regulations which permit the public to submit complaints against district employees in an appropriate way. These regulations shall protect the rights of involved parties. The Board may serve as an appeals body if the complaint is not resolved.

(cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)
(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)
(cf. 3515.2 - Disruptions)

The Board prohibits retaliation against complainants. The Superintendent or designee at his/her discretion may keep a complainant's identity confidential, except to the extent necessary to investigate the complaint. The district will not investigate anonymous complaints unless it so desires.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

33308.1 Guidelines on procedure for filing child abuse complaints

35146 Closed sessions

44031 Personnel file contents and inspection

44811 Disruption of public school activities

44932-44949 Resignation, dismissal and leaves of absence (rights of employee; procedures to follow)

48987 Child abuse guidelines

GOVERNMENT CODE

54957 Closed session; complaints re employees

54957.6 Closed session; salaries or fringe benefits

PENAL CODE

273 Cruelty or unjustifiable punishment of child

11164-11174.3 Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act

WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

300 Minors subject to jurisdiction of juvenile court

Management Resources:

CDE LEGAL ADVISORIES

0910.93 Guidelines for parents to report suspected child abuse by school district employees or other persons against a pupil at school site (LO:4-93)

COMPLAINTS CONCERNING DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

The Superintendent or designee shall determine whether a complaint should be considered a complaint against the district and/or an individual employee, and whether it should be resolved by the district's process for complaints concerning personnel and/or other district procedures.

(cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

(cf. 4144/4244/4344 - Complaints)

To promote prompt and fair resolution of the complaint, the following procedures shall govern the resolution of complaints against district employees:

1. Every effort should be made to resolve a complaint at the earliest possible stage. Whenever possible, the complainant should communicate directly to the employee in order to resolve concerns.
2. If a complainant is unable or unwilling to resolve the complaint directly with the employee, he/she may submit an oral or written complaint to the employee's immediate supervisor or the principal.
3. All complaints related to district personnel other than administrators shall be submitted in writing to the principal or immediate supervisor. If the complainant is unable to prepare the complaint in writing, administrative staff shall help him/her to do so. Complaints related to a principal or central office administrator shall be initially filed in writing with the Superintendent or designee. Complaints related to the Superintendent shall be initially filed in writing with the Board.
4. When a written complaint is received, the employee shall be notified within five days or in accordance with collective bargaining agreements.
5. A written complaint shall include:
 - a. The full name of each employee involved
 - b. A brief but specific summary of the complaint and the facts surrounding it
 - c. A specific description of any prior attempt to discuss the complaint with the employee and the failure to resolve the matter
6. Staff responsible for investigating complaints shall attempt to resolve the complaint to the satisfaction of the parties involved within 30 days.

COMPLAINTS CONCERNING DISTRICT EMPLOYEES (continued)

7. Both the complainant and the employee against whom the complaint was made may appeal a decision by the principal or immediate supervisor to the Superintendent or designee, who shall attempt to resolve the complaint to the satisfaction of the person involved within 30 days. Parties should consider and accept the Superintendent or designee's decision as final. However, the complainant, the employee, or the Superintendent or designee may ask to address the Board regarding the complaint.
8. Before any Board consideration of a complaint, the Superintendent or designee shall submit to the Board a written report concerning the complaint, including but not limited to:
 - a. The full name of each employee involved
 - b. A brief but specific summary of the complaint and the facts surrounding it, sufficient to inform the Board and the parties as to the precise nature of the complaint and to allow the parties to prepare a response
 - c. A copy of the signed original complaint
 - d. A summary of the action taken by the Superintendent or designee, together with his/her specific finding that the problem has not been resolved and the reasons
9. The Board may uphold the Superintendent's decision without hearing the complaint.
10. All parties to a complaint may be asked to attend a Board meeting in order to clarify the issue and present all available evidence.
11. A closed session may be held to hear the complaint in accordance with law.

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)
(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

12. The decision of the Board shall be final.

Any complaint of child abuse or neglect alleged against a district employee shall be reported to the appropriate local agencies in accordance with law, Board policy and administrative regulation.

(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting)

COMPLAINTS CONCERNING INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

The Board of Trustees takes great care in the adoption of instructional materials and is aware that all adopted materials may not be acceptable to all students, their parents/guardians or other district residents.

(cf. 6161.1 - Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials)

(cf. 6161.11 - Supplementary Instructional Materials)

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures which will permit proper consideration of any complaints against the use of any instructional materials, including textbooks, supplementary textbooks, library books, and other instructional materials and equipment.

The Board believes the Superintendent and staff are well qualified to consider complaints concerning instructional materials. Complainants are advised to consider and accept the Superintendent or designee's decision as final. However, if the complainant finds the decision of the Superintendent or designee unsatisfactory, he/she may request that the matter be placed on the agenda of a regular Board meeting.

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

The Board's decision in any such case will be based on educational suitability and will not be influenced by a desire to suppress information or deny students access to ideas with which the Board disagrees.

(cf. 6144 - Controversial Issues)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

18111 Exclusion of books by governing board

35010 Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules

60000 Power of governing board to select instructional materials

60040-60047 Content requirements for instructional materials

60200-60206 Elementary school material - selection and adoption

60400 Secondary school textbooks - selection and adoption

Management Resources:

CDE PROGRAM ADVISORIES

1002.90 Selection of instructional materials, CIL: 90/91-02

COMPLAINTS CONCERNING INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Complaints concerning instructional materials will be accepted only from staff, district residents, or the parents/guardians of children enrolled in a district school.

Complaints must be presented in writing to the principal. Complaints regarding printed material must name the author, title and publisher, and identify the objection by page and item numbers. In the case of nonprinted material, written information specifying the precise nature of the objection shall be given. The statement must be signed and identified in such a way that a proper reply will be possible.

Individual students may be excused from using challenged materials after the parent/guardian has presented a written complaint. The teacher will then assign the student alternate materials of equal merit. Use of the materials by a class, school or the district, however, shall not be restricted until so directed by the Superintendent or designee.

Upon receiving a complaint, the principal will acknowledge its receipt and answer any questions regarding procedure. The principal will then notify the Superintendent or designee and the teacher(s) involved of the complaint. The Superintendent or designee will determine whether the complaint should be considered on an individual basis or whether a review committee should be convened.

The use of challenged materials by class, school or district shall not be restricted until final disposition has been made by the appropriate review committee.

A review committee may be formed under the direction of the Superintendent or designee. It shall be composed of the principal and five or more staff members selected by the Superintendent or designee from relevant administrative and instructional areas.

In deliberating challenged materials, the review committee shall consider the educational philosophy of the district; the professional opinions of other teachers of the subject and of other competent authorities; reviews of the materials by reputable bodies; the teacher's stated objectives in using the materials; and the objections of the complainant.

The review committee shall determine the extent to which the challenged material supports the curriculum, the educational appropriateness of the material, and its suitability for the age level of the student.

Within 30 days of being convened, the review committee shall summarize its findings in a written report and submit it to the Superintendent or designee for final action. The Superintendent or designee shall notify the complainant of his/her decision no later than 60 days after the complaint was filed.

The report of the review committee together with the Superintendent or designee's recommendation may be brought to the Board of Trustees for consideration and final decision.

COMPLAINTS CONCERNING INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS (continued)

When any challenged instructional material is reviewed by the district, it shall not be subject to any additional reconsideration for 12 months.

County or State-Adopted Material

If the challenged material has been adopted by the County Board of Education, the Superintendent or designee may forward the complaint, without action, to the office of the County Superintendent of Schools for reevaluation and decision.

If the questioned material has been adopted by the State of California, the Superintendent or designee may forward the complaint, without action, to the California Department of Education for reevaluation and decision.

**CITIZEN'S REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION
OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS**

Date: _____

TITLE: _____

AUTHOR: _____

PUBLISHER: _____ DATE OF EDITION: _____

Request received by: _____ Title: _____

Citizen's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Citizen Represents: Himself/Herself: _____ Organization or Group: _____

1. To what do you object? (Please be specific: cite pages, tape sequence, video frame, and words)
2. What do you feel would be the result of reading/viewing this material?
3. For what age group would you recommend this material?
4. Did you read/view the entire selection?
5. If not, what percentage did you read/view, or what parts?
6. Is there anything good about this material?
7. What would you like the school to do about this material?
 - Do not assign it to my child.
 - Withdraw it from all students.
 - Re-evaluate it.
8. Are you aware of how this work has been assessed by literary critics?
9. What do you believe is the thesis of this work?
10. In its place, what work would you recommend?

Signature of citizen

Action taken: _____ Date: _____

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

The Board of Trustees recognizes that the district is responsible for complying with applicable state and federal laws and regulations governing educational programs.

The district shall follow uniform complaint procedures when addressing complaints alleging unlawful discrimination based on age, sex, sexual orientation, gender, ethnic group identification, race, ancestry, national origin, religion, color, or mental or physical disability in any program or activity that receives or benefits from state financial assistance. Uniform complaint procedures shall also be used when addressing complaints alleging failure to comply with state and/or federal laws in adult education, consolidated categorical aid programs, migrant education, vocational education, child care and development programs, child nutrition programs, special education programs, and federal school safety planning requirements.

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

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)

(cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)

(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)

(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting)

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)

(cf. 6174 - Education for English Language Learners)

(cf. 6175 - Migrant Education Program)

(cf. 6178 - Vocational Education)

(cf. 6200 - Adult Education)

The Board encourages the early, informal resolution of complaints at the site level whenever possible.

The Board acknowledges and respects every individual's right to privacy. Discrimination complaints shall be investigated in a manner that protects the confidentiality of the parties and the facts. This includes keeping the identity of the complainant confidential except to the extent necessary to carry out the investigation or proceedings, as determined by the Superintendent or designee on a case-by-case basis.

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)

The Board prohibits retaliation in any form for participating in complaint procedures, including but not limited to the filing of a complaint or the reporting of instances of discrimination. Such participation shall not in any way affect the status, grades or work assignments of the complainant.

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

The Board recognizes that a neutral mediator can often suggest a compromise that is agreeable to all parties in a dispute. In accordance with uniform complaint procedures, whenever all parties to a complaint agree to try resolving their problem through mediation, the Superintendent or designee shall initiate mediation. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that mediation results are consistent with state and federal laws and regulations.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.3 *Prohibition of discrimination*
8200-8498 *Child care and development programs*
8500-8538 *Adult basic education*
18100-18172 *School libraries*
32289 *School safety plan, uniform complaint procedure*
35186 *Alternative uniform complaint procedure*
48985 *Notices in language other than English*
49060-49079 *Student records*
49490-49590 *Child nutrition programs*
52160-52178 *Bilingual education programs*
52300-52499.6 *Vocational education*
52500-52616.24 *Adult schools*
52800-52870 *School-based coordinated programs*
54000-54041 *Economic impact aid programs*
54100-54145 *Miller-Unruh Basic Reading Act*
54400-54425 *Compensatory education programs*
54440-54445 *Migrant education*
54460-54529 *Compensatory education programs*
56000-56885 *Special education programs*
59000-59300 *Special schools and centers*
62000-62005.5 *Evaluation and sunseting of programs*
64000-64001 *Consolidated application process*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

3080 *Application of section*
4600-4671 *Uniform complaint procedures*
4900-4965 *Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs*

PENAL CODE

422.6 *Interference with constitutional right or privilege*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6301-6577 *Title I Basic Programs*
6601-6777 *Title II Preparing and Recruiting High Quality Teachers and Principals*
6801-6871 *Title III, Language instruction for limited English proficient and immigrant students*
7101-7184 *Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, including*
7114 *Local educational program, safety plans*
7201-7283g *Title V Promoting Informed Parental Choice and Innovative Programs*
7301- 7372 *Title VI Rural and Low-Income School Programs*

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>
U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OCR>

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Compliance Officers

The Board of Trustees designates the following compliance officer(s) to receive and investigate complaints and to ensure district compliance with law:

Superintendent
32248 Crown Valley Road
Acton, CA 93510
(661) 273-4657

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that employees designated to investigate complaints are knowledgeable about the laws and programs for which they are responsible. Such employees may have access to legal counsel as determined by the Superintendent or designee.

(cf. 9124 - Attorney)

Notifications

The Superintendent or designee shall meet the notification requirements of 5 CCR 4622, including the annual dissemination of district complaint procedures and information about available appeals, civil law remedies and conditions under which a complaint may be taken directly to the California Department of Education. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that complainants understand that they may pursue other remedies, including actions before civil courts or other public agencies.

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

Procedures

The following procedures shall be used to address all complaints which allege that the district has violated federal or state laws or regulations governing educational programs. Compliance officers shall maintain a record of each complaint and subsequent related actions, including all information required for compliance with 5 CCR 4632.

All parties involved in allegations shall be notified when a complaint is filed, when a complaint meeting or hearing is scheduled and when a decision or ruling is made.

Step 1: Filing of Complaint

Any individual, public agency or organization may file a written complaint of alleged noncompliance by the district.

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

Complaints alleging unlawful discrimination may be filed by a person who alleges that he/she personally suffered unlawful discrimination or by a person who believes that an individual or any specific class of individuals has been subjected to unlawful discrimination. The complaint must be initiated no later than six months from the date when the alleged discrimination occurred or when the complainant first obtained knowledge of the facts of the alleged discrimination. (5 CCR 4630)

The complaint shall be presented to the compliance officer who shall maintain a log of complaints received, providing each with a code number and a date stamp.

If a complainant is unable to put a complaint in writing due to conditions such as illiteracy or other disabilities, district staff shall help him/her to file the complaint. (5 CCR 4600)

Step 2: Mediation

Within three days of receiving the complaint, the compliance officer may informally discuss with the complainant the possibility of using mediation. If the complainant agrees to mediation, the compliance officer shall make all arrangements for this process.

Before initiating the mediation of a discrimination complaint, the compliance officer shall ensure that all parties agree to make the mediator a party to related confidential information.

If the mediation process does not resolve the problem within the parameters of law, the compliance officer shall proceed with his/her investigation of the complaint.

The use of mediation shall not extend the district's timelines for investigating and resolving the complaint unless the complainant agrees in writing to such an extension of time. (5 CCR 4631)

Step 3: Investigation of Complaint

The compliance officer is encouraged to hold an investigative meeting within five days of receiving the complaint or an unsuccessful attempt to mediate the complaint. This meeting shall provide an opportunity for the complainant and/or his/her representative to repeat the complaint orally.

The complainant and/or his/her representative and the district's representatives shall also have an opportunity to present information relevant to the complaint. Parties to the dispute may discuss the complaint and question each other or each other's witnesses. (5 CCR 4631)

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

Step 4: Response

Within 30 days of receiving the complaint, the compliance officer shall prepare and send to the complainant a written report of the district's investigation and decision, as described in Step #5 below. If the complainant is dissatisfied with the compliance officer's decision, he/she may, within five days, file his/her complaint in writing with the Board.

The Board may consider the matter at its next regular Board meeting or at a special Board meeting convened in order to meet the 60-day time limit within which the complaint must be answered. The Board may decide not to hear the complaint, in which case the compliance officer's decision shall be final.

If the Board hears the complaint, the compliance officer shall send the Board's decision to the complainant within 60 days of the district's initially receiving the complaint or within the time period that has been specified in a written agreement with the complainant. (5 CCR 4631)

Step 5: Final Written Decision

The report of the district's decision shall be in writing and sent to the complainant. (5 CCR 4631)

The report of the district's decision shall be written in English and in the language of the complainant whenever feasible or required by law. If it is not feasible to write this report in the complainant's primary language, the district shall arrange a meeting at which a community member will interpret it for the complainant.

This report shall include:

1. The findings and disposition of the complaint, including corrective actions, if any (5 CCR 4631)
2. The rationale for the above disposition (5 CCR 4631)
3. Notice of the complainant's right to appeal the decision within 15 days to the California Department of Education, and procedures to be followed for initiating such an appeal (5 CCR 4631, 4652)
4. For discrimination complaints, notice that the complainant must wait until 60 days have elapsed from the filing of an appeal with the California Department of Education before pursuing civil law remedies (5 CCR 4631; Education Code 262.3)

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

5. A detailed statement of all specific issues that were brought up during the investigation and the extent to which these issues were resolved

If an employee is disciplined as a result of the complaint, this report shall simply state that effective action was taken and that the employee was informed of district expectations. The report shall not give any further information as to the nature of the disciplinary action.

Appeals to the California Department of Education

If dissatisfied with the district's decision, the complainant may appeal in writing to the California Department of Education within 15 days of receiving the district's decision. For good cause, the Superintendent of Public Instruction may grant an extension for filing appeals. (5 CCR 4652)

When appealing to the California Department of Education, the complainant must specify the reason(s) for appealing the district's decision and must include a copy of the locally filed complaint and the district's decision. (5 CCR 4652)

The California Department of Education may directly intervene in the complaint without waiting for action by the district when one of the conditions listed in 5 CCR 4650 exists. In addition, the California Department of Education may also intervene in those cases where the district has not taken action within 60 calendar days of the date the complaint was filed with the district.

Civil Law Remedies

A complainant may pursue available civil law remedies outside of the district's complaint procedures. Complainants may seek assistance from mediation centers or public/private interest attorneys. Civil law remedies that may be imposed by a court include, but are not limited to, injunctions and restraining orders. For discrimination complaints, however, a complainant must wait until 60 days have elapsed from the filing of an appeal with the California Department of Education before pursuing civil law remedies. The moratorium does not apply to injunctive relief and is applicable only if the district has appropriately, and in a timely manner, apprised the complainant of his/her right to file a complaint in accordance with 5 CCR 4622.

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Types of Complaints

The district shall use the following procedures to investigate and resolve complaints when the complainant alleges that any of the following has occurred: (Education Code 35186)

1. Instructional materials
 - a. A student, including an English learner, does not have standards-aligned textbooks or instructional materials or state- or district-adopted textbooks or other required instructional materials to use in class.
 - b. A student does not have access to instructional materials to use at home or after school in order to complete required homework assignments.
 - c. Textbooks or instructional materials are in poor or unusable condition, have missing pages, or are unreadable due to damage.

(cf. 6161.1 - Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials)

2. Teacher vacancy or misassignment
 - a. A semester begins and a certificated teacher is not assigned to teach the class.

Vacancy means a position to which a single designated certificated employee has not been assigned at the beginning of the year for an entire year or, if the position is for a one-semester course, a position to which a single designated certificated employee has not been assigned at the beginning of a semester for an entire semester. (Education Code 33126)
 - b. A teacher who lacks credentials or training to teach English learners is assigned to teach a class with more than 20 percent English learner students in the class.

(cf. 4112.22 - Staff Teaching Students of Limited English Proficiency)

- c. A teacher is assigned to teach a class for which the teacher lacks subject matter competency.

Misassignment means the placement of a certificated employee in a teaching or services position for which the employee does not hold a legally recognized certificate or credential or the placement of a certificated employee in a teaching or services position that the employee is not otherwise authorized by statute to hold. (Education Code 35186)

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

(cf. 4112.2 - Certification)

(cf. 4113 - Assignment)

3. Facilities

A condition poses an emergency or urgent threat to the health or safety of students or staff.

Emergency or urgent threat means structures or systems that are in a condition that poses a threat to the health and safety of students or staff while at school, including but not limited to gas leaks; nonfunctioning heating, ventilation, fire sprinklers, or air-conditioning systems; electrical power failure; major sewer stoppage; major pest or vermin infestation; broken windows or exterior doors or gates that will not lock and that pose a security risk; abatement of hazardous materials previously undiscovered that pose an immediate threat to students or staff; or structural damage creating a hazardous or uninhabitable condition. (Education Code 17592.72)

Filing of Complaint

A complaint alleging any condition(s) specified above shall be filed with the principal or designee. The principal or designee shall forward a complaint about problems beyond his/her authority to the Superintendent or designee within 10 working days. (Education Code 35186)

The principal or designee shall make all reasonable efforts to investigate any problem within his/her authority. He/she shall remedy a valid complaint within a reasonable time period not to exceed 30 working days from the date the complaint was received. (Education Code 35186)

Complaints may be filed anonymously. If the complainant has indicated on the complaint form that he/she would like a response to his/her complaint, the principal or designee shall report the resolution of the complaint to him/her within 45 working days of the initial filing of the complaint. At the same time, the principal or designee shall report the same information to the Superintendent or designee. (Education Code 35186)

If a complainant is not satisfied with the resolution of the complaint, he/she may describe the complaint to the Board of Trustees at a regularly scheduled hearing. (Education Code 36186)

For complaints concerning a facility condition that poses an emergency or urgent threat to the health or safety of students or staff as described in item #3 above, a complainant who is not satisfied with the resolution proffered by the principal or Superintendent or designee may file an appeal to the Superintendent of Public Instruction. (Education Code 35186)

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

Complaints and written responses shall be public records. (Education Code 35186)

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

Reports

The Superintendent or designee shall report summarized data on the nature and resolution of all complaints to the Board and the County Superintendent of Schools on a quarterly basis. The report shall include the number of complaints by general subject area with the number of resolved and unresolved complaints. These summaries shall be publicly reported on a quarterly basis at a regularly scheduled Board meeting. (Education Code 35186)

Forms and Notices

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's complaint form contains a space to indicate whether the complainant desires a response to his/her complaint and specifies the location for filing a complaint. A complainant may add as much text to explain the complaint as he/she wishes. (Education Code 35186)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that a notice is posted in each classroom in each school containing the components specified in Education Code 35186. (Education Code 35186)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

1240 *County superintendent of schools, duties*

17592.72 *Urgent or emergency repairs, School Facility Emergency Repair Account*

33126 *School Accountability Report Card*

35186 *Alternative uniform complaint procedure*

60119 *Hearing on sufficiency of instructional materials*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4600-4671 *Uniform complaint procedures*

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education, Williams case: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/eo/ce/wc/index.asp>

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

**NOTICE TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS:
COMPLAINT RIGHTS**

Parents/Guardians:

Education Code 35186 requires that the following notice be posted in your child's classroom:

1. There should be sufficient textbooks and instructional materials. For there to be sufficient textbooks and instructional materials, each student, including English learners, must have a textbook or instructional material, or both, to use in class and to take home to complete required homework assignments.
2. School facilities must be clean, safe, and maintained in good repair. Good repair means that the facility is maintained in a manner that assures that it is clean, safe and functional as determined by the Office of Public School Construction.
3. To file a complaint regarding the above matters, complaint forms can be obtained at the principal's office, district office, or can be downloaded from the school district's or California Department of Education's website.

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

COMPLAINT FORM: WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

Complaints may be filed anonymously. However, if you wish to receive a response to your complaint, you must provide the contact information below.

Response requested? Yes No

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Day: _____ Evening: _____

Issue(s) of the complaint: Please check all that apply:

1. Textbooks and instructional materials:

- A student lacks textbooks or instructional materials to use in class.
- A student does not have access to instructional materials to use at home or after school to complete homework assignments.
- Textbooks or instructional materials are in poor or unusable condition, have missing pages, or are unreadable due to damage.

2. Teacher vacancy or misassignment:

- A semester begins and a certificated teacher is not assigned to teach the class.
- A teacher lacks credentials or training to teach English learners or is assigned to teach a class with more than 20% English learners in the class.
- A teacher is assigned to teach a class for which the teacher lacks subject matter competency.

3. Facility conditions:

- A condition exists that poses an emergency or urgent threat to the health or safety of students or staff as defined in AR 1312.4.

Please describe the issue of your complaint in detail, including the date of the problem and specific location where the problem occurred (school, room number). You may attach additional pages if necessary to fully describe the situation: _____

WILLIAMS UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

Please file this complaint with the person specified below at the following location:

(principal or title of his/her designee)

(address)

SOLICITATION OF FUNDS FROM AND BY STUDENTS

The Board of Trustees recognizes that student participation in fund-raising activities for the schools and nonprofit, nonpartisan charitable organizations can help develop a sense of social responsibility in students, enhance the relationship between the school and community, and contribute to the improvement of the school program.

(cf. 1325 - Advertising and Promotion)
(cf. 4135/4235/4335 - Soliciting and Selling)
(cf. 5022 - Student and Family Privacy Rights)
(cf. 6142.4 - Learning through Community Service)

Whether solicitations are made on behalf of the school or on behalf of a charitable organization, students shall not be barred from an event or activity because they did not participate in fund-raising. Potential donors, including parents/guardians and members of the community, should not be unduly pressured to contribute to the school system or charitable organizations. Staff is expected to emphasize the fact that donations are always voluntary.

The site principals shall ensure that parents/guardians are informed of the purpose of fund-raisers.

Solicitations on Behalf of the School

With the prior written approval of the Superintendent or designee, official school-related organizations may organize fund-raising events involving students.

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)
(cf. 1230 - School-Connected Organizations)
(cf. 1260 - Educational Foundation)
(cf. 3290 - Gifts, Grants and Bequests)
(cf. 3554 - Other Food Sales)

After the fund-raiser has been held, parents/guardians shall be informed how much money was raised and how it was spent.

Solicitations on Behalf of Charities

When approved in advance by the Superintendent or designee, nonprofit, nonpartisan organizations that are properly chartered or licensed by state or federal law may solicit students on school grounds during school hours and within one hour before school has opened and one hour after school has closed. (Education Code 51520)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

SOLICITATION OF FUNDS FROM AND BY STUDENTS (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

51520 Prohibited solicitations on school premises

51521 Unlawful solicitations of contribution or purchase of personal property for benefit of public school or student body; exception

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE

17510-17510.95 Charitable solicitations

PENAL CODE

319-329 Raffles

REVENUE AND TAX CODE

6361 Sales tax exemption for certain sales

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 8

11706 Dangerous activities and occupations

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Healthy Food Policy Resource Guide, 2003

ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

Guide to Charitable Solicitation, 1999

Attorney General's Guide for Charities, 1988

WEB SITES

Office of the Attorney General: <http://caag.state.ca.us>

SOLICITATION OF FUNDS FROM AND BY STUDENTS

The Superintendent or designee shall approve all fund-raising activities at least 15 days before the activity. If the event involves a contract with a commercial vendor, the Superintendent or designee shall review the contract.

In order to minimize interruptions to the educational program, staff shall limit fund-raising activities to appropriate time periods designated by the principal.

(cf. 6116 - Classroom Interruptions)

No student shall be required to raise a specified amount of money in order to participate in an activity sponsored by a school-related organization.

(cf. 1230 - School-Connected Organizations)

Students engaged in fund-raising activities on behalf of the school or for school-related projects are expected to be courteous and respectful towards all individuals and businesses.

Door-to-Door Sales

Students under 16 years old may engage in door-to-door sales of newspaper or magazine subscriptions, candy, cookies, flowers or other merchandise only under the following conditions:

1. The students shall work in pairs, as a team, on the same or opposite side of the street. (8 CCR 11706)
2. The students shall be supervised by an adult, with one adult for every crew of 10 or fewer students. (8 CCR 11706)
3. The students must be within the sight or sound of their adult supervisor at all times. (8 CCR 11706)
4. The students shall be returned to their respective homes or meeting places after each day's work. (8 CCR 11706)
5. The students shall not engage in door-to-door sales after dark.
6. The students shall not work outside of their immediate neighborhood.

ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION

Limited Open Forum

The Board of Trustees desires to promote positive relationships between schools and the community in order to enhance community support and involvement in district schools. The Superintendent or designee may approve:

1. Distribution of noncommercial materials that publicize services, special events, public meetings or other items of interest to students or parents/guardians

(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)

(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)

(cf. 6145.5 - Student Organizations and Equal Access)

(cf. 6162.8 - Research)

2. Distribution of promotional materials of a commercial nature to students or parents/guardians

(cf. 1700 - Relations Between Private Industry and the Schools)

3. Paid advertisements on school property, including but not limited to billboard advertisements

4. Paid advertisements in school-sponsored publications, yearbooks, announcements and other school communications

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

5. Products and materials donated by commercial enterprises for use in the classroom, as long as they serve an educational purpose and do not unduly promote any commercial activity or products. Such materials may bear the name and/or logo of the donor.

(cf. 3290 - Gifts, Grants and Bequests)

(cf. 6161.11 - Supplementary Instructional Materials)

Prior to distribution or publication, the Superintendent, principal or designee shall review and approve all advertising copy and promotional materials to ensure compliance with Board policy.

The Superintendent, principal or designee may selectively approve or disapprove distribution of materials or publishing of copy based on the criteria listed below, but may not disapprove materials or copy in an arbitrary or capricious manner or in a way that discriminates against a particular viewpoint on a subject that would otherwise be allowed.

All materials to be distributed shall bear the name and contact information of the sponsoring entity.

ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION (continued)

The use of promotional materials or advertisements does not imply district endorsement of any identified products or services. Schools are encouraged to include a disclaimer in school publications and yearbooks stating that the school does not endorse any advertised products or services.

Criteria for Approval

The Superintendent, principal or designee shall not accept for distribution any materials or advertisements that:

1. Are obscene, libelous or slanderous (Education Code 48907)
2. Incite students to commit unlawful acts, violate school rules or disrupt the orderly operation of the schools (Education Code 48907)
3. Promote any particular political interest, candidate, party or ballot measure, unless such materials are being distributed at a forum in which candidates or advocates from all sides are presenting their views to the students during school hours or during events scheduled pursuant to the Civic Center Act

(cf. 1160 - Political Processes)

(cf. 1330 - Use of School Facilities)

(cf. 4119.25/4219.25/4319.25 - Political Activities of Employees)

4. Discriminate against, attack or denigrate any group on account of any unlawful consideration

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

5. Promote the use or sale of materials or services that are illegal or inconsistent with school objectives, including but not limited to materials or advertisements for tobacco, intoxicants, and movies or products unsuitable for children
6. Solicit funds or services for an organization, with the exception of solicitations authorized in Board policy

(cf. 1321 - Solicitation of Funds from and by Students)

7. Distribute unsolicited merchandise for which an ensuing payment is requested

The Superintendent or designee also may consider the educational value of the materials or advertisements, the age or maturity of students in the intended audience, and whether the materials or advertisements support the basic educational mission of the district, directly benefit the students or are of intrinsic value to the students or their parents/guardians.

ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION (continued)

(cf. 0000 - Vision)

Schools may establish additional criteria pertaining to the content of advertisements in school publications and yearbooks. Such criteria may limit advertisements to those that contain congratulatory or commemorative messages, curriculum-related content, advertisements for products or services of interest to students, noncontroversial content, and/or other content deemed appropriate by the school publication staff and adviser in accordance with law and Board policy.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

7050-7058 *Political activities of school officers and employees*

35160 *Authority of governing boards*

35160.1 *Broad authority of school districts*

35172 *Promotional activities*

38130-38138 *Civic Center Act*

48907 *Student exercise of free expression*

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE

25664 *Advertisements encouraging minors to drink*

U.S. CONSTITUTION

Amendment 1, Freedom of speech and expression

COURT CASES

DiLoreto v. Downey Unified School District, (1999) 196 F.3d 958

Yeo v. Town of Lexington, (1997) U.S. First Circuit Court of Appeals, No. 96-1623

Hemry v. School Board of Colorado Springs, (D.Col. 1991) 760 F.Supp. 856

Bright v. Los Angeles Unified School District, (1976) 134 Cal. Rptr. 639, 556 P.2d 1090, 18 Cal. 3d 350

Lehman v. Shaker Heights, (1974) 418 U.S. 298

USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

The Board of Trustees recognizes that district facilities and grounds are a community resource and authorizes their use by community groups for purposes provided for in the Civic Center Act when such use does not interfere with school activities.

(cf. 6145.5 - Student Organizations and Equal Access)

All school-related activities shall be given priority in the use of facilities and grounds under the Civic Center Act. Thereafter, the use shall be on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain procedures and regulations for the use of school facilities and grounds that: (Education Code 38133)

1. Encourage and assist groups desiring to use school facilities for approved activities
2. Preserve order in school buildings and on school grounds and protect school facilities, designating a person to supervise this task, if necessary
3. Ensure that the use of school facilities or grounds is not inconsistent with their use for school purposes and does not interfere with the regular conduct of school work

Fees

The Board shall grant the use of school facilities or grounds without charge to school-related organizations whose activities are directly related to or for the benefit of district schools. Other groups requesting the use of school facilities under the Civic Center Act shall be charged at least direct costs.

Groups shall be charged fair rental value when using school facilities or grounds for entertainment or meetings where admission is charged or contributions solicited and net receipts are not to be expended for charitable purposes or for the welfare of the district's students. (Education Code 38134)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

10900-10914.5 *Community recreation programs*

32282 *School safety plan*

38130-38138 *Civic Center Act: use of school property for public purposes*

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE

25608 *Alcoholic beverage on school premises*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

7905 *Equal access to public school facilities*

COURT DECISIONS

Good News Club v. Milford Central School, (2001) 533 U.S. 98

Lamb's Chapel v. Center Moriches Union Free School District, (1993) 508 U.S. 384

Cole v. Richardson, (1972) 405 U.S. 676

Connell v. Higgenbotham, (1971) 403 U.S. 207

ACLU of So. Calif. v. Board of Education of Los Angeles, (1961) 55 Cal.2d 167

Ellis v. Board of Education, (1945) 27 Cal.2d 322

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

82 *Ops.Cal.AttyGen.* 90 (1999)

79 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen.* 248 (1996)

Management Resources:

CDE LEGAL ADVISORIES

1101.89 *School District Liability and "Hold Harmless" Agreements, LO: 4-89*

USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

Application for Use of Facilities

Any persons applying for the use of any school facility or ground on behalf of any society, group or organization shall present written authorization from the group or organization to make the application.

Persons or organizations applying for the use of school facilities or grounds shall submit a statement of information indicating that the organization upholds the state and federal constitutions and does not intend to use school premises to commit unlawful acts.

Civic Center Use

Subject to district policies and regulations, school facilities and grounds shall be available to citizens and community groups as a civic center for the following purposes: (Education Code 32282, 38131)

1. Public, literary, scientific, recreational, educational or public agency meetings
2. The discussion of matters of general or public interest
3. The conduct of religious services for temporary periods, on a one-time or renewable basis, by any church or religious organization
4. Child care programs to provide supervision and activities for children of preschool and elementary school age

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)

5. The administration of examinations for the selection of personnel or the instruction of precinct board members by public agencies
6. Supervised recreational activities including, but not limited to, sports league activities that are arranged for and supervised by entities, including religious organizations or churches, and in which youths may participate regardless of religious belief or denomination
7. A community youth center

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)

8. Mass care and welfare shelters during disasters or other emergencies affecting the public health and welfare

(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)

USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES (continued)

9. Other purposes deemed appropriate by the Board of Trustees

Restrictions

School facilities or grounds shall not be used for any of the following activities:

1. Any use by an individual or group for the commission of any crime or any act prohibited by law
2. Any use which is inconsistent with the use of the school facility for school purposes or which interferes with the regular conduct of school or school work
3. Any use which involves the possession, consumption or sale of alcoholic beverages or any restricted substances, including tobacco use

(cf. 3513.3 - Tobacco-Free Schools)
(cf. 5131.6 - Alcohol and Other Drugs)

The district may exclude certain school facilities from non-school use for safety or security reasons.

Damage and Liability

Groups, organizations or persons using school facilities or grounds shall be liable for any property damages caused by the activity. The Board may charge the amount necessary to repair the damages and may deny the group further use of school facilities or grounds.

Any group or organization using school facilities or grounds shall be liable for any injuries resulting from its negligence during the use of district facilities or grounds. The group shall bear the cost of insuring against this risk and defending itself against claims arising from this risk. (Education Code 38134)

Groups or organizations shall provide the district with evidence of insurance against claims arising out of the group's own negligence. Groups or organizations shall also be required to include the district as an additional insured on their liability policies for claims arising out of the negligence of the group.

As permitted, the Superintendent or designee may require a hold harmless agreement and indemnification when warranted by the type of activity or the specific facility being used.

STATEMENT OF INFORMATION

The undersigned, as duly authorized representative for _____, states that, to the best of his/her knowledge, the school property for use of which application is hereby made will not be used for the commission of any crime or any act which is prohibited by law.

The undersigned further declares that _____, the organization on whose behalf he/she is applying for the use of school property, upholds and defends the Constitutions of the United States and the State of California.

(Signed)

(Date)

(organization if applicable)

ACCESS TO DISTRICT RECORDS

The Board of Trustees recognizes the right of citizens to have access to public records of the district. The Board intends the district to provide any person reasonable access to the public records of the schools and district during normal business hours and within the requirements of state and federal law. Such records shall be examined in the presence of the staff member regularly responsible for their maintenance.

The district may charge for copies of public records or other materials requested by individuals or groups. The charge shall be based on actual costs of duplication, as determined by the Superintendent or designee and as specified in administrative regulation.

Public access shall not be given to records listed as exempt from public disclosure in the California Public Records Act or other statutes.

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

(cf. 4112.6/4212.6/4312.6 - Personnel Files)

(cf. 4112.62/4212.62/4312.62 - Maintenance of Criminal Offender Records)

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)

(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)

(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)

(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

ACCESS TO DISTRICT RECORDS (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35145 *Public meetings*

35170 *Authority to secure copyrights*

35250 *Duty to keep certain records and reports*

42103 *Publication of proposed budget; hearing*

44031 *Personnel file contents and inspections*

44839 *Medical certificates; periodic medical examination (re access to medical certificate in personnel file)*

49060-49079 *Pupil records*

49091.10 *Parental review of curriculum and instruction*

52015 *Ongoing evaluation and modification of school improvement plans*

52015.5 *Availability of information required by Education Code 52015(g)*

52850 *Applicability of article (School-based Program Coordination Plan availability)*

54722 *Application of article (Motivation and maintenance program Plan availability)*

GOVERNMENT CODE

3547 *Proposals relating to representation*

6250-6270 *California Public Records Act*

6275-6276.48 *Other exemptions from disclosure*

53262 *Employment contracts*

54957.2 *Minute book record of closed sessions*

54957.5 *Agendas and other writings distributed for discussion or consideration*

81008 *Public records; inspection and reproduction*

CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

Article 1, Section 3 Right of access to governmental information

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

430-438 *Individual pupil records*

COURT DECISIONS

Fairley v. Superior Court, 66 Cal.App. 4th 1414 (1998)

North County Parents Organization for Children with Special Needs v. Department of Education, 23 Cal.App. 4th 144 (1994)

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

71 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen.* 235 (1988)

64 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen.* 186 (1981)

ACCESS TO DISTRICT RECORDS

Records Open to the Public

Public records include any writing containing information relating to the conduct of the district's business prepared, owned, used or retained by the district regardless of physical form or characteristics. (Government Code 6252)

Writing means any handwriting, typewriting, printing, photostating, photographing, transmitting by electronic mail or facsimile, and every other means of recording upon any tangible thing any form of communication or representation, including letters, words, pictures, sounds, or symbols or combinations thereof, and any record thereby created, regardless of the manner in which the record has been stored. (Government Code 6252)

A member of the public includes any person, except a member, agent, officer, or employee of the district acting within the scope of his/her office or employment. Board of Trustees members are entitled to access to public records permitted by law in the administration of their duties, and, as to other public records, on the same basis as any other person. (Government Code 6252, 6252.5)

Records to which the public shall have access include but are not limited to:

1. The proposed and approved budgets (Government Code 6252; Education Code 42103)

(cf. 3100 - Budget)

2. Statistical compilations (Government Code 6252)
3. Reports and memoranda (Government Code 6252)
4. Notices and bulletins (Government Code 6252)
5. Minutes of public meetings (Government Code 6252)

(cf. 9324 - Minutes and Recordings)

6. Meeting agendas (Government Code 6252, 54957.5)

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

7. Official communications between governmental branches (Government Code 6252)

8. School-based program plans (Education Code 52850, 54722)

(cf. 0420.1 - School-Based Program Coordination)

(cf. 0420.3 - School-Based Student Motivation and Maintenance Program)

ACCESS TO DISTRICT RECORDS (continued)

9. Information and data relevant to the evaluation and modification of school improvement plans (Education Code 52015.5)
10. Initial proposals of exclusive employee representatives and of the district (Government Code 3547)

(cf. 4143.1/4243.1 - Public Notice - Personnel Negotiations)

11. Tort claims filed against the district and records pertaining to pending litigation which predate the filing of the litigation, unless protected by some other provision of law (Government Code 6254.25; Fairley v. Superior Court; 71 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 235 (1988))

(cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)

12. Statements of economic interests required by the Conflict of Interest Code (Government Code 81008)

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

13. Contracts of employment and settlement agreements (Government Code 53262)

(cf. 4117.5/4217.5/4317.5 - Termination Agreements)

(cf. 4141/4241 - Collective Bargaining Agreement)

Confidential Records

Records to which the general public shall not have access include but are not limited to:

1. Preliminary drafts, notes, interdistrict or intradistrict memoranda which are not retained by the district in the ordinary course of business, provided that the public interest in withholding these records clearly outweighs the public interest in disclosure (Government Code 6254)

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)

(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)

2. Records specifically prepared for litigation to which the district is a party or to claims made pursuant to the Tort Claims Act, until the pending litigation or claim has been finally adjudicated or otherwise settled, unless the records are protected by some other provision of law (Government Code 6254; Fairley v. Superior Court; 71 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 235 (1988))

ACCESS TO DISTRICT RECORDS (continued)

3. Personnel records, medical records, student records, personal correspondence, or similar materials, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy (Government Code 6254)

(cf. 4112.6/4212.6/4312.6 - Personnel Files)

(cf. 4112.62/4212.62/4312.62 - Maintenance of Criminal Offender Records)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)

The home addresses and home telephone numbers of employees may be disclosed only as follows: (Government Code 6254.3)

- a. To an agent or a family member of the individual to whom the information pertains
 - b. To an officer or employee of a state agency or another school district or county office of education when necessary for the performance of official duties
 - c. To an employee organization pursuant to regulations and decisions of the Public Employment Relations Board, unless the employee performs law enforcement-related functions or requests in writing that the information not be disclosed
 - d. To an agent or employee of a health benefit plan providing health services or administering claims for health services to district employees and their enrolled dependents, for the purpose of providing the health services or administering claims for employees and their enrolled dependents
4. Test questions, scoring keys and other examination data except as provided by law (Government Code 6254)

(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)

(cf. 6162.51 - Standardized Testing and Reporting Program)

(cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)

5. Without affecting the law of eminent domain, the contents of real estate appraisals or engineering or feasibility estimates and evaluations made for or by the district relative to the acquisition of property, or to prospective public supply and construction contracts, until all of the property has been acquired or all of the contract agreement obtained (Government Code 6254)

ACCESS TO DISTRICT RECORDS (continued)

6. Information required from any taxpayer in connection with the collection of local taxes that is received in confidence and the disclosure of the information to other persons would result in unfair competitive disadvantage to the person supplying the information (Government Code 6254)
7. Library circulation records kept for the purpose of identifying the borrower of items available in the library (Government Code 6254)

(cf. 6163.1 - Library Media Centers)

8. Records for which the disclosure is exempted or prohibited pursuant to state or federal law, including, but not limited to, provisions of the Evidence Code relating to privilege (Government Code 6254)
9. Documents prepared by the district to assess its vulnerability to terrorist attack or other criminal acts intended to disrupt district operations and that is for distribution or consideration in closed session (Government Code 6254)

(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)

10. Recall petitions or petitions for the reorganization of school districts (Government Code 6253.5)
11. Minutes of Board meetings held in closed session (Government Code 54957.2)

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

12. Computer software developed by the district (Government Code 6254.9)
13. Written instructional textbooks or other materials for which providing a copy would infringe a copyright or would constitute an unreasonable burden on the operation of the district (65 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 185 (1981))

(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)

14. Any other records listed as exempt from public disclosure in the California Public Records Act or other statutes

Inspection of Records and Requests for Copies

Public records are open to inspection at all times during district office hours. Any reasonably segregable portion of a record shall be made available for inspection by every person requesting the record after deletion of the portions that are exempted by law. (Government Code 6253)

ACCESS TO DISTRICT RECORDS (continued)

Every person may request a copy of any district record open to the public and not exempt from disclosure. (Government Code 6253)

Within 10 days of receiving any request for a copy of records, the Superintendent or designee shall determine whether the request seeks copies of disclosable public records in the district's possession. The Superintendent or designee shall promptly inform the person making the request of his/her determination and the reasons for the decision. (Government Code 6253)

In unusual circumstances, the Superintendent or designee may extend the 10-day limit for up to 14 days by providing written notice to the requester and setting forth the reasons for the extension and the date on which a determination is expected to be made. Unusual circumstances include the following, but only to the extent reasonably necessary to properly process the request: (Government Code 6253)

1. The need to search for and collect the requested records from field facilities or other establishments that are separate from the office processing the request
2. The need to search for, collect and appropriately examine a voluminous amount of separate and distinct records which are demanded in a single request
3. The need for consultation, which shall be conducted with all practicable speed, with another agency having a substantial interest in the determination of the request or among two or more components of the district having substantial subject matter interest therein
4. The need to compile data, to write programming language or a computer program, or to construct a computer report to extract data

If the Superintendent or designee determines that the request seeks disclosable public records, the determination shall state the estimated date and time when the records will be made available. (Government Code 6253)

Upon request for a copy that reasonably describes an identifiable record, an exact copy shall be promptly provided unless it is impracticable to do so. (Government Code 6253)

The Superintendent or designee shall charge an amount for copies that reflects the direct costs of duplication. Written requests to waive the fee shall be submitted to the Superintendent or designee.

ACCESS TO DISTRICT RECORDS (continued)

If any person requests a public record be provided in an electronic format, the district shall make that record available in any electronic format in which it holds the information. The district shall provide a copy of the electronic record in the format requested as long as the requested format is one that has been used by the district to create copies for its own use or for use by other agencies. (Government Code 6253.9)

The cost of duplicating an electronic record shall be limited to the direct cost of producing a copy of the record in electronic format. However, the requester shall bear the cost of producing the copy of the electronic record, including the cost to construct the record and the cost of programming and computer services necessary to produce the copy, under the following circumstances: (Government Code 6253.9)

1. The electronic record is one that is produced only at otherwise regularly scheduled intervals
2. The request would require data compilation, extraction, or programming to produce the record

Assistance in Identifying Requested Records

If the Superintendent or designee denies a request for disclosable records, he/she shall assist the requester in making a focused and effective request that reasonably describes an identifiable record. To the extent reasonable under the circumstances, the Superintendent or designee shall do all of the following: (Government Code 6253.1)

1. Assist in identifying records and information responsive to the request or the purpose of the request, if specified

If after making a reasonable effort to elicit additional clarifying information from the requester to help identify the record, the Superintendent or designee is still unable to identify the information, this requirement will be deemed satisfied.

2. Describe the information technology and physical location in which the records exist
3. Provide suggestions for overcoming any practical basis for denying access to the records or information sought

Provisions of the Public Records Act shall not be construed so as to delay access for purposes of inspecting records open to the public. Any notification denying a request for public records shall state the name and title of each person responsible for the denial. (Government Code 6253)

RELATIONS BETWEEN OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND THE SCHOOLS

The Board of Trustees recognizes that agencies at all levels of government share its concern and responsibility for the health, safety and welfare of youth. The Superintendent or designee shall initiate and maintain good working relationships with representatives of these agencies in order to help district schools and students make use of the resources which governmental agencies can provide.

- (cf. 1020 - Youth Services)*
- (cf. 3515.2 - Disruptions)*
- (cf. 3515.3 - District Police/Security Department)*
- (cf. 3515.5 - Sex Offender Notification)*
- (cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)*
- (cf. 5131.7 - Weapons and Dangerous Instruments)*
- (cf. 5141.22 - Infectious Diseases)*
- (cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting)*
- (cf. 5145.11 - Questioning and Apprehension)*
- (cf. 5145.12 - Search and Seizure)*
- (cf. 7131 - Relations with Local Agencies)*

The district may enter into agreements with other agencies which involve the exchange of funds or reciprocal services. Such agreements shall be approved by the Board and executed in writing.

Elections/Voter Registration

If a city or county elections official specifically requests the use of a school building as a polling place, the Board shall allow its use for such purpose. The Board may authorize the use of school buildings as polling places on any election day, and may also authorize the use of school buildings, without cost, for the storage of voting machines and other vote-tabulating devices. If school sessions will continue, the Board shall identify to elections officials the specific areas of the school buildings not occupied by school activities that will be allowed for use as polling places. (Elections Code 12283)

- (cf. 6111 - School Calendar)*

When a school is used as a polling place, the Superintendent or designee shall provide the elections official a site with an adequate amount of space that will allow the precinct board to perform its duties in a manner that will not impede, interfere or interrupt the normal process of voting, and shall make a telephone line for Internet access available for use by local elections officials if so requested. He/she shall make a reasonable effort to ensure that the site is accessible to disabled persons. (Elections Code 12283)

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

RELATIONS BETWEEN OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND THE SCHOOLS (continued)

To encourage students to participate in the elections process when they are eligible, the Superintendent or designee may distribute to high school seniors voter registration forms provided by the Secretary of State. He/she shall determine the most effective means of distributing the forms, which may include but not be limited to distributing forms at the start of the school year, with orientation materials, at central locations, and/or with graduation materials.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 10900-10914.5 Cooperative community recreation programs*
- 12400 Authority to receive and expend federal funds*
- 12405 Authority to participate in federal programs*
- 17050 Joint use of library facilities*
- 17051 Joint use of park and recreational facilities*
- 32001 Fire alarms and drills*
- 35160 Authority of governing boards*
- 35160.1 Broad authority of school districts*
- 48902 Notification of law enforcement agencies*
- 48909 District attorney may give notice re student drug use, sale or possession*
- 49305 Cooperation of police and California Highway Patrol*
- 49402 Contracts with city, county or local health departments*
- 49403 Cooperation in control of communicable disease and immunization*
- 51202 Instruction in personal and public health and safety*

ELECTIONS CODE

- 2145-2146 Distribution of voter registration forms*
- 12283 Polling places: schools*

WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

- 828 Disclosure of information re minors by law enforcement agency*
- 828.1 School district police department; disclosure of juvenile criminal records*

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

- California Secretary of State: <http://www.ss.ca.gov>*
- California Voter Foundation: <http://www.calvoter.org>*
- Cities, Counties, and Schools Partnership: <http://www.ccspartnership.org>*

WAIVERS

When certain provisions of Education Code or 5 CCR prevent the district from offering its students the best possible educational program, the Board of Trustees may request the State Board of Education to waive these provisions. District administrators, staff, advisory committees, and councils shall identify the need for waiver requests and provide the Board information needed to make the waiver request.

General Waiver Requests

The Board shall hold a properly noticed public hearing on all general waiver requests. (Education Code 33050)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

The Board shall include the exclusive employee representative in the development of the waiver and shall seek the participation of appropriate councils or advisory committees.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)
(cf. 4140/4240 - Bargaining Units)

A waiver request must include a statement as to whether the exclusive employee representative participated in the development of the waiver and the exclusive employee representative's position on the waiver. Waiver requests shall include a written summary of any objections to the request by the councils or advisory committees. (Education Code 33051)

If the waiver affects a program that requires the existence of a school site council, the school site council must approve the request. (Education Code 33051)

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)
(cf. 0420.1 - School-Based Program Coordination)
(cf. 0420.3 - School-Based Student Motivation and Maintenance Program)
(cf. 0420.5 - School-Based Decision Making)

Specific Waiver Requests

The Board shall hold a properly noticed public hearing on all specific waiver requests when required by law or when the Board desires community participation in the development of the waiver.

The Board shall include the exclusive employee representative, school site council, advisory committees and councils in the development of specific waivers when required by law or when affected by the waiver request.

WAIVERS (continued)

The Board may grant, in whole or in part, any request for waiver when the facts indicate that failure to grant the waiver would hinder the implementation of the student's individualized education program or compliance by a district, special education local plan area, or county office with federal mandates for a free, appropriate education for children or youth with disabilities. (Education Code 56101)

*Legal Reference:*EDUCATION CODE*8750-8754 Grants for conservation education**10400-10407 Cooperative improvement programs**17047.5 Facilities used by special education students**17291 Portable school buildings**33050-33053 General waiver authority**41000-41360 School finance**41381 Minimum school day**41600-41854 Computation of allowances**41920-42842 Instructional television; guaranteed yield program; financial statements of school districts; budget requirements; local taxation by school districts**44520-44534 New program for careers**44666-44669 School-Based Management and Advanced Career Opportunities for Classroom Teachers Programs**44681-44689 Administrator Training and Evaluation**45108.7 Maximum number of senior management positions**51870-51874 Educational Technology**52000-52049 School Improvement Plans**52033 Waiver on request of school site council**52122.6-52122.8 Class size reduction - impacted school sites**52160-52178 Bilingual-Bicultural Education Act of 1976**52180-52186 Bilingual teacher waiver**52200-52212 Gifted and Talented Pupils Program**52340-52346 Career Guidance Centers**52850-52863 School-Based Coordinated Program**54000-54041 Disadvantaged Youth Program**54100-54145 Miller-Unruh Basic Reading Program**54407 Waiver for compensatory education programs**54665 Waiver for dropout prevention program**54720-54734 School-Based Pupil Motivation and Maintenance**56000-56885 Special education programs**58407 Waiver related to individualized instruction program**58603 Waiver for compensatory education programs**58900-58928 Restructuring demonstration programs*CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5*3100 Resource specialist caseload waivers**13017 Waivers**13044 Waivers*UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20*1400-1482 Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act*

RELATIONS BETWEEN PRIVATE INDUSTRY AND THE SCHOOLS

The Board of Trustees encourages representatives of private industry to participate with the schools in preparing our students for challenges they will meet in the future. Working together as partners, business and the schools should seek to educate citizens who can contribute to the productive workforce on which our economy depends.

The Superintendent or designee may invite local employers to serve on advisory committees, help design regular, vocational and technical programs, and provide needs assessments, program evaluations, and/or staff development for school managers and teachers. Businesses may also provide classroom assistance, individual tutoring, incentive and recognition programs, work experience opportunities, apprenticeship programs and employment opportunities. The Board recognizes that staff members need adequate time to plan these activities in cooperation with the business volunteers.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)
(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)
(cf. 6178 - Vocational Education)

The Board also encourages private industries to contribute funds and equipment to further the district's educational programs. To prepare for an increasingly technological job market, students especially need access to equipment that meets current business standards.

(cf. 1260 - Educational Foundation)
(cf. 3290 - Gifts, Grants and Bequests)

The Board urges employers to further support the schools by recognizing their employees' needs as parents, accommodating their needs for child care, and supporting their involvement with their children's schools.

(cf. 1250 - Visitors/Outsiders)
(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that staff, students, and parents/guardians have the opportunity to periodically assess the support which local businesses provide our schools. The Superintendent or designee shall regularly report these evaluations to the Board and recommend those individuals and/or businesses whose contributions merit Board commendation.

(cf. 1150 - Commendations and Awards)

Legal Reference:

- EDUCATION CODE
- 35160 Authority of governing boards
- 35160.1 Broad authority of school districts
- 52376 High school vocational courses; requirements