



Annual Notification to Parents/Guardians and Staff

*Opening Doors to
a Brighter Future*

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Please review the material in this booklet.
Then SIGN and RETURN the forms.

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The references at the end of the sections in this booklet include the following codes:

<i>BP . . . District Board Policy</i>	<i>FAC . . . Food and Agriculture Code</i>
<i>AR . . . Administrative Regulation</i>	<i>USC . . . United States Code</i>
<i>EC . . . Education Code</i>	<i>CFR . . . Code of Federal Regulations</i>
<i>HSC . . Health and Safety Code</i>	<i>ESEA . . Elementary and Secondary Education Act</i>
<i>PC . . . Penal Code</i>	<i>PPRA . . Pupil Privacy Rights Amendment</i>
<i>WIC . . Welfare and Institutions Code</i>	<i>FERPA . Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act</i>
<i>CCR . . California Code of Regulations</i>	<i>PPACA . Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act</i>
<i>CC . . . Civil Code</i>	<i>Title VI . Title VI (or VII, or IX) of the Civil Rights Act of 1964</i>
<i>FC . . . Family Code</i>	<i>IDEA . . Individuals with Disabilities Education Act</i>
<i>GC . . . Government Code</i>	<i>§ 504 . . Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973</i>
<i>VC . . . Vehicle Code</i>	<i>EOA . . . Equal Opportunities Act</i>
<i>BPC . . Business and Professions Code</i>	<i>CIF . . . California Interscholastic Federation</i>

PARENT PARTICIPATION

■ Parent Involvement

The Governing Board recognizes that parents/guardians are their children's first and most influential teachers and that sustained parent/guardian involvement in the education of their children contributes greatly to student achievement and a positive school environment. The Superintendent or designee shall work with parents/guardians and family members to jointly develop and agree upon policy and strategies to meaningfully involve parents/guardians and family members in district and school activities at all grade levels; advisory, decision-making, and advocacy roles; and activities to support learning at home.

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

The district's local control and accountability plan (LCAP) shall include goals and strategies for parent/guardian involvement and family engagement, including district efforts to seek parent/guardian input in district and school site decision making and to promote parent/guardian participation in programs for English learners, foster youth, students eligible for free and reduced-price meals, and students with disabilities.

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

Title I Schools

The Superintendent or designee shall involve parents/guardians and family members in establishing district expectations and objectives for meaningful parent/guardian and family engagement in schools supported by Title I funding, developing strategies that describe how the district will carry out each activity listed in 20 USC 6318, as contained in the accompanying administrative regulation, and implementing and evaluating such programs, activities, and procedures. As appropriate, the Superintendent or designee shall conduct outreach to all parents/guardians and family members.

When the district's Title I, Part A allocation exceeds the amount specified in 20 USC 6318, the Board shall reserve at least one percent of the funding to implement parent/guardian and family engagement activities and shall distribute at least 90 percent of those reserved funds to eligible schools, with priority given to high-need schools as defined in 20 USC 6631. The Superintendent or designee shall involve parents/guardians and family members of participating students in decisions regarding how the district's Title I funds will be allotted for parent/guardian and family engagement activities.

Expenditures of such funds shall be consistent with the activities specified in this policy and shall include at least one of the following:

1. Support for schools and nonprofit organizations in providing professional development for district and school staff regarding parent/guardian and family engagement strategies, which may be provided jointly to teachers, principals,

As the parent of a student you have many rights and responsibilities.

We urge you to read it. We must get the signed form returned or your child may not be able to attend classes.

Teachers build your child's education one day at a time, so every day is essential.

Promotion or even graduation can be put in jeopardy if too many days are missed. Work with the teacher

when a child must miss school.

Get homework assignments and review work.

There is only one chance to get a great education.

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other school leaders, specialized instructional support personnel, paraprofessionals, early childhood educators, and parents/guardians and family members

2. Support for programs that reach parents/guardians and family members at home, in the community, and at school
3. Dissemination of information on best practices focused on parent/guardian and family engagement, especially best practices for increasing the engagement of economically disadvantaged parents/guardians and family members
4. Collaboration, or the provision of subgrants to schools to enable collaboration, with community-based or other organizations or employers with a record of success in improving and increasing parent/guardian and family engagement
5. Any other activities and strategies that the district determines are appropriate and consistent with this policy

If the district also receives funds under federal Title IV, Part E, to coordinate and enhance family engagement programs, the Superintendent or designee shall inform parents/guardians and organizations of the existence of Title IV.

The district's Board policy and administrative regulation containing parent/guardian and family engagement strategies shall be incorporated into the district's LCAP in accordance with 20 USC 6312.

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

District and school-level parent/guardian and family engagement policies and administrative regulations shall be distributed to parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs and shall be available to the local community. Parents/guardians shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents/guardians can understand.

Non-Title I Schools

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement strategies applicable to each

school that does not receive federal Title I funds to encourage the involvement and support of parents/guardians in the education of their children, including, but not limited to, strategies describing how the district and schools will address the purposes and goals described in Education Code 11502. [BP 6020 June 2020; EC 11500-11505, 48985, 51101, 52060-52077, 54444.1-54444.2, 56190-56194, 64001; 5 CCR 18275; Labor Code 230.8; 20 USC, 6311, 6312, 6314, 6318, 6631; 28 CFR, 35.104, 35.16]

■ Volunteering at School

At Gustine Unified School District we encourage parents/guardians to serve as volunteers in the schools, attend student performances and school meetings, and participate in site councils, advisory councils and other activities in which they may undertake governance, advisory and advocacy roles. All volunteers who chaperone any off-site field trip or volunteer in classrooms shall be fingerprinted for criminal record clearance and shall submit evidence that he/she is free of active tuberculosis.

ATTENDANCE

■ General Absences

Children cannot learn if they are not in school. Daily school attendance improves student achievement. Children learn early about being on time and not missing school; teach your child that school attendance is an important family value. Children ages 6 to 18 years must attend every school day.

The state only awards funding to school districts for actual attendance. The state does not fund districts for the excused absences listed below. Always review the school calendar and plan activities and vacations during days off. No pupil whose attendance is excused shall have grades or academic credit lost if assignments and tests can be reasonably completed.

Other attendance reports, such as truancy, rely on excused and unexcused absences. There are legal consequences if your child misses too much school. You must send a note and/or phone the school within 72 hours to clear any excusable absences. Parents/Guardians have the right to be notified on a timely basis if their child is absent from school without

permission. Unexcused absences are recorded as a truancy.

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

1. Due to the pupil's illness, including an absence for the benefit of the pupil's mental or behavioral health.
2. Due to quarantine under the direction of a county or city health officer.
3. For the purpose of having medical, dental, optometrical, or chiropractic services rendered.
4. For the purpose of attending the funeral services of a member of the pupil's immediate family, so long as the absence is not more than one day if the service is conducted in California and not more than three days if the service is conducted outside California.
5. For the purpose of jury duty in the manner provided for by law.
6. Due to the illness or medical appointment during school hours of a child of whom the pupil is the custodial parent, including absences to care for a sick child, for which the school shall not require a note from a doctor.
7. For justifiable personal reasons, including, but not limited to, an appearance in court, attendance at a funeral service, observance of a holiday or ceremony of the pupil's religion, attendance at a religious retreat, attendance at an employment conference, or attendance at an educational conference on the legislative or judicial process offered by a nonprofit organization, when the pupil's absence is requested in writing by the parent or guardian and approved by the principal or a designated representative pursuant to uniform standards established by the governing board of the school district.
8. For the purpose of serving as a member of a precinct board for an election pursuant to Section 12302 of the Elections Code.
9. For the purpose of spending time with a member of the pupil's immediate family who is an active duty member of the uniformed services, as defined in Section 49701, and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or

has immediately returned from, deployment to a combat zone or combat support position. Absences granted pursuant to this paragraph shall be granted for a period of time to be determined at the discretion of the superintendent of the school district.

10. For the purpose of attending the pupil's naturalization ceremony to become a United States citizen.
11. For the purpose of participating in a cultural ceremony or event.
12. (A) For the purpose of a middle school or high school pupil engaging in a civic or political event, as provided in subparagraph (B), provided that the pupil notifies the school ahead of the absence.
(B) (i) A middle school or high school pupil who is absent pursuant to subparagraph (A) is required to be excused for only one schoolday-long absence per school year.
(ii) A middle school or high school pupil who is absent pursuant to subparagraph (A) may be permitted additional excused absences in the discretion of a school administrator, as described in subdivision (c) of Section 48260.
13. Authorized at the discretion of a school administrator, as described in subdivision (c) of Section 48260.
- B. A pupil absent from school under this section shall be allowed to complete all assignments and tests missed during the absence that can be reasonably provided and, upon satisfactory completion within a reasonable period of time, shall be given full credit therefor. The teacher of the class from which a pupil is absent shall determine which tests and assignments shall be reasonably equivalent to, but not necessarily identical to, the tests and assignments that the pupil missed during the absence.
- C. For purposes of this section, attendance at religious retreats shall not exceed four hours per semester.
- D. Absences pursuant to this section are deemed to be absences in computing average daily attendance and shall not generate state apportionment payments.

E. For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

1. A “civic or political event” includes, but is not limited to, voting, poll working, strikes, public commenting, candidate speeches, political or civic forums, and town halls.
2. “Cultural” means relating to the habits, practices, beliefs, and traditions of a certain group of people.
3. “Immediate family” means the parent or guardian, brother or sister, grandparent, or any other relative living in the household of the pupil. [EC 48205, 48260]

Districts may allow students, with parental or guardian consent, to be excused to participate in moral or religious exercises or instruction. [EC 46014]

School authorities may excuse any student in grades 7 through 12 from school for the purpose of obtaining confidential medical services without the consent of the pupil’s parent or guardian. [EC 46010.1]

■ Emergency School Closure

Schools may close in the case of a natural disaster such as an earthquake, a fire, a flood, or an epidemic/pandemic. School officials rely on the expertise and advice of public health and safety officials in these decisions. Other means of delivering instruction will be used as possible.

■ Attendance Options

The governing board annually reviews attendance options including how students may attend a district school outside their attendance area (intra-district transfer). This district has non-arbitrary rules explaining how students may apply, be accepted or denied intra-district transfer. Many districts, by agreement, also allow the transfer of students from or to other districts (inter-district transfer). Victims of bullying or violence are given preference in intra- and inter-district transfers. In some cases, the district must provide transportation. Students attending “persistently dangerous” schools can transfer and enroll in a safe school. Students convicted of a violent felony or convicted of a misdemeanor firearms offense may be transferred to another school in the district. Districts cannot prevent children of active military from changing districts, as long as the district

chosen agrees to accept them. Upon enrollment or transfer, principals are urged to check missing children information. Further information about residency, attendance options, special program options, etc. will be provided by the California Department of Education. [BP 5116.2 March 2018; EC 46600, 48204, 48204.7, 48206.3, 48300, 48301, 48306, 48853.5, 48980, 49068, 51101; 20 USC 7912]

1. Intradistrict Open Enrollment:

The Governing Board desires to provide enrollment options that meet the diverse needs and interests of district students and parents/guardians, while also maximizing the efficient use of district facilities and resources. The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures for the selection and transfer of students among district schools in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

The parents/guardians of any student who resides within district boundaries may apply to enroll their child in any district school, regardless of the location of their residence within the district. The Board shall annually review this policy.

Enrollment Priorities

No student currently residing within a school’s attendance area shall be displaced by another student transferring from outside the attendance area.

The Superintendent or designee shall grant priority for the enrollment of a student in a district school outside of the student’s attendance area, if the student:

1. Is enrolled in a district school designated by the California Department of Education (CDE) as “persistently dangerous”
2. Is a victim of a violent crime while on school grounds
3. Is a victim of an act of bullying committed by another district student, as determined through an investigation following the parent/guardian’s submission of a written complaint with the school, district, or local law enforcement agency pursuant to Education Code 234.1

If the district school requested by the student is at maximum capacity, the Superintendent or

designee shall accept an intradistrict transfer request for another district school.

4. Is currently enrolled in a district school identified by CDE for comprehensive support and improvement, with priority given to the lowest academically achieving students from low-income families as determined pursuant to 20 USC 6313(a) (3)
5. Is experiencing special circumstances that might be harmful or dangerous to the student in the current attendance area, including, but not limited to, threats of bodily harm or threats to the emotional stability of the student. Any such student may transfer to a district school that is at capacity and otherwise closed to transfers. To grant priority under these circumstances, the Superintendent or designee must have received either:
 - a. A written statement from a representative of an appropriate state or local agency, including, but not necessarily limited to, a law enforcement official or a social worker, or a properly licensed or registered professional, including, but not necessarily limited to, a psychiatrist, psychologist, marriage and family therapist, clinical social worker, or professional clinical counselor
 - b. A court order, including a temporary restraining order and injunction
6. Is a sibling of another student already attending that school
7. Has a parent/guardian whose primary place of employment is that school

Application and Selection Process

In order to ensure that priorities for enrollment in district schools are implemented in accordance with law and Board policy, applications for intradistrict open enrollment shall be submitted between May 1st - June 30th of the school year preceding the school year for which the transfer is requested.

The Superintendent or designee shall calculate each school's capacity in a nonarbitrary manner using student enrollment and available space.

Except for the enrollment priorities listed above, the Superintendent or designee shall use a random, unbiased selection process to determine which students shall be admitted whenever a district school

receives admission requests that are in excess of the school's capacity.

Enrollment decisions shall not be based on a student's academic or athletic performance. However, existing entrance criteria may be used for enrolling students in specialized schools or programs, provided that the criteria are uniformly applied to all applicants. In addition, academic performance may be used to determine eligibility for, or placement in, programs for gifted and talented students.

Transportation

In general, the district shall not be obligated to provide transportation for students who attend school outside their attendance area.

However, upon parent/guardian request, the district shall provide transportation assistance to any student who is eligible for free or reduced-price meals and whose enrollment in a district school outside the student's attendance area is a result of being a victim of bullying. [BP 5116.1 February 2020; EC 200, 35160.5, 35291, 35351, 46600-46611, 48200, 48204, 48300-48316, 48980; 5 CCR 11992-11994; 20 USC 6311, 6313, 7912]

Other Intradistrict Open Enrollment

To implement intradistrict open enrollment:

1. The Superintendent or designee shall identify those schools which may have space available for additional students. A list of these schools and open enrollment applications shall be available at all school offices.
2. Students of parents/guardians who submit applications to the district by January 1 shall be eligible for admission to their school of choice the following school year under the district's open enrollment policy.
3. Enrollment in a school of choice shall be determined by lot from the eligible applicant pool, and a waiting list shall be established to indicate the order in which applicants may be accepted if openings occur during the year. Late applicants shall not be added to the waiting list for the current year.
4. The Superintendent or designee shall provide written notification to applicants as to whether their applications have been approved, denied, or placed on a waiting list. If the application is denied, the reasons for denial shall be stated.

5. Approved applicants must confirm their enrollment within 10 school days.

Once enrolled, a student shall not be required to reapply for readmission. However, the student may be subject to displacement due to excessive enrollment.

Any complaints regarding the selection process shall be submitted to the Superintendent or designee.

Notifications

Notifications shall be sent to parents/guardians at the beginning of each school year describing all current statutory attendance options and local attendance options available in the district. Such notification shall include:

1. All options for meeting residency requirements for school attendance
2. Program options offered within local attendance areas
3. A description of any special program options available on both an interdistrict and intradistrict basis
4. A description of the procedure for application for alternative attendance areas or programs and the appeals process available, if any, when a change of attendance is denied
5. A district application form for requesting a change of attendance
6. The explanation of attendance options under California law as provided by the CDE [EC 35160.5, 35291, 35351, 48980]

Transfers for Victims of a Violent Criminal Offense

Within a reasonable amount of time, not to exceed 14 days, after it has been determined that a student has been the victim of a violent criminal offense while on school grounds, the student's parents/guardians shall be offered an option to transfer their child to an eligible school identified by the Superintendent or designee. In determining whether a student has been a victim of a violent criminal offense, the Superintendent or designee shall consider the specific circumstances of the incident on a case-by-case basis and consult with local law enforcement as appropriate. Examples of violent criminal offenses include, but are not limited to, attempted murder, battery with serious bodily

injury, assault with a deadly weapon, rape, sexual battery, robbery, extortion, or hate crimes.

The Superintendent or designee shall consider the needs and preferences of the affected student and his/her parent/guardian in making the offer. If the parent/guardian elects to transfer his/her child, the transfer shall be completed as soon as practicable.

Transfers from a "Persistently Dangerous" School

Within 10 school days after receiving notification from the California Department of Education (CDE) that a school has been designated as "persistently dangerous," the Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians of the school's designation. Within 10 school days after this notification has been provided to parents/guardians, the Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians of their option to transfer their child.

Parents/guardians who desire to transfer their child out of a "persistently dangerous" school shall provide written notification to the Superintendent or designee and shall rank-order their preferences from among all schools identified by the Superintendent or designee as eligible to receive transfer students. The Superintendent or designee may establish a reasonable timeline, not to exceed seven school days, for the submission of parent/guardian requests.

The Superintendent or designee shall consider the needs and preferences of students and parents/guardians before making an assignment, but is not obligated to accept the parent/guardian's preference if the assignment is not feasible due to space constraints or other considerations. For students who accept the offer, the transfer shall generally be made within 30 school days of receiving the notice of the school's designation from the CDE. If parents/guardians decline the assigned school, the student may remain in his/her current school.

The transfer shall remain in effect as long as the student's school of origin is identified as "persistently dangerous." The Superintendent or designee may choose to make the transfer permanent based on the educational needs of the student, parent/guardian preferences, and other factors affecting the student's ability to succeed if returned to the school of origin.

The Superintendent or designee shall cooperate with neighboring districts to develop an interdistrict

transfer program in the event that space is not available in a district school.

2. Interdistrict Attendance:

The Governing Board recognizes that parents/guardians of students who reside within the geographic boundaries of one district may, for a variety of reasons, desire to enroll their children in a school in another district.

Interdistrict Attendance Agreements and Permits

The Board may enter into an agreement with any other school district, for a term not to exceed five school years, for the interdistrict attendance of students who are residents of the districts.

The agreement shall specify the terms and conditions under which interdistrict attendance shall be permitted or denied. It also may contain standards agreed upon by both districts for reapplication and/or revocation of the student's permit.

Upon receiving a permit for transfer into the district that has been approved by the student's district of residence, or upon receiving a written request from the parent/guardian of a district student who wishes to enroll in another district, the Superintendent or designee shall review the request and may approve or deny the permit subject to the terms and conditions of the interdistrict attendance agreement.

Transportation

Upon parent/guardian request, the district shall provide transportation assistance to a student receiving an interdistrict transfer who is eligible for free and reduced-price meals and is the child of an active duty military parent/guardian or a victim of bullying, as defined in Education Code 46600.

In addition, upon request of a student's parent/guardian, the Superintendent or designee may authorize transportation for any interdistrict transfer student to and from designated bus stops within the attendance area of the school that the student attends if space is available. [BP 5117 February 2020; EC 8151, 41020, 46600-46610, 48204, 48300-48317, 48900, 48915, 48915.1, 48918, 48980, 48985, 52317, CA Constitution Article 1, Section 31]

3. Attendance Where Caregiver Resides:

If your child lives in the home of a caregiving adult, as defined by law, or a foster home your

child may attend the school district in which that residence is located. Execution of an affidavit under penalty of perjury pursuant to the Family Code by the caregiving adult is required to determine that your child lives in the caregiver's home. [EC 48204(a), 48980(h); FC 6550-6552]

4. Attendance in District Where Parent / Guardian is Employed:

The district may, but is not required to accept a transfer student whose parent/guardian resides outside the boundaries of the school district but is employed and lives with the student at the place of the parent's/guardian's employment within the boundaries of the school district for a minimum of three days during the school week; or a student whose parent/guardian physically works within the boundaries of the school district for a minimum of 10 hours during the school week. [EC 48204(a)(7), 48980]

5. Special Enrollment Allowances for Some Categories of Students:

Some students, including foster, homeless, migratory, American Indian, or military children, living in the district may stay enrolled in their school of origin inside or outside the district if: 1) their Individual Education Plan (IEP) indicates attendance elsewhere, or 2) parents, guardians, and others with authority declare in writing otherwise. In some cases, they also have rights to expedited enrollment in school, to attend classes and programs, to after-school programs, and to fee waivers. Since January 1, 2023, Senate Bill 532 (2022) created measures to improve educational outcomes for "high mobility" high school students who transfer between schools after their second year of high school. The school district and each school site have complete documentation of the rights of homeless, foster, migratory, military, and other special categories of students. [EC 48204, 48204.7, 48645.3, 48850-48859, 51225.1, 56055; 5 CCR 4622; WIC 224.1, 361, 726; 42 USC 11301, 11431-11435; ne]

Student Immigrant and Religious Rights

All school age children must be admitted to California Public Schools and be offered all programs accessible to other students. School districts cannot ask about a student's immigrant (or migratory) or religious status. The state Attorney General has information about "know your rights":

<https://oag.ca.gov/immigrant/resources>. Immigrant students are still considered residents of their current school district even if parents are deported or are being held in custody. [EC 200, 220, 234.1]

■ Minimum Days/Pupil Free Staff Development Days

If your child will be affected by minimum days or staff development days, we will give you at least one month's notice. All schools have minimum days on the last Wednesday of the month. Additional minimum days are listed in the important dates in this booklet. [EC 48980(c)]

■ Leaving School at Lunch Time

"The governing board of the Gustine Unified School District, pursuant to Section 44808.5 of the Education Code, has decided to permit pupils enrolled at Gustine High School to leave the school grounds during the lunch period. Neither the school district nor any officer or employee thereof shall be liable for the conduct or safety of any pupil during such time as the pupil has left the school grounds pursuant to this section." The district permits students in grades 9 through 12 this privilege when certain criteria specified in the Student Handbook are met. [EC 44808.5]

■ Individualized Instruction

You must notify the school if your child has a temporary disability and cannot attend regular classrooms. If your temporarily disabled child is located outside your school district, notify both the district where your child resides and where the child is located. Within five (5) days of notice, the district(s) will determine if the student qualifies, and within five (5) days of the determination commence instruction in the home or in a hospital or other residential health facility. The district(s) will notify you if your child qualifies, when instruction will begin and for how long it will continue. Each hour of instruction at home or in a facility will count as a full day but cannot exceed 5 days per week nor the number of days in the school year. [EC 48206.3, 48207, 48207.5, 48208, 48980]

Pregnant or Parenting Students

Pregnant or parenting students who are 18 years old or who have permission from their parent/guardian may have excused leave for up to 8 weeks or more without having to complete schoolwork or

other requirements, or being subject to penalties. They may return to the same school and courses, and be provided time to make up work. They may choose to attend an alternative program with access to comparable courses, programs and activities. They may have a fifth year to complete high school graduation requirements unless administration determines they are capable of completing graduation requirements in four years. Complaints about these rights can be made using the Uniform Complaint Procedure. [EC 221.51, 46015, 48200, 48980]

■ Unexcused Absence Protocol

When a student misses school without an excuse they are considered truant, and the school will notify the parent/guardian. The state defines three levels of truancy;

Truant: after missing three days of school or three 30-minute periods without a valid excuse

Habitual Truant: if they are truant three or more times in a school year and an effort is made to meet with parents

Chronic Truant: if they miss 10 percent or more of the school days in a school year.

Early intervention and cooperation between the school and the family is the best way to support student learning. Parents are urged to use community services identified by the school or District. When a student is absent without an excuse, the following protocol will be followed:

1st Attendance Letter: A warning letter will be issued to the student's parent(s) after 3 absences. This letter is to inform parents of the absences the student has so far. Parents can call the school office with any questions they may have about this letter.

2nd Attendance Letter: If the parent received the first attendance letter and the student is still missing school, this letter will be issued on the 5th absence. This letter will indicate a meeting the parent MUST attend. A school site SART (school attendance review team) agreement will be issued.

3rd Attendance Letter: The parent will receive the third letter on the 7th absence, and parents have received the first two letters. At this time parents will come to a second meeting to go over the

students' attendance. A District SARB (student attendance review board) contract will be issued at this time.

4th Attendance Letter: If the student exceeds more than 7 absences, the parents will be referred to the district SARB meeting. At the SARB meeting the District Attorney will be present as well as the School Resource Officer (SRO). Parents will be asked to sign an attendance contract for the rest of the year. Also, the district attorney or officer may issue you a citation. [EC 48260, 48260.5, 48261, 48262, 48263, 48263.5, 48263.6, 48264.5, 48291, 48293, 48320; PC 270.1, 830.1; WIC 256, 258, 601, 601.3; ne]

■ Notice of Alternative Schools

California state law authorizes all school districts to provide for alternative schools. Section 58500 of the Education Code defines alternative school as a school or separate class group within a school which is operated in a manner designed to: (a) Maximize the opportunity for students to develop the positive values of self-reliance, initiative, kindness, spontaneity, resourcefulness, courage, creativity, responsibility, and joy. (b) Recognize that the best learning takes place when the student learns because of his desire to learn. (c) Maintain a learning situation maximizing student self-motivation and encouraging the student in his own time to follow his own interests. These interests may be conceived by him totally and independently or may result in whole or in part from a presentation by his teachers of choices of learning projects. (d) Maximize the opportunity for teachers, parents and students to cooperatively develop the learning process and its subject matter. This opportunity shall be a continuous, permanent process. (e) Maximize the opportunity for the students, teachers, and parents to continuously react to the changing world, including but not limited to the community in which the school is located.

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

establish alternative school programs in each district. [EC 58501]

INSTRUCTION AND CURRICULUM

■ Academic Standards and Assessments

Each district in California decides how they will teach and what resources they will use to reach adopted common-core academic standards. More information can be found at www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc/.

California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP)

California students take several mandated computer-based statewide tests that provide information about how well students are learning. Combined with other measures, they give a more complete picture of a student's learning. Test results may be used for local, state, and federal accountability purposes.

The California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) tests consist of the following:

Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium Assessments

The Smarter Balanced assessments are aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics tests are administered in grades 3-8 and grade 11 to measure whether students are on track to college and career readiness. In grade 11, results from the ELA and mathematics assessments can be used as an indicator of college readiness.

California Alternate Assessments (CAAs)

Students in grades 3-8 and grade 11 whose individualized education program (IEP) identifies the use of alternate assessments are eligible to take the CAAs for English language arts, mathematics, and science. Students taking the CAA for Science will take a series of 4 performance tasks that can be administered throughout the year as the content is taught.

California Science Tests (CAST)

Students in grades 5, 8, and once in high school take the CAST, which measures student achievement of the California Next Generation Science Standards through the application of

their knowledge and skills of the Science and Engineering Practices, Disciplinary Core Ideas, and Crosscutting Concepts.

California Spanish Assessment (CSA) for Reading/ Language Arts

The CSA is an optional test for Spanish reading, listening, and writing mechanics. It is optional for students in grades 3-12, and is aligned with the California Common Core State Standards in Spanish.

English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC)

Students whose IEP calls for an alternative assessment and who have a home-language other than English take the ELPAC, which identifies them as an English learner or as English fluent. It consists of 2 separate English Language Proficiency (ELP) assessments: one for the initial identification of students as English learners; and the other for the annual assessment to identify students' English language proficiency level and to measure their progress in learning English.

Parents/Guardians may submit a written request (annually) to excuse their child from any one or all of the CAASPP assessments. More information about the CAASPP can be found at www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/. [EC 52060, 52066, 60119, 60604, 60615, 60640; 5 CCR 852]

Physical Fitness Test (PFT)

The main goal of the PFT is to help students in starting lifelong habits of regular physical activity. Students in grades 5, 7, and 9 take the Physical Fitness Test. [EC 52060, 60800]

Local Control Funding and Accountability

The Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) provides money to school districts with a uniform base grant for every student, adjusted by grade level. Plus they receive adjustments for the number of students living in poverty, English learners, and foster youth. Then there are further adjustments for concentration of these groups if they are above 55% of the district's enrollment. More information about the LCFF is available at www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/lc/.

The Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) is a critical part of the LCFF. Each school district is

required to engage parents, students, educators, employees, and the community to establish their plan. The LCAP must focus on eight areas identified as State priorities:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Basic Services | 5. Pupil Engagement |
| 2. Implementation of State Standards | 6. School Climate |
| 3. Parental Involvement | 7. Course Access |
| 4. Pupil Achievement | 8. Other Pupil Outcomes |

The plan must describe the overall vision for students, annual goals including language acquisition, and specific action to achieve these goals. The plan will demonstrate how the district's budget will help achieve the goals, and annually assess how well the strategies improved outcomes. Anyone can comment about proposals or expenditures to the school board; at parent, student, community engagement meetings; at staff LCAP meetings; or to the district LCAP Advisory Committee. Complaints regarding LCAP may be filed anonymously or using the District Uniform Complaint Procedures. [EC 305, 47606.5, 47607.3, 52060-52076, 5 CCR 4600, 4622]

Homeless, Migratory, Foster, Military, and Juvenile Court Youth

Homeless, migratory, foster, military family, juvenile court youth, or youth participating in a newcomer program have special rights related to graduation and partial high school credits. They have the right to an adult to help make educational decisions. Foster and homeless youth also have special rights associated with college funding, and certain considerations in school discipline. The District Uniform Complaint Procedure may be used to file a complaint. [EC 48645.3, 48645.5, 51225.1-51225.3, 56055; 5 CCR 4622; WIC 361, 726]

Language Acquisition Program

Language acquisition programs are designed to ensure that English learners acquire English as rapidly and effectively as possible. They provide instruction based on the state-adopted academic content standards, including English language development (ELD) standards.

The District offers a Structured English Immersion program in which nearly all instruction is in English with curriculum and presentation designed for

students who are English learners. [EC 305(a)(2), 306(c)(3)]

Parents/Guardians may provide input regarding language acquisition programs during the development of the Local Control Accountability Plan. Parents/Guardians may submit written or verbal requests for the establishment of a language acquisition program in addition to the program available. Schools in which the parents/guardians of 30 pupils or more per school or 20 pupils or more in any grade request a language acquisition program are required to offer such a program to the extent possible. Please contact the District office or your school principal for more information. [EC 306(c), 310; 5 CCR 11310]

Parents/Guardians have a right to opt their child(ren) out of the school district's language acquisition program or opt out of particular English learner service(s) within a language acquisition program. [20 USC 6312(e)(3)(A)(viii)]

■ District Courses

Annually the District prepares curriculum, course titles, aims, and descriptions in a prospectus. The prospectus is available at each school site and may be reproduced at cost. Parents/Guardians have the right to review all course material. [EC 49091.14, 51101; PPRA]

■ School Counselors

School counselors are trained educators possessing a valid teacher credential with a specialization in pupil personnel services. Counselors help students in grades 7-12 make decisions about their courses, extra-curricular activities, and preparation for college and/or careers. They guide students through all the steps including information about financial aid, academic requirements, and careers. Counseling related to academic and nonacademic courses, classes, electives, school-related activities, team sports, athletic competitions, and school facilities will be available to all students without regard to their gender or gender identity, the gender listed in their records, or any protected group as listed under "Complaints Regarding Discrimination, Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying, Exceptional Needs Students, Categorical Programs, Federally Funded Programs" on page 33. Most counselors are available by appointment and will

meet with students and their families. The District Uniform Complaint Procedure may be used to file a complaint. [EC 221.5, 221.8, 48980, 49600, 48900, 51229; GC 11135; Title VI, Title IX; § 504; CIF 300D]

■ Curriculum and Personal Beliefs

Whenever any part of the instruction in comprehensive sexual health, sexual abuse, or human trafficking prevention education conflicts with your religious training and beliefs or personal moral conviction, or those of your child, your child shall be excused from such instruction if you request an excuse in writing. No student shall be penalized, sanctioned, or disciplined for such an excuse, and shall have an alternative education activity available. [EC 51240, 51938, 51950]

Family Life, Human Development, and Sexual Health Education

Your child will be taking classes in compliance with the California Healthy Youth Act. These will include comprehensive sexual health education, HIV education, and research findings regarding pupil health behaviors and risks. Students in grades 7-12 will gain a deeper understanding of HIV transmission, prevention, and treatment. They will also be taught about the prevalence of human trafficking and the methods traffickers employ, including social media and mobile devices. They will also be taught about the prevalence of human trafficking and the role social media and mobile devices play. You will be notified before such instruction. Any written and audio-visual educational materials planned for use are available for inspection prior to the start of classes. You may have copies of non-copyrighted material that will be presented by a consultant or guest speaker. You have a right to request, in writing, that your child not participate in any or all activities. You may withdraw this request at any time. School districts must ensure that all participating pupils receive sexual health instruction from personnel adequately trained in appropriate courses. In this District, consultants or guest speakers give such instruction. Parents will receive notice of the dates, name of organizations, and affiliation of speakers by mail or other commonly used method of notification at least 14 days prior to the dates of the class or assembly. During this class, students in grades 7-12 may be asked to anonymously, voluntarily, and confidentially fill out evaluation and research

tools such as surveys, tests, or questionnaires measuring student attitudes toward health, sex, and risk behaviors. Copies of Education Code Sections 51933, 51934, and 51938 can be requested from the District or can be obtained online at <https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov>. [EC 51933-51939]

Dissection of Animals

If your child chooses not to participate in the dissection of animals, and if the teacher believes that an adequate alternative education project is possible, the teacher may work with the student to develop and agree upon an alternative education project for the purpose of providing your child an alternate avenue for obtaining the information required by the class. The school will need a signed note from you indicating your child's objection. [EC 32255-32255.6]

Tests/Surveys on Personal Beliefs

You and/or your child(ren) over 18 will be notified before administration of any confidential test, questionnaire, or survey containing questions about your child's, or your personal beliefs, political practices, mental health, anti-social, illegal, self-incriminating, demeaning behavior, critical appraisals of others close to the family, about legally confidential relationships such as ministers or doctors, income (unless to determine eligibility for receiving financial assistance), sex, family life, morality, or religion. You will be asked for written permission except for exempt surveys (in grades 7-12) that are part of sexual health programs or State surveys. Parents may opt their child(ren) out of all surveys, without penalty, including those seeking information to be used in marketing. Parents have the right to review any survey or educational materials related to the survey on any of the above items. The District has developed policies relating to surveys and personal information. Notice will be sent to parents prior to such test or survey. If you believe your rights have been violated, you may file a complaint with the Family Policy Compliance Office at U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20202-5920. [EC 51513, 51938, 60614; 60615; PPRA; 34 CFR 98; ESEA]

■ High School Credits and Graduation

Education code sets minimum course requirements to graduate from high school and earn a diploma. School districts may set additional

requirements. The District has established guidelines for transferring credits and meeting graduation requirements. Please see the table under "High School Graduation Requirements compared to UC/CSU Requirements" on page 15.

Exceptions

Highly mobile students; students who are homeless, migratory, foster youth, of a military family, juvenile court youth, or youth participating in a newcomer program have special rights related to graduation and partial high school credits. They have the right to an adult to help make educational decisions. These students can be registered in their district of choice, but must provide proof of residency within ten (10) days. Foster and homeless youth also have special rights associated with college funding, and certain considerations in school discipline. The District Uniform Complaint Procedure may be used to file a complaint.

California High School Proficiency Exam

Students who are 16 years or older and have completed grade 10, or those meeting other requirements, may take the California High School Proficiency Exam (CHSPE). If they pass, they will earn a State Certificate of Proficiency, which is equal to a high school diploma. Many students use the exam to start jobs or start college earlier than their expected graduation date. There may be a fee for taking the exam.

Cal Grant Application / Opt-Out

Cal Grant Awards are money provided by the State of California to assist in college expenses (tuition, room and board, books and other supplies). Each student in grade 12 are considered Cal Grant applicants unless they or their parent/guardian opt out. Unless the parent/guardian or the 18-year-old student opt out in writing by the last Monday of September, certified Grade Point Average (GPA) data will be transmitted to the CA Student Aid Commission no later than October 1, 2023. To receive the Grant, students must apply. For more information go to www.csac.ca.gov.

[EC 48412, 48430, 48645.5, 49701, 51225.1-51225.3, 51225.5, 51228, 51240-51246, 51410-51412, 51420-51425, 56055, 69432.9; 5 CCR 1600-1651, 4622, 11523; WIC 361, 726]

■ University Admissions

University of California/California State University Admissions

Admission to the California State Universities requires a minimum 15-unit pattern of courses for admission as a first-time freshman. Each unit is equal to a year of study in a subject area. A GPA of 2.0 (C) or higher is required for regular admission. Admittance is based on an eligibility index that combines multiple items. Transfer students are accepted.

Admission to the University of California requires completion of the 15 yearlong high school course list. These courses are also known as the “a-g” subjects. At least seven of the 15 yearlong courses must be taken in the student’s last two years of high school. A GPA of 3.0 (B) or higher is required for California residents.

Links to University of California/California State University requirements: admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/, www.calstate.edu/apply, www.calstate.edu/apply/freshman/.

High School Graduation Requirements compared to UC/CSU Requirements

	EC	UC	CSU	GUSD
History/Social Science (a)	3	2	2	3
English (b)	3	4	4	4
Mathematics (c)	2	3 ⁺	3 ⁺	2
Science (d)	2	2 [†]	2 [†]	2
Foreign Language (e)		2 ⁺	2	
Visual/Performing Arts (f)	1	1	1	1
Career Technical Education ‡				
Physical Education	2			2
Electives (g)		1	1	11
TOTAL:				25

⁺1 One additional year is recommended in Mathematics for both CSU and UC, and in Foreign Language for UC.

[†] Specifics of courses vary from CSU to UC.

[‡] Gustine Unified School District has adopted a policy that allows Career Technical Education courses to be counted toward graduation.

At this time Gustine Unified School District offers the following Career Technology Education

courses that qualify toward the UC/CSU “(a)-(g)” requirements:

AgriScience. (g)
 Ag Mechanics. (g)
 Ag Wood (g)
 Ornamental Horticulture (g)
 Business Management Pathway (g)
 Health Careers (g)

[BP/AR 6146.1 November 2021; EC 48980, 51225.3, 51229; 5 CCR 1600-1651]

Definition of career technical education

A program of study that involves a multiyear sequence of courses that integrates core academic knowledge with technical and occupational knowledge to provide students with a pathway to postsecondary education and careers. More information is available about Career Technical Education at California Department of Education, www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct. [EC 35186, 48412, 48430, 49701, 51225.3, 51225.5, 51228, 51240-51246, 51410-51412, 51420-51427; 5 CCR 1600-1651]

SCHOOL RECORDS AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

■ Pupil Records

Parents, guardians, foster parents, certain caregivers, and students over 18 have the right to review, inspect, and get copies of school records within five business days of a written or oral request or before any meeting regarding an individualized education plan (IEP) or a hearing. Those records are confidential, and privacy will be maintained. Student records are provided to schools where student transfers or wants to enroll. In some instances, information about your child may be released to District staff, foster agencies, short-term residential treatment programs, after school programs, summer camps, lawyers, law enforcement, state researchers, and nonprofit researchers. Sharing of pupil records must conform to federal laws and in some cases must be approved by the State Committee for Protection of Human Subjects. The records include transcripts, discipline letters, commendations, attendance, and health information. The records are maintained at each school site by the principal. There is someone to help interpret the material. When more than one

child is named in the records, parents may only see material related to their child. If requested, the district will provide a list of types and locations where materials are held. There is a log of who has viewed the records that is kept at the same location as the records. District policy or administrative regulation 5125 sets forth the criteria by which school officials and employees can look and change or delete the files and why. You may have copies made for ten cents (10¢) per page. If you cannot afford the cost of copies, they will be provided free of charge. With the proper documentation, the records can be changed to reflect a legal change of name and/or gender of a student or a former student. You also have the right to file a written request with the superintendent challenging the records if you think there is an inaccuracy, unsubstantiated conclusion or inference, a conclusion outside the observer's expertise, a comment not based on personal observation with time and date noted, misleading information, or a violation of privacy rights. You can file a complaint about how your request was handled with the district or with United States Department of Education. You will get to meet with the superintendent or designee within 30 days. If your challenge is sustained, the changes will be made. If not, you can appeal to the school board, which has final authority. If you still have a different view, your view can be included in the student's record. [EC 8484.1, 49060, 49062.5, 49063, 49068, 49069.3, 49070-49079.7, 51101, 56043, 56504; CC 1798.24(t); FERPA; 20 USC 1232(g); 34 CFR Part 99]

Student Data from Social Media Websites

School Districts may now adopt a plan to gather student information from social media websites. The Governing Board has not adopted such a plan, but may consider it in the future. The information would pertain only to student or school safety, and must be destroyed within one year of the student leaving the District or turning 18. [EC 49073.6]

■ Regulations Regarding Pupil Achievement

The Board of Education believes good communication between parents and teachers is important in the educational process. All appropriate forms of communication should be used. The progress report should reflect student progress in classwork and proficiency levels and indicate

educational growth in relation to the student's ability, citizenship and effort. [EC 49067]

■ Teacher Qualifications

A provision of federal Title I requires all districts to notify parents of children in Title I schools that they have the right to request and receive timely information on the professional qualifications of classroom teachers and paraprofessionals including state qualifications, licensing for the grade level or subject taught, any waivers for qualifications, emergency provisions, college major, graduate degrees and subject, and if paraprofessionals or aides are in the classroom and what their qualifications are. [ESEA; 20 USC 6311; 34 CFR 200.61]

■ Release of Directory Information

The law allows schools to release "directory information" to certain persons or organizations including military recruiters. Directory information includes student's name, address, telephone number, email address, date of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most recent previous school attended. Directory information does not include citizenship status, immigration status, place of birth, or any other information indicating national. You may have the district withhold any of this information by submitting a request in writing by August 31st. Written notification received after the date specified will be honored, but the student's information may have been released in the interim. In the case of students with exceptional needs or who are homeless, no material can be released without parent or guardian consent. [EC 49061(c), 49070, 49073(c), 56515; FERPA; ESEA]

■ School Safety Plan

Every year, each school shall review and update its plan by March 1. Plans should, among other things, provide guidance for the response to and/or the prevention of bullying, child abuse, disasters, and criminal activity. Key elements are to be described in the School Accountability Report Card. Planned responses to criminal incidents need not be disclosed. The Uniform Complaint Procedure can be used regarding School Safety Plan compliance. [EC 32281, 32282.1, 32286, 32288, 32289, 51101; ne]

STUDENT SERVICES

■ Student Meal Program

The District's Nutrition Services Department serves breakfast and lunch daily at no cost to all students. Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, the district has been approved to provide meals to all students free of cost, through a special program funded by the United States Department of Agriculture. To continue with this program, parents must complete an income verification form for each child attending a school in the District. Students may still purchase a second meal and/or a la carte items sold by the school. It is our goal to provide quality meals that are delicious and nutritious for every one of our students! The District uses information from the California Department of Education and the Centers for Disease Control for guidance to help protect pupils with food allergies. School menus and more information is available on the Nutrition Services Department page of the district website www.gustineusd.org. In addition, menus with nutritional information are also available on the Nutrislice website at www.gustineusd.org/o/gustine-usd/page/nutrition-services--40. You can also follow us on our Facebook page to stay up to date with news and events. For additional questions or information, please contact our Nutrition Services office at (209) 854-6747. [EC 49414.2, 49510-49520, 49558; 42 USC 1761(a); ne]

■ Student Use of Technology

The Governing Board intends that technological resources provided by the district be used in a safe and responsible manner in support of the instructional program and for the advancement of student learning. All students using these resources shall receive instruction in their proper and appropriate use.

Teachers, administrators, and/or library media specialists are expected to review the technological resources and online sites that will be used in the classroom or assigned to students in order to ensure that they are appropriate for the intended purpose and the age of the students.

The Superintendent or designee shall notify students and parents/guardians about authorized uses of district technology, user obligations and responsibilities, and consequences for unauthorized

use and/or unlawful activities in accordance with this Board policy and the district's Acceptable Use Agreement.

District technology includes, but is not limited to, computers, the district's computer network including servers and wireless computer networking technology (wi-fi), the Internet, email, USB drives, wireless access points (routers), tablet computers, smartphones and smart devices, telephones, cellular telephones, personal digital assistants, pagers, MP3 players, wearable technology, any wireless communication device including emergency radios, and/or future technological innovations, whether accessed on or off site or through district-owned or personally owned equipment or devices.

Before a student is authorized to use district technology, the student and his/her parent/guardian shall sign and return the Acceptable Use Agreement. In that agreement, the parent/guardian shall agree not to hold the district or any district staff responsible for the failure of any technology protection measures or user mistakes or negligence and shall agree to indemnify and hold harmless the district and district staff for any damages or costs incurred.

The district reserves the right to monitor student use of technology within the jurisdiction of the district without advance notice or consent. Students shall be informed that their use of district technology, including, but not limited to, computer files, email, text messages, instant messaging, and other electronic communications, is not private and may be accessed by the district for the purpose of ensuring proper use. Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy in use of the district technology. Students' personally owned devices shall not be searched except in cases where there is a reasonable suspicion, based on specific and objective facts, that the search will uncover evidence of a violation of law, district policy, or school rules.

The Superintendent or designee may gather and maintain information pertaining directly to school safety or student safety from the social media activity of any district student in accordance with Education Code 49073.6 and BP/AR 5125 - Student Records.

Whenever a student is found to have violated Board policy or the district's Acceptable Use Agreement, the principal or designee may cancel or limit a student's user privileges or increase

supervision of the student's use of the district's equipment and other technological resources, as appropriate. Inappropriate use also may result in disciplinary action and/or legal action in accordance with law and Board policy.

The Superintendent or designee, with input from students and appropriate staff, shall regularly review and update procedures to enhance the safety and security of students using district technology and to help ensure that the district adapts to changing technologies and circumstances.

Internet Safety

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all district computers with Internet access have a technology protection measure that protects against access to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors and that the operation of such measures is enforced.

To reinforce these measures, the Superintendent or designee shall implement rules and procedures designed to restrict students' access to harmful or inappropriate matter on the Internet and to ensure that students do not engage in unauthorized or unlawful online activities.

Harmful matter includes matter, taken as a whole, which to the average person, applying contemporary statewide standards, appeals to the prurient interest and is matter which depicts or describes, in a patently offensive way, sexual conduct and which lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value for minors.

The district's Acceptable Use Agreement shall establish expectations for appropriate student conduct when using the Internet or other forms of electronic communication, including, but not limited to, prohibitions against:

1. Accessing, posting, submitting, publishing, or displaying harmful or inappropriate matter that is threatening, obscene, disruptive, or sexually explicit, or that could be construed as harassment or disparagement of others based on their race/ethnicity, national origin, sex, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, or political beliefs
2. Intentionally uploading, downloading, or creating computer viruses and/or maliciously attempting to harm or destroy district equipment or materials

or manipulate the data of any other user, including so-called "hacking"

3. Distributing personal identification information, including the name, address, telephone number, Social Security number, or other personally identifiable information, of another student, staff member, or other person with the intent to threaten, intimidate, harass, or ridicule that person.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide age-appropriate instruction regarding safe and appropriate behavior on social networking sites, chat rooms, and other Internet services. Such instruction shall include, but not be limited to, the dangers of posting one's own personal identification information online, misrepresentation by online predators, how to report inappropriate or offensive content or threats, behaviors that constitute cyberbullying, and how to respond when subjected to cyberbullying. [BP 6163.4 August 2015; EC 49073.6, 51006, 51007, 60044; PC 313, 502, 632, 653.2; 15 USC 6501-6506; 20 USC 6751-6777; 47 USC 254; 16 CFR 312.1-312.12; 47 CFR 54.52]

School Accountability Report Card

The School Accountability Report Card is available on request, and is available annually by February 1st on the Internet at www.gustineusd.org/o/gustine-usd/browse/116120. It contains information about the district and school regarding the quality of programs and its progress toward achieving stated goals. A copy will be provided upon request. [EC 33126, 32286, 35256, 35258, 51101]

Services to Students with Disabilities

If you have reason to believe your child (ages 0 through 21 years) has a disability requiring special services or accommodations, contact the school. Your child will be evaluated to determine whether he/she is eligible for free special or modified instruction or services.

The District wants to locate, identify and assess all children with disabilities whether homeless, wards of the state, enrolled in public or private schools. The District has policies guiding procedures for identification and referral. Students identified with special needs will receive a Free Appropriate Public Education in the least restrictive environment. [EC 48853, 56020 et seq., 56040, 56301; 5 CCR 4622; 20 USC 1412, (10)(A)(ii), 1412(a)(6)(A); 34 CFR 300.121]

■ Advanced Placement Examination Fees

State funding is available to qualified low-income students to assist in paying all or part of Advanced Placement exams. [EC 48980(j), 52240]

■ Pupil Fees

While there are limited exceptions, families and students should not have to pay fees for most items related to public education. There are four types of fees identified in Education Code:

Pupil Fees: No fees or deposits can be required or collected for items including, but not limited to, materials, supplies, equipment, uniforms (i.e. band, cheerleading, basketball), lockers, locks, books, class apparatus, musical instruments.

Educational Activity Fees: No fees can be required or collected for student participation in an event or activity, either curricular or extracurricular, that is an essential part of a student's education or for transportation to those events. There can be no fees required for registering or participating in regular or extra classes.

Voluntary Donations: While voluntary donations may be suggested for activities, no student may be denied participation based on the family's ability to make a donation.

Exceptions – When fees may be required: By law, there are exceptions to the prohibition against charging fees or deposits. Exceptions include, but are not limited to, transportation to non-essential activities, non-essential events where attendance is optional (such as a school dance), food served to students, damage to district provided materials such as textbooks, cost of community service classes, and fingerprinting. Money may also be collected for material used for projects that a student will be taking home, such as, material used in a career class like woodshop or sewing. The Uniform Complaint Procedure can be used regarding pupil fee compliance. A complaint may be filed with the school principal and may be filed anonymously. [EC 17551, 17552, 19911, 32030-32033, 32220-32224, 32390, 35330, 35331, 35335, 38084, 38118, 38120, 39807.5, 48052, 48053, 48904, 49010-49013, 49063, 49065, 49066, 51815, 52373, 52612, 52615, 52920-52922, 60070; 5 CCR 4610, 4630]

HEALTH SERVICES

■ Immunizations

Documented proof that immunizations are up-to-date is required before attending school; districts may not allow "conditional" admittance into schools. Students may not participate in a classroom setting unless they have been fully immunized against diphtheria, hepatitis b, haemophilus influenza type b, measles, mumps, pertussis (whooping cough), poliomyelitis, rubella, and tetanus. Students must be immunized for varicella (chickenpox) or provide proof from a doctor stating they have had the disease.

All new students, advancing students, or students transferring into grades 7-12 must be fully immunized, and will not be admitted without the required booster against pertussis (Tdap). The required immunizations are available through a usual source of medical care, County Health Department, a school nurse, or may be administered by a health care practitioner acting under the direction of a physician. Immunizations may be given at school. There may be funds for those who cannot access services. Homeless, foster, migratory, and military youth can be enrolled without proof of immunization. [HSC 120325, 120335, 120338, 120375, 120400, 120405, 120410, 120415, 120480; EC 48216, 48852.7, 48853.5, 49403; 17 CCR 6000-6075; 42 USC 11432(C)(i)]

Exemptions

These requirements do not apply if a form from licensed physician cites why they should not. The physician submits the standardized electronic form directly to the California Immunization Registry (CAIR) and to the school for exemption; this is the only form the school will accept. The form will include physician information, the child's name and their school, the parent's/guardian's name, and the specific basis for and duration of the exemption.

If an outbreak of a communicable disease occurs, a non-immunized student will be excluded from school for their own safety until such a time as directed by health officials or district administration.

Forms submitted prior to January 1, 2020 and exemptions based on beliefs opposed to immunization submitted prior to January 1, 2016 are valid until the pupil enrolls in the next grade span (through preschool, grades K-6, grades 7-12). Parents or guardians may refuse to allow the sharing

of personal information related to their child's immunization records by notifying your County Health Department. [HSC 120325, 120335, 120338, 120370, 120372, 120372.05; EC 48216]

■ Physical Examinations

For each child enrolling in the District for the first time in kindergarten or first grade, the parent or guardian must present a certificate, signed by a physician, verifying that the child has received a physical examination within the last 18 months. If your child does not receive this exam, you must file a waiver with the school district stating the reasons you are unable to obtain such services. You may have your child immunized at the same time that the physical examination is conducted. [EC 49450; HSC 124085, 124100, 124105]

These services may be available to you at no cost through the Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP). For information, you may contact:

Golden Valley Health Center
637 Merced, Newman, CA 95360
(209) 862-0270

If you want your child to be exempt from physical examinations at school, file a written statement annually with the school refusing such an exam. However, when there is a good reason to believe that your child is suffering from a recognized contagious or infectious disease, he/she may be sent home and shall not be permitted to return to school until the contagious or infectious disease does not exist. [EC 49451; PPRA]

■ Kindergarten and/or First Grade Oral Health Assessment

Many things impact a child's school progress and success, including health. Children must be healthy to learn, and children with cavities are not healthy. Baby teeth are not just teeth that will fall out. Children need their teeth to eat properly, talk, smile, and feel good about themselves. Children with cavities may have difficulty eating, stop smiling, and have problems paying attention and learning at school.

Parents or guardians must have their child's oral health assessed and have proof of the assessment by May 31 of the student's first school year (kindergarten or first grade). Assessments within the 12 months before the child enters school also meet this requirement. The assessment must be done by a

licensed dentist or licensed or registered dental health professional. [EC 49452.8]

■ Vision, Hearing, and Scoliosis Screening

An authorized person will check your child's vision upon enrollment and in grades 2, 5, and 8 unless the student entered the District in grade 4 or 7. Hearing tests will be conducted when your child is enrolled or first enters a District school. Females in grade 7 and males in grade 8 may be screened for scoliosis (curvature of the spine). These tests may be administered unless you annually give the school a certificate from a physician or optometrist verifying prior testing, or submit a letter denying consent. [EC 44878, 49451, 49452, 49452.5, 49455]

■ Medication

Children may take medication, which is prescribed by a physician, and get help from school personnel during the school day if:

1. The district designee has received a written statement from the physician detailing the medication name, method, amount, and time schedules by which the medication is to be taken; and
2. Parent, guardian, or caregiver annually submits a written statement asking the school district to assist their child in taking the medication or allow the student to self-administer certain medications. The statement gives permission to communicate with the health care provider or pharmacist, and acknowledges understanding of how the medication will be administered.

This includes allowing a school staff member to volunteer and be trained to identify the need for, and to administer epinephrine to a student for anaphylaxis; glucagon as prescribed for diabetes; or anti-seizure medication as prescribed to a student diagnosed with seizures, a seizure disorder, or epilepsy. Each school determines if it will have staff trained in the use and storage of auto-injectable epinephrine and/or anti-seizure medication. The District will have a supply of auto-injectable epinephrine at each school site. [EC 49414, 49414.1, 49414.5, 49423, 49423.1, 49468.2, 49480]

Children may carry and self-administer a blood glucose level test, diabetes care, inhaled asthma medication, and auto-injectable epinephrine if the

rules above are met and if a physician confirms in writing that the student is able to self-administer. The District does not allow parents to administer medical cannabis on campus. [BP 5141.21 February 2020; EC 49414, 49414.5, 49423, 49423.1, 49480]

If your child is on a continuing medication regimen for a non-episodic condition, you are required to notify the district designee of the medication being taken, the current dosage, and the name of the supervising physician. [EC 49480]

■ Sun Protection

Students when outdoors can wear sun protective clothing, including, but not limited to hats with a two inch brim all around. Students may also apply sunscreen during the day without a doctor's note or prescription. [EC 35183.5, 35291, 35294.6]

■ Medical and Hospital Insurance for Students

The district DOES NOT provide insurance on individual students. However, you may purchase accident insurance through the district for medical and hospital services covering your child. The insurance provides coverage for your child while on school grounds or in school buildings during the time your child is required to be there because of attendance during a regular school day of the district; or while being transported by the district to and from school or other place of instruction; or while at any other place as an incident to school-sponsored activities. The school district assumes no liability for accidents to pupils at school. [EC 32221.5, 49472]

Under state law, school districts are required to ensure that all members of school athletic teams have accidental injury insurance that covers medical and hospital expenses. This insurance requirement can be met by the school district offering insurance or other health benefits that cover medical and hospital expenses. Some pupils may qualify to enroll in no-cost or low-cost local, state, or federally sponsored health insurance programs. [EC 49471]

Enrollment in a Health Care Plan

All children and their families must be enrolled in a health care plan. There are several options for getting a health plan; through an insurance agent, or low cost provider such as Medi-Cal and

Covered California at (800) 300-1506 or online at www.coveredca.com. [PPACA]

School-Sponsored Athletics

If a student participates in school-sponsored athletics other than physical education or athletic event during the school day, parents/guardians and the student athlete are required to annually; (1) complete a concussion awareness form, (2) complete a sudden cardiac arrest awareness form, and (3) sign a document acknowledging receipt of an Opioid Factsheet received either in print or electronic format. [EC 33479, 49475, 49476]

■ Access to Mental Health Services

School-based mental health services help address barriers to learning and provide appropriate student and family support in a safe and supportive environment. Reaching out for mental health services is simple; contact your school counselor, nurse, health aide, principal, or the district office. In the community a good place to start may be to dial 211 for referrals in your area or call Stacia Orr, District Nurse at (209) 600-2102 or email at sorr@gustineusd.org. If you are in crisis contact this number or dial 911 immediately. [EC 49428]

School-based mental health services help address barriers to learning and provide appropriate student and family support in a safe and supportive environment. Reaching out for mental health services is simple; contact Susena Ross, District Nurse at (209) 600-2102, your school counselor, health aide, principal, or the district office. In the community a good place to start may be to dial 211 for referrals in your area or call Merced Co. Mental Health Services at (209) 381-6800 or (888) 334-0163. If you are in crisis contact this number or dial 911. [EC 49428]

Suicide Prevention

Suicide is a leading cause of death among youth, and school personnel is often in a position to recognize warning signs. The District makes an effort to reduce suicidal behavior and its impact and has developed strategies to intervene. These may include staff development, student instruction in coping skills, informing parents/guardians, methods for promoting a positive school climate, crisis intervention, and counseling (including for bereavement). Information about district programs and services and links to community and statewide resources are available

on the District's website at www.gustineusd.org/o/gustine-usd/page/suicide-prevention-mental-health. [EC 215, 234.5, 234.6, 49060-49079, 49602, 49604; GC 810-996.6; PC 11164-11174.3; WIC 5698, 5850-5883; BP 5141.52 September 2021]

■ Schools Free of Tobacco, Alcohol, and Drugs

The Board has adopted Tobacco-Free, Drug-Free, and Alcohol-Free campus policies to promote student health and well-being. The District strives for a school environment free of these substances and has prevention and intervention programs. There may be programs through the District or in the community to support students' cessation from use of tobacco, alcohol, or drugs. For more information please contact the school/district nurse or a school administrator. [EC 51202-51203, 51260-51269; HSC 104420, 11999-11999.3; PC 13864]

■ Diabetes Information

Diabetes is a health condition that affects how the body turns food into energy. Most food is broken down into glucose (sugar). When sugar increases in your bloodstream, your pancreas releases insulin. Insulin acts like a key to let the sugar into your body's cells to use as energy. When there isn't enough insulin or when cells stop responding to insulin, too much sugar stays in your bloodstream. Over time, this can cause serious health problems such as heart disease, vision loss, and kidney disease. There is no cure for any type of diabetes.

For both types, managing weight, eating healthy food, being active, and getting enough rest can really help. Taking medicine as prescribed, getting diabetes self-management education and support, and keeping health care appointments can also reduce the negative impacts of diabetes.

Type-2 Diabetes:

Type-2 diabetes is when your body can't use the insulin it makes as well as it should. It is the most common form of diabetes in adults, and is becoming more common in children, especially overweight teens. It is estimated that one in three children born in the US after the year 2000 will develop type-2 diabetes.

Type-2 diabetes can be prevented or delayed through lifestyle changes and medical intervention,

and it is treatable. Eating healthy foods in the correct amounts and exercising regularly (at least 60 minutes every day) can help children achieve or maintain a normal weight and normal blood glucose levels.

The first step is to visit a doctor who can determine if your child is overweight. A doctor can prescribe medication if appropriate and can order tests of a child's blood glucose to see if the child has diabetes or pre-diabetes (may lead to full onset type-2 diabetes).

Type-1 Diabetes:

Type-1 diabetes is when your body simply doesn't make enough insulin. Type-1 diabetes is not preventable, but it is manageable. It is an autoimmune disease that may be caused by genetic, environmental, or other factors. It is usually first diagnosed in children or young adults, but it can occur at any age.

Risk Factors:

It is recommended that students displaying or possibly experiencing the risk factors and warning signs below see a doctor to be screened for type-1 and/or type-2 diabetes:

Being overweight: The single greatest risk factor for Type-2 diabetes is excess weight. In the US, almost one out of every five children is overweight. Being overweight more than doubles a child's chance of developing diabetes.

Family history of diabetes: Many affected children and youth have at least one parent with diabetes or have a significant family history of the disease.

Inactivity: Being inactive further reduces the body's ability to respond to insulin.

Specific racial/ethnic groups: Native Americans, African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, or Asian/Pacific Islanders are more prone than other ethnic groups to develop type-2 diabetes.

Age/Puberty: Type-1 diabetes usually occurs in the early years, and before reaching puberty. Type-2 diabetes is more likely to develop during or near puberty, probably because of normal rises in hormone levels that can cause insulin resistance during this stage of rapid growth and physical development.

Warning Signs and Symptoms:

There are usually warning signs when a child might have diabetes. Not everyone with diabetes develops these symptoms, and not everyone who has these symptoms necessarily has diabetes. Type-2 symptoms generally develop slowly over time. Type-1 symptoms show up quickly – in a matter of weeks or even days, and are much more severe.

- Increased hunger, even after eating
- Unexplained weight loss
- Increased thirst, dry mouth, and frequent urination
- Feeling very tired
- Blurred vision
- Slow healing of sores or cuts
- Dark velvety or ridged patches of skin, especially on the back of the neck or under the arms
- Irregular/No menstrual periods, and/or excess facial and body hair growth in girl
- High blood pressure or abnormal blood fats levels
- For type-1; Nausea, vomiting, and/or stomach pain

Parents/Guardians of children displaying warning signs should immediately consult with the student's primary care provider to determine if screening for diabetes is appropriate. Following a diabetes's diagnosis, parents/guardians should work with the primary care provider to develop a lifestyle and medical treatment plan, which may include consultation with and examination by a specialty care provider, including, but not limited to, a properly qualified endocrinologist.

Diabetes Screening Tests:

Your doctor may have your child take one or more of the following blood tests to confirm the diagnosis:

Glycated hemoglobin (A1C) test: A blood test measures the average blood sugar level over two to three months

Random (non-fasting) blood sugar test: A blood sample is taken at a random time; this test must be confirmed with a fasting blood glucose test.

Fasting blood sugar test: A blood sample is taken after an overnight fast; a high level on two separate tests indicates diabetes.

Oral glucose tolerance test: A test measuring the fasting blood sugar level after an overnight fast with periodic testing for the next several hours after drinking a sugary liquid.

If the primary care provider thinks your child has type-1 diabetes, blood may also be tested for autoantibodies (substances that indicate the body is attacking itself) that are often present in type-1 diabetes but not in type-2. The child's urine might be tested for ketones (produced when the body burns fat for energy), which may also indicate type-1 diabetes instead of type-2 diabetes.

More information can be found on these websites: California Department of Public Health, www.cdph.ca.gov; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, www.cdc.gov; National Institutes of Health, www.nih.gov; American Diabetes Association, <https://diabetes.org>.

The information provided in this booklet is intended to raise awareness about this disease. Contact your child's primary care provider, school nurse, or school administrator if you have questions. [EC 49452.6, 49452.7; HSC 104250]

■ Fluoride Treatments

Children are eligible for fluoride treatments through a program organized by the county health officer. Parents will get a record that the treatment was applied. The county health officer will determine how to pay for the program. Parents or a student 18 years old or more have the right to refuse this program using the form provided by the school district. This program is not meant to replace regular professional dental care. [HSC 104855]

STUDENT BEHAVIOR

All pupils have the right to participate fully in the educational process, free from discrimination, harassment, violence, intimidation, and bullying. Schools have an obligation to combat racism, sexism, and other forms of bias, and a responsibility to provide equal educational opportunity and ensure safe school sites.

Students are encouraged to report anything they see or hear about that might be suspicious or dangerous to a teacher or other staff member. Any staff member that receives such a report will quickly

take appropriate action, and the student's identity will remain confidential.

■ School Rules

You have a right to review school and district rules regarding student discipline. If you wish to do so, please contact the school office. [EC 35291, 48980]

■ Safe Place to Learn

It is State and District policy to improve student safety, connections between students and supportive adults, and connections between schools and communities. These policies prohibit discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying at all school sites or at any school sponsored activity. School site staff trained in anti-bias shall be made known to students. When safe to do so, District employees must intervene immediately when they see discrimination, harassment, intimidation or bullying. Certificated staff in grades 7-12 get information about helping LGBTQ students. Information about district programs and services and links to community and statewide resources related to: suicide prevention; sex discrimination including Title IX information; hate violence; sexual harassment including the District's Policy (also included in this booklet); harassment, intimidation, and bullying; and cyber-bullying including social-media bullying are available on the District's website at www.gustineusd.org/o/gustineusd/browse/116220 and online at www.cde.ca.gov, www.wested.org/project/california-healthy-kids-survey-chks/.

The District Uniform Complaint Procedure may be used to file a complaint. Contact the District Complaint Officer(s) listed on page 34 for assistance. [CE 200, 215, 220, 221.6, 221.61, 221.8, 230, 231.5, 233, 234, 234.1, 234.4, 234.5, 234.6, 51101, 66250, 66260.6, 66270; CP 422.55, 422.6; 5 CCR 4900; BP 5131.2 February 2020]

■ Digital Communication Devices

Districts may regulate the possession or use of any cellphone, smartphone, pager or electronic signaling device while pupils are on campus, while attending school-sponsored activities, or while under the supervision and control of school district employees. Students cannot be stopped from using such a device when: there is an emergency; there is a perceived threat of danger; when a teacher or administrator has said it is acceptable; or if it is part of

an individualized education program (IEP). Possession or use is allowed if essential to student's health as determined by a licensed physician or surgeon. [EC 48901.5, 48901.7]

■ Dress and Grooming

Appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive learning environment. Students are expected to wear clothing that is suitable for the school activities in which they participate. Students shall not wear clothing that presents a health or safety hazard or causes a substantial disruption to the educational program.

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

The following guidelines shall apply to all regular school activities:

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

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

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

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

Gang-Related Apparel

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

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

Uniforms

In schools that require a schoolwide uniform, the principal, staff, and parents/guardians of the school shall jointly select the specific uniform to be worn.

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

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

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

Students who participate in a nationally recognized youth organization shall be allowed to wear organization uniforms on days when the organization has a scheduled meeting. [AR 5132 June 2019; EC 212.1, 220, 32280-32289.5, 35183, 35183.5, 48907, 49066]

Note: None of the schools in the District require schoolwide uniforms at this time.

■ Bus Rider Rules

Because school bus passengers’ behavior can directly affect their safety and the safety of others, the following regulations apply at all times when students are riding a school bus, including school activity trips.

The following rules apply at all times when students are riding a school bus, including when on school activity trips:

1. Riders shall follow the instructions and directions of the bus driver at all times.
2. Riders should arrive at their designated bus stop on time and stand in a safe place at the stop to wait quietly for the bus.
3. Riders shall enter the bus in an orderly manner and go directly to their seats.
4. Riders shall sit down and fasten any passenger restraint systems. Riders shall remain seated while the bus is in motion.
5. Riders shall not block the aisle or emergency exit with their body or personal belongings. Riders may bring large or bulky items, such as class projects or musical instruments, on the bus only if the item does not displace any other rider or obstruct the driver’s vision.
6. Riders should be courteous to the driver and to fellow passengers. Vulgarity, rude, or abusive behavior is prohibited.
7. Any noise or behavior that could distract the driver, such as loud talking, scuffling or fighting, throwing objects, or standing, or changing seats, is prohibited and may lead to suspension of riding privileges.
8. Riders shall not use tobacco products, eat, or drink while riding the bus.
9. Riders may bring electronic devices onto the bus only if such devices are permitted at school. If the use of cellular telephones or similar devices disrupts the safe operation of the school bus, the bus driver may direct the student to no longer use the device on the bus.
10. Riders shall not put any part of the body out of the window nor throw any item from the bus. Riders shall help keep the bus and the area around the bus stop clean.
11. Riders shall not damage or deface the bus or tamper with bus equipment.
12. Service animals are permitted on school transportation services; all other animals are prohibited.
13. Upon reaching their destination, riders shall remain seated until the bus comes to a complete

stop and upon the signal from the driver, unfasten any restraint system, enter the aisle, and go directly to the exit.

14. Riders should be alert for traffic when leaving the bus and shall follow the district's transportation safety plan when crossing the road and exiting the bus.

The driver or any passenger shall report any violation to the Director of Transportation at (209) 854-2607 or cpometta@gustineusd.org. The Director of Transportation shall notify the student's parent/guardian of the misbehavior, determine the severity of the misconduct, and take action accordingly. In instances of a severe violation or repeated offenses, the rider may be denied transportation for a period of time determined appropriate by the principal or designee.

Bus drivers shall not deny transportation services except as directed by the principal or designee. [BP/AR 5131.1 September 2010; EC 35160, 39800-39860, 39839, 44808, 48900, 48918, 49060-49079, 49073-49079; 5 CCR 14103; 13 CCR 1200-1294; GC 6253-6270; FERPA]

■ Safe Gun Storage

Guns are now the leading cause of death for minors in this country. Virtually every day, children are shot and injured, or sometimes killed, by firearms improperly stored. About 75 percent of shootings at schools are due to minors having access to guns at home. Over 80 percent of teens who commit suicide with a gun used one that belonged to someone in their home.

Gun ownership is a right in the US, and it comes with substantial responsibilities. It is a crime to store a loaded firearm where a child might gain access to that firearm. Information about gun safety and the safe storage of firearms can be found at <https://oag.ca.gov/firearms/tips>. [EC 48986, 49392; PC 25100]

DISCIPLINE

■ Civility

The District believes that every person deserves to be treated with dignity and respect in their interactions within our School Community. Civility has an impact on effective operations and on the creation of a safe and positive school climate for everyone.

While respecting every individual's right to free speech, that right does not allow for disruption of school classes, activities, meetings, or other events. Students, staff, parents, guardians, and the community are expected to be polite, courteous, respectful, and behave reasonably at all school or district activities and events. Practices that promote civil behavior include, but are not limited to, actively listening, giving full attention, not interrupting, welcoming and encouraging participation by everyone. Civility is hindered by disruptive behavior or speech, violence or the threat of violence, or harassment or bullying of any kind; these behaviors are prohibited and are subject to discipline according to law and District policies. [BP 1313 September 2021; EC 32210- 32212, 44050, 44807, 44810, 44811, 48900 et seq, 48950; CC 51.7, 1708.9; GC 54954.3, 54957.9; PC 415.5, 422.6, 627.4, 627.7]

■ Parent Responsibility

Parents or guardians are liable for all the damages caused by the willful misconduct of their minor children that result in death or injury to other students, school personnel, or damage to school property. Parents are also liable for any school property loaned to the student and willfully not returned. Parents' or guardians' liability may be as much as \$23,900 in damages and another maximum of \$13,200 as adjusted annually by the California Department of Education for payment of a reward, if any. With a few exceptions, the school district may withhold the grades, diplomas, or transcripts of the student responsible until such damages are paid or the property returned or until completion of a voluntary work program in lieu of payment of money. If your child commits an obscene act or engages in habitual profanity or vulgarity, disrupts school activities, or otherwise willfully defies the authority of school personnel, and is suspended for such misconduct, you may be required to attend a portion of a school day in your child's classroom. Civil penalties may also be enforced with fines up to \$25,000. [EC 48900.1, 48904, 51101; CC 1714.1; GC 53069.5]

Vandalism

Graffiti and scratching glass or other material on someone else's property is considered vandalism. Those convicted face fines, imprisonment and the requirement to clean up the damage or perform

community service. Parents/Guardians may be liable to pay fines as high as \$10,000 and be required to participate in the clean up. [PC 594-594.8]

■ Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco

Possession or use of illicit drugs (including cannabis), alcohol, or any tobacco product on District premises or at any District activity is strictly prohibited.

A student in possession or under the influence of marijuana (cannabis), concentrated cannabis, or any synthetic cannabinoid is subject to suspension or expulsion. A student 18 or older can be imprisoned and/or be fined. It is illegal for anyone under 21 to possess cannabis or synthetic cannabis.

Except for members of the military, possession of tobacco by anyone under 21 is illegal. Possession of approved tobacco cessation aids is not prohibited. A "tobacco product" is any product made or derived from tobacco or nicotine that is intended for human consumption, including an electronic device that delivers nicotine (commonly known as "e-cigarettes" or "vaping"). [EC 48900, 48901; HSC 11357, 11357.5, 11361, 11362.1, 11362.3, 104495, 104559; PC 308; VC 13202.5; BPC 22950.5, 25608; 20 USC 812, 814; ne]

■ Impersonation on the Internet

Pretending to be another pupil or real person other than yourself on the Internet or through other electronic methods to harm, intimidate, threaten or defraud is punishable by a \$1,000 fine or imprisonment for up to one year. [EC 48900; PC 528.5]

■ Grounds for Suspension or Expulsion

A pupil shall not be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion, unless the superintendent of the school district or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has committed an act as defined pursuant to any of subdivisions (a) to (r), inclusive:

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

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

- (c) Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, or otherwise furnished, or been under the influence of, a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind.
- (d) Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind, and either sold, delivered, or otherwise furnished to a person another liquid, substance, or material and represented the liquid, substance, or material as a controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant.
- (e) Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.
- (f) Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property.
- (g) Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property.
- (h) Possessed or used tobacco, or products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets, and betel. However, this section does not prohibit the use or possession by a pupil of the pupil's own prescription products.
- (i) Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.
- (j) Unlawfully possessed or unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell drug paraphernalia, as defined in Section 11014.5 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (k) (1) Disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties.
- (2) Except as provided in Section 48910, a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to

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

- (3) Except as provided in Section 48910, commencing July 1, 2020, a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 5, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts specified in paragraph (1), and those acts shall not constitute grounds for a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to be recommended for expulsion.
- (4) Except as provided in Section 48910, commencing July 1, 2020, a pupil enrolled in any of grades 6 to 8, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts specified in paragraph (1). This paragraph is inoperative on July 1, 2025.
- (l) Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.
- (m) Possessed an imitation firearm. As used in this section, "imitation firearm" means a replica of a firearm that is so substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm.
- (n) Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault as defined in Section 261, 266c, 286, 287, 288, or 289 of, or former Section 288a of, the Penal Code or committed a sexual battery as defined in Section 243.4 of the Penal Code.
- (o) Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a pupil who is a complaining witness or a witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for purposes of either preventing that pupil from being a witness or retaliating against that pupil for being a witness, or both.
- (p) Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma.
- (q) Engaged in, or attempted to engage in, hazing. For purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" means a method of initiation or preinitiation into a pupil organization or body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution, that is likely to cause serious bodily injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to a former, current, or prospective pupil. For purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" does not include athletic events or school-sanctioned events.
- (r) Engaged in an act of bullying. For purposes of this subdivision, the following terms have the following meanings:
 - (1) "Bullying" means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, and including one or more acts committed by a pupil or group of pupils as defined in Section 48900.2, 48900.3, or 48900.4, directed toward one or more pupils that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:
 - (A) Placing a reasonable pupil or pupils in fear of harm to that pupil's or those pupils' person or property.
 - (B) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience a substantially detrimental effect on the pupil's physical or mental health.
 - (C) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with the pupil's academic performance.
 - (D) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with the pupil's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.
 - (2) (A) "Electronic act" means the creation or transmission originated on or off the schoolsite, by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager, of a communication, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
 - (i) A message, text, sound, video, or image
 - (ii) A post on a social network internet website, including, but not limited to: (l) Posting to or creating a burn

page. "Burn page" means an internet website created for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1); (II) Creating a credible impersonation of another actual pupil for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1). "Credible impersonation" means to knowingly and without consent impersonate a pupil for the purpose of bullying the pupil and such that another pupil would reasonably believe, or has reasonably believed, that the pupil was or is the pupil who was impersonated; (III) Creating a false profile for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1). "False profile" means a profile of a fictitious pupil or a profile using the likeness or attributes of an actual pupil other than the pupil who created the false profile.

- (iii) (I) An act of cyber sexual bullying;
- (II) For purposes of this clause, "cyber sexual bullying" means the dissemination of, or the solicitation or incitement to disseminate, a photograph or other visual recording by a pupil to another pupil or to school personnel by means of an electronic act that has or can be reasonably predicted to have one or more of the effects described in subparagraphs (A) to (D), inclusive, of paragraph (1). A photograph or other visual recording, as described in this subclause, shall include the depiction of a nude, semi-nude, or sexually explicit photograph or other visual recording of a minor where the minor is identifiable from the photograph, visual recording, or other electronic act; (III) For purposes of this clause, "cyber sexual bullying" does not include a depiction, portrayal, or image that has any serious literary, artistic, educational, political, or scientific value or that involves athletic events or school-sanctioned activities.

(B) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) and subparagraph (A), an electronic act shall not constitute pervasive conduct solely on the basis that it has been transmitted on the internet or is currently posted on the internet.

- (3) "Reasonable pupil" means a pupil, including, but not limited to, a pupil with exceptional needs, who exercises average care, skill, and judgment in conduct for a person of that age, or for a person of that age with the pupil's exceptional needs.
- (s) A pupil shall not be suspended or expelled for any of the acts enumerated in this section unless the act is related to a school activity or school attendance occurring within a school under the jurisdiction of the superintendent of the school district or principal or occurring within any other school district. A pupil may be suspended or expelled for acts that are enumerated in this section and related to a school activity or school attendance that occur at any time, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
 - (1) While on school grounds.
 - (2) While going to or coming from school.
 - (3) During the lunch period whether on or off the campus.
 - (4) During, or while going to or coming from, a school-sponsored activity.
- (t) A pupil who aids or abets, as defined in Section 31 of the Penal Code, the infliction or attempted infliction of physical injury to another person may be subject to suspension, but not expulsion, pursuant to this section, except that a pupil who has been adjudged by a juvenile court to have committed, as an aider and abettor, a crime of physical violence in which the victim suffered great bodily injury or serious bodily injury shall be subject to discipline pursuant to subdivision (a).
- (u) As used in this section, "school property" includes, but is not limited to, electronic files and databases.
- (v) For a pupil subject to discipline under this section, a superintendent of the school district or principal is encouraged to provide alternatives to suspension or expulsion, using a research-based framework with strategies that improve behavioral

and academic outcomes, that are age appropriate and designed to address and correct the pupil's specific misbehavior as specified in Section 48900.5.

- (w) (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that alternatives to suspension or expulsion be imposed against a pupil who is truant, tardy, or otherwise absent from school activities.
- (2) It is further the intent of the Legislature that the Multi-Tiered System of Supports, which includes restorative justice practices, trauma-informed practices, social and emotional learning, and schoolwide positive behavior interventions and support, may be used to help pupils gain critical social and emotional skills, receive support to help transform trauma-related responses, understand the impact of their actions, and develop meaningful methods for repairing harm to the school community. [EC 35291, 48900, 48901.1, 48910]

Additionally, sexual harassment, hate violence, harassment, intimidation (grades 4-12) and threats and terroristic threats against school officials or school property or both (all students) may be recommended for suspension or expulsion. [EC 212.5, 233(e), 48900.2, 48900.3, 48900.4, 48900.7]

Homework shall be provided for a student suspended for two (2) or more days upon request. Such homework turned in on time that cannot be graded in time, will not be included in the calculation of the pupil's grade in the class. [EC 48913.5]

■ **Mandatory Suspension / Expulsion**

Education Code Section 48915(a): Except as provided in subdivisions (c) and (e), the principal or the superintendent of schools shall recommend the expulsion of a pupil for any of the following acts committed at school or at a school activity off school grounds, unless the principal or superintendent finds that the expulsion is inappropriate, due to the particular circumstance:

1. Causing serious physical injury to another person, except in self-defense.
2. Possession of any knife, explosive, or other dangerous object of no reasonable use to the pupil.

3. Unlawful possession of any controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, except for the first offense for the sale of not more than one avoirdupois ounce of marijuana, other than concentrated cannabis.
4. Robbery or extortion.
5. Assault or battery, as defined in Sections 240 and 242 of the Penal Code, upon any school employee.

Education Code Section 48915(c): The principal or superintendent of schools shall immediately suspend, pursuant to Section 48911, and shall recommend expulsion of a pupil that he or she determines has committed any of the following acts at school or at a school activity off school grounds:

1. Possessing, selling, or otherwise furnishing a firearm. This subdivision does not apply to an act of possessing a firearm if the pupil had obtained prior or written permission to possess the firearm from a certificated school employee, which is concurred in by the principal or the designee of the principal. This subdivision applies to an act of possessing a firearm only if the possession is verified by an employee of a school district.
2. Brandishing a knife at another person.
3. Unlawfully selling a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code.
4. Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 48900 or committing a sexual battery as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 48900.
5. Possession of an explosive.

■ **Video Surveillance Cameras**

The Board of Education concluded that the responsible and limited use of video surveillance cameras in certain areas of school buildings and grounds may be an effective additional tool to further safety and security objectives.

■ **Student Search**

The school principal or designee may search the person of a student, the student's property, vehicle, and District property under the student's control if there is a reasonable suspicion to believe the

student may have a concealed weapon, narcotics, stolen property, or contraband. Searches may be announced or unannounced, and the District may use drug-sniffing dogs if available. Employees shall not conduct strip searches or body cavity searches of any student. [EC 48900-48927, 49050-49051, 49330-49334; PC 626.9, 626.10]

■ Release of a Student to a Peace Officer

If a school official releases your child from school to a peace officer for the purpose of removing them from the school premises, the school official shall take immediate steps to notify you or a responsible relative of your child, except when a student has been taken into custody as a victim of suspected child abuse. In those cases, the peace officer will notify the parent or guardian. [EC 48906; PC 11165.6; WIC 305]

DISCRIMINATION, PROTECTIONS, COMPLAINTS AND PROCEDURES

The District is primarily responsible for compliance with local, state and federal laws and regulations and has procedures to address allegations of unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying against any protected individual or group including actual or perceived sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, ethnic group identification, race or ethnicity, ancestry, national origin, nationality, religion, mental or physical disability, age, or on the basis of a person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics in any district program, or activity that receives or benefits from local, state and federal financial assistance.

■ Non-Discrimination/Harassment

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

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

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

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

Unlawful discrimination also includes disparate treatment of students based on one of the categories above with respect to the provision of opportunities to participate in school programs or activities or the provision or receipt of educational benefits or services.

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

The Superintendent or designee shall facilitate students' access to the educational program by publicizing the district's nondiscrimination policy and related complaint procedures to students, parents/guardians, and employees. In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall post the district's policies prohibiting discrimination, harassment,

intimidation, and bullying and other required information on the district's web site in a manner that is easily accessible to parents/guardians and students, in accordance with law and the accompanying administrative regulation.

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

Regardless of whether a complainant complies with the writing, timeline, and/or other formal filing requirements, all complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, shall be investigated and prompt action taken to stop the discrimination, prevent recurrence, and address any continuing effect on students.

Students who engage in unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, in violation of law, Board policy, or administrative regulation shall be subject to appropriate consequence or discipline, which may include suspension or expulsion when the behavior is severe or pervasive as defined in Education Code 48900.4. Any employee who permits or engages in prohibited discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

Record-Keeping

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a record of all reported cases of unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, to enable the district to monitor, address, and prevent repetitive prohibited behavior in district schools. [BP 5145.3 June 2020; EC 200-262.4, 48900.3, 48900.4, 48904, 48907, 48950, 48985, 49020-49023, 49060-49079, 49060-

49079, 51500, 51501, 60044; CC 1714.1; GC 11135; PC 422.55, 422.6; 5 CCR 432, 4600-4670, 4900-4965; § 504; Title VI; Title VII; 20 USC 1681-1688; 42 USC 12101-12213, 6101-6107; 28 CFR 35.107; 34 CFR 100.3, 104.7, 104.8, 106.8, 106.9, 110.25, 99.31]

■ Sexual Harassment

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

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

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

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

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

handbooks. All district staff shall be trained regarding the policy.

Instruction/Information

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

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

complainant or victim of sexual harassment and/or other students during an investigation

Disciplinary Actions

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

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

Record-Keeping

In accordance with law and district policies and regulations, the Superintendent or designee shall maintain a record of all reported cases of sexual harassment to enable the district to monitor, address, and prevent repetitive harassing behavior in district schools. [BP 5145.7 December 2020; EC 200-262.4, 48900, 48900.2, 48904, 48980, 48985; CC 51.9, 1714.1; GC 12950.1; 5 CCR 4600-4670, 4900-4965; 20 USC 1092, 1221; FERPA; Title VI; Title VII; Title IX; 34 USC 12291; 42 USC 1983; 34 CFR 99.1-99.67, 106.1-106.82]

Complaints Regarding Discrimination, Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying, Exceptional Needs Students, Categorical Programs, Federally Funded Programs

The district prohibits the following, and shall follow uniform complaint procedures when addressing complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, harassment, or bullying against any protected individual or group identified under Board Policy, Education Code, California Code of Regulations, Penal Code, or Government Code including actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, historically associated racial traits, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnicity, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender

identity, gender expression, genetic information, or on the basis of a person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics in any district program or activity that receives or benefits from state financial assistance.

The District is committed to equal opportunity for all individuals in education and in employment. The District shall promote programs that ensure non-discriminatory practices in all District activities. Information about district programs and services and links to community and statewide resources related to: suicide prevention; sex discrimination including Title IX information; hate violence; sexual harassment including the District's Policy (also included in this booklet); harassment, intimidation, bullying; and cyber-bullying including social-media bullying are available on the Districts website at www.gustineusd.org/o/gustine-usd/browse/116240. You may contact your school's office or the District office to obtain a free copy of the district's complaint procedures. If you want further details in this regard, or if you believe your or your child(ren) have been subjected to the above and wish to file a complaint, please contact the District official responsible for compliance with Title V, Title VI, Title IX, § 504, and Uniform Complaints. The Governing Board designates the following compliance officer(s) to receive and investigate all complaints and ensure district compliance with law:

Marisol Juarez, Human Resources Specialist /
Title IX Coordinator
1500 Meredith Avenue
Gustine, CA 95322
(209) 854-3784 ext. 205
mjuarez@gustineusd.org

The Uniform Complaint Procedure can be used in cases of discrimination or a violation of a federal or state law within the following programs as identified by the District's Board Policies: adult education, career/technical education, technical training, ROP programs and centers, Agricultural Vocational Education, child development, State Preschool, Early Childhood Education Program Assessments, Consolidated Categorical Aid, Economic Impact Aid, LCAP, State Compensatory Education, State Program for Students of Limited English Proficiency, school improvement, tenth-grade counseling, tobacco-use prevention education, Peer Assistance and Review, Migrant and Indian Education, American Indian Education Centers, Bilingual Education, nutrition

services, special education, after school education and safety, homeless or foster youth education options, course content, physical education (including instructional minutes grades 1-6), discrimination, harassment, intimidation, bullying, pupil lactation accommodations, pupil fees, Civil Rights Guarantees that receive state or federal financial assistance, ESEA (Titles I-VII), Williams Settlement issues, school safety plan, safe place to learn, School Safety and Violence Prevention Act, and other areas designated by the District. [EC 200, 201, 220, 221.6, 221.61, 221.8, 230, 231.5, 233, 234 et seq., 234.6, 260 et seq., 262.3, 48853, 48853.5, 49010-49013, 49069.5, 51210, 51223, 51225.2, 51228.3, 52075, 52334.7, 56500.2, 56501; PC 422.55; 5 CCR 4600- 4687; CC 51-53; GC 11135, 12900; 20 USC 1400 et seq.; EOA; Title VI; Title VII; Title IX; § 504; IDEA; 34 CFR 106.9]

District's Uniform Complaint Process

You may contact your school's office or the District office to obtain a free copy of the district's complaint procedures. The complaint procedure can be used for a variety of issues not mentioned above including but not limited to employee issues and policies and procedures of the district. Confidentiality and privacy shall be respected in all complaint investigations. Complaints alleging discrimination may be filed by a person on their own behalf or on behalf of another person or group of people within six months of the occurrence or when facts became known. Complaints regarding a special needs student or pupil fees may be filed within 12 months of the occurrence. Complaints regarding LCAP may be filed anonymously. Complaints regarding Pupil Fees may be filed anonymously and with the principal. If a complaint regarding LCAP or pupil fees is valid, then the parents are due full reimbursement. Staff has been trained to deal with these types of complaints.

Those complaining (Complainants) are protected from retaliation and their identities are confidential when related to discrimination. Staff dealing with complaints are knowledgeable about the laws and programs they are investigating. The complaint may be dismissed if complainant obstructs or does not provide all information. If the District acts in the same manner, the finding may be affected.

1. Complaints made under this procedure shall be directed to the Uniform Complaint Officer who is responsible for processing the claims.

A complaint under the Uniform Complaint Procedure should be completed within 60 days from the receipt of the complaint. The Superintendent and complainant may agree in writing to extend the timeline.

2. You may contact the UCP Officer to obtain a copy of the complaint process.
3. You may choose to have your complaint mediated.
4. There shall be an investigative meeting after receiving the complaint.
5. The compliance officer shall send a written report about the investigation and decision. There are then five days to appeal to the Board of Education.
6. If you are not satisfied with the results the complainant then has 15 days to appeal to the California Department of Education. The appeal must include a copy of the locally filed complaint and a copy of the LEA decision.
7. There is nothing in this process to preclude a complainant from pursuing available civil law remedies outside of the district's complaint procedures. Such remedies may include mediation, attorneys, and legal remedies. Civil law remedies may include, but are not limited to: injunctions and restraining orders.

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

Rehabilitation Act Section 504 – Office of Civil Rights

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

Discrimination/Nutritional Services – U.S. Secretary of Agriculture

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

General Education – this school district

Health and Safety/Child Development – Department of Social Services

Student Records – Family Policy Compliance

Office (FPCO), Student Privacy Policy Office, US Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202

[20 USC 11138; 34 CFR 300.510-511, 300.513; EC 235. 262.3, 33031, 33032, 33381, 48985, 56000-56885, 59000-59300, 64000(a); 5 CCR 4600, 4620-4632]

■ **Complaints Regarding the Williams Settlement, Instructional Materials, Teacher Placement, and School Facilities**

Parents should use the District Uniform Complaint Procedure with modifications as included, to identify and resolve any deficiencies regarding instructional materials; facility cleanliness, safety, emergency or urgent facility conditions that pose a health or safety threat to students; or staff, teacher vacancies or misassignments. [EC 35186]

Williams Settlement complaint procedure

A complaint form may be obtained, free of charge, at the school office, the district office, or downloaded from the district's Web site at www.gustineusd.org/o/gustine-usd/page/williams-compliant-notice-and-form, but the form need not be used to make a complaint. You may also download a copy of the California Department of Education complaint form from this Web site, www.cde.ca.gov/re/cp/uc. The Uniform Complaint Procedure shall be used for filing Williams related complaints with the following special circumstances applying:

1. Forms can be turned into the principal or designee who will make every reasonable attempt to investigate.
2. Complaints beyond the site authority will be forwarded to the District within 10 days.
3. Complaints may be filed anonymously. A response may be requested if complainant is identified and will be sent to the mailing address on complaint
4. If the District is required to provide material in a foreign language based on California Department of Education census data and if requested, the response and report shall be written in English and the primary language in which the complaint was filed.

5. The form will have a box to request a response and indicate where to file the form.
6. Valid complaints should be remedied within 30 days of receipt.
7. Within 45 days of filing a complaint, notice should be sent to complainant when a response was requested. A principal will also inform the Superintendent of resolution in the same time frame.
8. If unsatisfied with resolution a complainant may describe the complaint to the governing board at a regularly scheduled meeting.
9. The District will report quarterly on the number of resolved and unresolved complaints and summarize data regarding complaints and resolutions to the county superintendent and the local governing board in public session making it part of the public records. [EC 35186, 48985]

■ **Further Information is Available**

Further information regarding our district schools, programs, policies, and procedures is available to any interested person upon request to our district office. [FERPA, 34 CFR 99.7(b)]

DISTRICT FACILITIES

■ **Management Plan for Asbestos-Containing Material**

The district has available upon request a complete and updated management plan for asbestos-containing material. [40 CFR 763.93]

■ **Lead Poison**

The district website has information about lead poisoning, including risks and effects of childhood lead exposure; blood lead screening tests for children enrolled in Medi-Cal; recommendations for children

not enrolled in Medi-Cal who are at high risk of lead exposure and blood lead screening tests as required. The District will handout information to parents of district childcare or preschool programs. [HSC 105286]

■ **Pesticide Use**

The District is providing parents the name of all pesticide products expected to be applied at school facilities this school year. The identification includes the name and active ingredients. Only fully certified pesticides can be used on school grounds. The school’s Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM) is updated by June 30 each year. The IPM, pesticide names and active ingredients, and application dates are posted on the school and/or district website at www.gustineusd.org/o/gustine-usd/browse/116235.

Parents and guardians may register with the school or district if they wish to receive notification of pesticide applications at a particular school or facility. Notice of an application and written notice of unlisted pesticide use will be given 72 hours in advance. For an emergency application, 72 hours notice will be the goal. Each area of the school where pesticide is being used will be identified by a posted warning 24 hours before (or upon application, if an emergency) through 72 hours after use. Further information is available from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation, P.O. Box 4015, Sacramento, CA 95812-4015, www.cdpr.ca.gov. [EC 17610.1, 17612, 48980; FAC 13184]

<u>Product Name</u>	<u>Active Ingredient(s)</u>
Advion Gel	Indoxacarb
Gly-4 Plus	Glyphosate
Lesco Prosecutor	Glyphosate, Isopropylamine salt
Motherearth scatter bait . . .	Boric Acid
Ranger Pro	Glyphosate, Isopropylamine salt

ANNUAL NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

As required by law, we wish to notify you, as parents and/or guardians of students enrolled in our schools, of your rights and responsibilities. I ask, therefore, that you please take a moment of your time to carefully review the information in this booklet. After your review, please sign and return to your child's school this parent/guardian acknowledgment below indicating you have received and reviewed these materials. If you have any questions regarding this information, please feel free to contact our District office.

Education Code Section 48982 requires parents or guardians to sign and return this acknowledgment. By signing below, I am neither giving nor withholding consent for my child(ren) to participate in any program. I am merely indicating that I have received and read the booklet with notices regarding my rights relating to activities which might affect my child(ren).

Student's Name _____ Student # _____
Last First Middle
School _____ Grade _____
Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT

Student

By signing this contract, you are agreeing to follow all Gustine Unified School District rules for acceptable use of the Internet.

What you can do on the Internet:

- Research information for classroom assignments

What you cannot do on the Internet:

- Send and receive "e-mail"
- Participate in "chat room" activities
- Access inappropriate material
- Provide any personal information such as your home phone number or mailing address for any purpose

Your use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right. If you use the Internet for anything other than research for classroom assignments, your Internet privilege may be canceled.

You must always get permission before using the Internet.

Student's Name _____
Last First Middle
School _____ Grade _____
Student's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent or Guardian

The Gustine Unified School District has programs in place to prevent access to inappropriate Internet information, but is not able to completely restrict access to offensive and controversial material. Your child might accidentally see information, which may be considered offensive and controversial. You agree to not hold the District responsible for materials found on the Internet.

☐ I give permission ☐ I DO NOT give permission

for my son/daughter/ward to access the Internet at his/her school site.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

STUDENT INSURANCE

I understand that the school does not provide medical insurance for student injuries, but does make voluntary student insurance available.

☐ I will ☐ I will NOT

purchase insurance offered by the school.

Student's Name _____
Last First Middle
School _____ Grade _____
Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

PHOTOGRAPHS, FILMS, SLIDES, INTERNET, VIDEO AND AUDIO TAPE RECORDINGS RELEASE

Gustine Unified School District (GUSD) uses audio and video images of students and student work in promotional materials and publicity efforts. The images may be used in publications, print ads, direct mail, electronic media, video or other forms of promotion. Unless indicated below, I release GUSD from liability for any violation of any personal or proprietary right I may have in connection with such use.

☐

I DO NOT GIVE PERMISSION to use my child's image to be reproduced through audio or visual means.

Student's Name _____

Last

First

Middle

School _____ Grade _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION

If you **DO NOT** wish directory information released, please sign below and return to the school office. (Otherwise, leave blank). Note that this will prohibit the District from providing the pupil's name and other information to the news media, interested schools, parent-teacher associations, interested employers, and similar parties.

Student's Name _____

Last

First

Middle

School _____ Grade _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

STUDENT - PARENT COMPACT

Student

I pledge to abide by the guidelines of the Student-Parent Compact.

Student's Name _____

Last

First

Middle

School _____ Grade _____

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent or Guardian

I have discussed the Student-Parent Compact with my child.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

PERMIT FOR BUS TRANSPORTATION

A law passed by the Legislature of the State of California prohibits a district from transporting any student, for any purpose, without written permission from the parent or legal guardian. This means to and from school, for field trips, athletic events, school-sponsored programs, etc.

I fully understand that my child is to comply with all rules and regulations governing conduct during a field trip, athletic event, or school-sponsored program. It is understood that any child determined to be in violation of these behavior standards will be sent home at the parent's expense.

I hereby give permission for the Gustine Unified School District to transport my son/daughter to and from school and/or any school-sponsored program.

Student's Name _____

Last

First

Middle

School _____ Grade _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

DAILY SCHEDULES / HORARIOS DIARIOS

Gustine Elementary

	Warning	Regular Day		Minimum Day		Recess / Recreo		Lunch / Almuerzo*	
		Start	Dismiss	Start	Dismiss	Start	End	Start	End
TK / Kindergarten – (Aug 16-25)	7:55 AM	8:00 AM	12:30 PM	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	9:25 AM	9:45 AM	11:00 AM	11:45 AM
TK / Kindergarten – (after Aug 28)	7:55 AM	8:00 AM	1:20 PM	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	9:25 AM	9:45 AM	11:00 AM	11:45 AM
Grades 1	7:55 AM	8:00 AM	2:23 PM	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	9:25 AM	9:45 AM	11:05 AM	11:45 AM
Grades 2	7:55 AM	8:00 AM	2:23 PM	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	9:55 AM	10:15 AM	11:30 AM	12:10 PM
Grades 3	7:55 AM	8:00 AM	2:23 PM	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	9:55 AM	10:15 AM	11:30 AM	12:10 PM
Grades 4-5	7:55 AM	8:00 AM	2:28 PM	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	10:20 AM	10:35 AM	12:00 PM	12:40 PM

Every Monday and Wednesday TK-5 dismissed at 1:20 PM.

Cada lunes y miércoles todos TK-5 es despedido en 1:20 PM.

* Lunch Times (including Minimum Days)

* Horarios de Almuerzo (incluye días minimos)

Romero Elementary

	Warning	Regular Day		Minimum Day		Recess / Recreo		Lunch / Almuerzo*	
		Start	Dismiss	Start	Dismiss	Start	End	Start	End
Kindergarten – (Aug 16-25)	7:55 AM	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	9:45 AM	10:05 AM	11:15 AM	12:00 PM
Kindergarten – (after Aug 28)	7:55 AM	8:00 AM	1:20 PM	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	9:45 AM	10:05 AM	11:15 AM	12:00 PM
Grades 1-2, SDC	7:55 AM	8:00 AM	2:23 PM	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	9:45 AM	10:05 AM	11:20 AM	12:00 PM
Grades 3	7:55 AM	8:00 AM	2:23 PM	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	10:05 AM	10:25 AM	12:00 PM	12:40 PM
Grades 4-5	7:55 AM	8:00 AM	2:28 PM	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	10:10 AM	10:25 AM	12:00 PM	12:40 PM

Every Monday and Wednesday K-5 dismissed at 1:20 PM.

Cada lunes y miércoles todos K-5 es despedido en 1:20 PM.

* Lunch Times (including Minimum Days)

* Horarios de Almuerzo (incluye días minimos)

Gustine Middle School Grade 6

Monday Schedule				Tuesday–Friday Schedule				Minimum Day Schedule			
	Start	End	Instr.		Start	End	Instr.		Start	End	Instr.
Period 1	8:00 AM	8:35 AM	35 min.	Period 1	8:00 AM	8:52 AM	52 min.	Period 1	8:00 AM	8:35 AM	35 min.
Period 2	8:38 AM	9:13 AM	35 min.	Period 2	8:55 AM	9:47 AM	52 min.	Period 2	8:38 AM	9:13 AM	35 min.
Break	9:16 AM	9:51 AM	35 min.	Break	9:47 AM	9:57 AM	10 min.	Period 3	9:16 AM	9:51 AM	35 min.
Period 3	9:51 AM	10:01 AM	10 min.	Period 3	10:00 AM	10:52 AM	52 min.	Break	9:51 AM	10:01 AM	10 min.
Period 4	10:04 AM	10:39 AM	35 min.	Period 4	10:55 AM	11:47 AM	52 min.	Period 4	10:04 AM	10:39 AM	35 min.
Period 5	11:42 AM	11:17 AM	35 min.	Lunch	11:50 AM	12:30 PM	40 min.	Period 5	11:42 AM	11:17 AM	35 min.
Lunch	11:17 AM	11:57 AM	40 min.	Period 5	12:33 PM	1:03 AM	30 min.	Lunch	11:17 AM	11:57 AM	40 min.
Period 6	12:00 PM	12:35 PM	35 min.	Period 6	1:06 AM	1:58 AM	52 min.	Period 6	12:00 PM	12:35 PM	35 min.
				Period 7	2:01 AM	2:53 AM	52 min.				

Gustine Middle School Grades 7 & 8

Monday Schedule				Tuesday–Friday Schedule				Minimum Day Schedule			
	Start	End	Instr.		Start	End	Instr.		Start	End	Instr.
Period 1	8:00 AM	8:35 AM	35 min.	Period 1	8:00 AM	8:52 AM	52 min.	Period 1	8:00 AM	8:35 AM	35 min.
Period 2	8:38 AM	9:13 AM	35 min.	Period 2	8:55 AM	9:47 AM	52 min.	Period 2	8:38 AM	9:13 AM	35 min.
Period 3	9:16 AM	9:51 AM	35 min.	Break	9:47 AM	10:57 AM	10 min.	Period 3	9:16 AM	9:51 AM	35 min.
Break	9:51 AM	10:01 AM	10 min.	Period 3	10:00 AM	10:52 AM	52 min.	Break	9:51 AM	10:01 AM	10 min.
Period 4	10:04 AM	10:39 AM	35 min.	Period 4	10:55 AM	11:47 AM	52 min.	Period 4	10:04 AM	10:39 AM	35 min.
Period 5	10:42 AM	11:17 AM	35 min.	Period 5	11:50 AM	12:20 PM	30 min.	Period 5	10:42 AM	11:17 AM	35 min.
Period 6	11:20 AM	11:55 AM	35 min.	Lunch	12:23 PM	1:03 AM	52 min.	Period 6	11:20 AM	11:55 AM	35 min.
Lunch	11:55 AM	12:35 PM	40 min.	Period 6	1:06 AM	1:58 AM	52 min.	Lunch	11:55 AM	12:35 PM	40 min.

Gustine High School

Monday Schedule				Tuesday–Friday Schedule				Minimum Day Schedule			
	Start	End	Instr.		Start	End	Instr.		Start	End	Instr.
Period 1	7:50 AM	8:44 AM	54 min.	Period 1	7:50 AM	8:25 AM	35 min.	Period 1	7:50 AM	8:32 AM	42 min.
Period 2	8:47 AM	9:41 AM	54 min.	Period 2	8:28 AM	9:03 AM	35 min.	Period 2	8:35 AM	9:17 AM	42 min.
Break	9:41 AM	9:51 AM	10 min.	Break	9:03 AM	9:13 AM	10 min.	Break	9:17 AM	9:27 AM	10 min.
Period 3	9:54 AM	10:48 AM	54 min.	Period 3	9:16 AM	9:51 AM	35 min.	Period 3	9:30 AM	10:12 AM	42 min.
Period 4	10:51 AM	11:45 AM	54 min.	Period 4	9:54 AM	10:29 AM	35 min.	Period 4	10:15 AM	10:57 AM	42 min.
Period 5	11:48 AM	12:42 PM	54 min.	Period 5	10:32 AM	11:07 AM	35 min.	Period 5	11:00 AM	11:42 AM	42 min.
Lunch	12:42 PM	1:12 AM	30 min.	Period 6	11:10 AM	11:45 AM	35 min.	Lunch	11:42 AM	12:12 PM	30 min.
Period 6	1:15 AM	2:09 AM	54 min.	Period 7	11:48 AM	12:27 PM	39 min.	Period 6	12:15 PM	12:57 PM	42 min.
Period 7	2:12 AM	3:06 AM	54 min.	Lunch	12:27 PM	12:57 PM	30 min.	Period 7	1:00 AM	1:42 AM	42 min.

Important Dates 2023-2024

July		January	
4 Independence Day Holiday		1-5 Winter Break / Holiday	
August		8 School Resumes	
10 Teachers Report		15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday	
16 School Begins (minimum day)		31 Minimum day (Districtwide)	
16-25 Minimum days (TK-Kindergarten)		February	
30 Minimum day (Districtwide)		19-23 Presidents Day Holiday / Break	
September		March	
4 Labor Day Holiday		5 End of second trimester	
27 Minimum day (Districtwide)		11 Staff Development / Buy-Back Day (no school)	
October		15 End of third quarter	
20 End of first quarter		21 Parent Conferences (GMS/GHS minimum day)	
25 Minimum day (Districtwide)		27 Minimum day (Districtwide)	
26 Parent Conferences (GMS/GHS minimum day)		29 Spring Break (no school)	
November		April	
1 Staff Development / Buy-Back Day (no school)		1-5 Spring Break (no school)	
9 End of first trimester		24 Minimum Day (Districtwide)	
10 Veterans Day Holiday / Break		May	
14-15 Parent Conferences (GES/RES minimum day)		27 Memorial Day Holiday	
20-24 Thanksgiving Break / Holidays		June	
December		5-7 Minimum days (Districtwide) / Final Exams (GHS)	
20-21 Minimum days (Districtwide) / Final Exams (GHS)		6 Middle School Graduation (GMS)	
21 End of first semester		7 High School Graduation / Pioneer Graduation	
22-31 Winter Break / Holidays		7 End of second semester / End of third trimester / Last Day of School (minimum day)	
		19 Juneteenth Holiday	
Early Release Every Monday Districtwide Every Wednesday GES & RES only			
RES 1:20 pm	GES 1:20 pm	GMS 12:35 pm	GHS 1:42 pm

Attention Students and Parents!

Before you know it, graduation will be around the corner, and we want you to be prepared for life beyond high school. Are you planning on going to college? Do you want to enter the world of work, obtain some technical training, or get a college degree? Are you taking the right classes to get into college? How can you get financial aid or scholarships? Are you interested in getting some work experience while you are in high school? The staff at the career center is here to help you.

- ✓ Check out the college-readiness link on the Gustine School District website <http://gustineca.apptegy.us/o/gustine-high-school/> for more information on college requirements, CSU and UC websites, community colleges, financial aid, for more information please contact the GHS Counseling Center.
- ✓ Career technical education engages all students in a dynamic and seamless learning experience resulting in their mastery of the career and academic knowledge and skills necessary to become productive, contributing members of society. To learn more about CTE, go to www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/.
- ✓ The ROP program provides work experience for credit for juniors and seniors.
- ✓ If you are interested in attending a four-year college, such as CSU Stanislaus or UC Merced, then you need to complete all of the a-g courses with a "C" or better. These requirements along with the courses that meet these requirements at Gustine High School can be found at <https://hs-articulation.ucop.edu/guide/> and other websites listed in this booklet.