

**Willits Unified School District
Willits High School**

2021-2022

Comprehensive School Safety Plan

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I. Assessment of Current Status

School Description and Profile:

As a community of learners we value our mission statement: "Willits High School staff and students, in partnership with parents and community members, provide a challenging, caring and safe educational environment, which prepares students to be positive members of the community, effective communicators, problem solvers, and lifelong learners". Posted in the library and around the school our community has also adopted the saying "Today Determines Tomorrow", which is echoed through the generations of Willits High School Graduates. As of January 2022, Willits High School enrollment is close to 396, in a community that has a population of about 4,807, as of the 2020 census. There are 27 certificated full time teachers, 2 counselor, 1 psychologist, and 6 instructional assistants, 1 campus supervisors, 1 assistant principal, and a principal serving the students of Willits High School.

Willits High School prides itself in its diverse course offerings, that include the essential core courses in college prep and basic English, social studies, science, and mathematics. Our student body is exposed to many electives that include: sequenced art courses, music, concert band, Academic Decathlon, sequenced wood shop, Spanish I-III & AP, welding, physical education courses, and 8 sequenced agricultural classes. The commitment to athletic and extra-curricular programs is equally strong. Willits High School currently has football, swimming, golf, basketball, wrestling, track and field, cross country, softball, baseball, tennis, cheer leading, and soccer programs. Willits High School has many clubs that students may participate in such as FFA (Future Farmers of America), Peace Club, Travel Club, Robotics, rodeo, and MESA club (Mathematics, Engineering, Science, Achievement) and many others.

In addition to these diverse programs, WHS prides itself on aggressive efforts to promote a post secondary experience for graduates. To assist students selecting 2 or 4 year colleges or universities, military, or career technical field, WHS has started a career center through the Counseling department . In the center, the students receive help filling out college applications, participating in career technical inventories that assist students with selecting a career field, and organizes internships for students. The Counseling department is working towards building a new guidance program, that empowers students to stay focused in school activities while learning the necessary steps in creating post-secondary goals.

Willits High School implemented the LCAP (Local Control Accountability Plan). The plan has three goals with district funds affiliated with them. The three goals are:

- 1) All students will be prepared to be college and/or career ready.
- 2) All students will be provided academic support to promote language, mathematical and technology literacy.
- 3) Students and families will be supported and encouraged to advocate healthy lifestyle choices

Summary of School Crime Data:

Willits High School does not have any major crimes when compared to a inner city school. Over the past the eight years the suspension and expulsion data is as follows:

Suspension and Expulsion Data (2011-2019)

Suspensions By Offense/Education Code	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
48900 (a) Caused/Threatened/Attempted Injury	25	18	18	19	2	40	12	7	1	
48900 (b) Possess/Sale/Furnish Dangerous Object	0	0	0	1	2	2	2	0	1	
48900 (c) Possess/Use/Sale/Furnish Controlled Subst.	22	2	12	15	4	20	15	9	1	
48900 (d)										

Offer/Sale Controlled Substance 1 0 0	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
48900 (f) Cause/Attempt Damage to Property 0 0	3	1	0	8	0	1	0	0
48900 (g) Stolen/Attempted to Steal Property 0 0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
48900 (h) Possession of Tobacco 1 1	11	1	4	5	1	8	6	2
48900 (i) Obscene Act/Vulgarity 2 0 1	0	0	6	17	11	20	8	
48900 (j) Possess/Offer/Sale of Drug Paraphernalia 4 5 1	0	0	1	4	0	2	4	
48900 (k) Disruption/Defied Authority 7 2 0	61	27	21	33	65	29	12	
48900 (m) Possess Imitation Firearm 0 0 0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	
48900 (o) Harass/Threaten/Intimidate Witness 4 0 0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	
48900.2 Sexual Harassment to Pupil 2 1 0	0	0	0	4	1	0	1	
48900.3 Cause/Attempt/Threat/Partic. Hate Violence 0 0 0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
48900.4 Harassment/threaten 6 0 0	3	1	0	1	2	1	2	
48900.7 Terrorist Threat 0 0 0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Total # of Annual Suspensions 70 25 6	126	57	65	112	88	123	63	

Other Data:

Willits High School has two academic counselors, assistant principal, and a campus supervisor. The principal, assistant principal, and the campus supervisor have worked to keep the school safe, decrease student movement during classes, implement practice drills, and patrol the campus from 7:30-4:00 P.M.

Summary of Data

This past year the students at Willits High School were in onsite school from the middle of April through June, so the data is shows very low incidences of suspension.

1. Historically the majority of school discipline comes from disrupting school activities, defiance, fights, vulgarity, and possess/use/sale/furnish controlled substance. The school administration, teachers, and counselors have implemented Restorative Practices to help with student conflict and other discipline issues at WHS. The counselors and school psychologist have implemented a RTI model to respond to the tobacco and drug referrals.

2. Even though WHS has a relatively high a, c and k referrals WHS is generally a great place to be, and perceive the campus as safe according to the most recent Healthy Kids survey.
3. The "k" suspensions continued to dropped significantly while the "a" suspensions also dropped. Restorative practices are key in lowering the suspension rate this past year and into the future. With school going to a distance learning model in early March 2020 through the end of the April 2021, a major drop in suspensions was anticipated. Even with Covid-19 having a significant impact, the trend downward in suspensions was noticeable.
4. The school psychologist works with and refers students to outside agencies depending on the severity of the offense.
5. No evidence of gang concerns are currently evident. But supervisory measures remain in place as well as close consultation with local law enforcement.

II. Component 1 Action Plan: People and Programs

How will you create a caring and connected school climate?

The principal will lead Willits High School through the school site council about issues pertaining to creating Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports(PBIS).

Clearly defined expectations are reinforced by teachers and administration. Restorative practices are used to help equip students with the skills needed to change negative behaviors into positive actions.

The school is on a trimester schedule, with students taking 5 classes a day for 72 minutes a period. This has allowed for an expanded course offering over the course of the three terms.

Under Covid-19, our plan has been to reduce class sizes so our teachers are able to focus their attention on a smaller group of students and create a positive learning environment. Another avenue in creating a connected school climate is to keep the daily course load at 5 classes. This has helped students manage the workload with distance education if needed, as well as provide a balanced teacher to student ratio. Another aspect of student life is vibrant extracurricular activities to allow for creative outflow of energy as individuals and teams. We will continue to operate the school as normally as possible under these extraordinary circumstances so that students can experience a positive learning environment while having the opportunity to engage in as many extracurricular activities as possible.

Goal Statement

The administration and staff will work to update and refine a Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports system.

Objective #1

PBIS will be implemented as a behavior guidelines for students.

Related Activities	Resources	Person(s) Responsible	Timeline	Evaluation
1: The staff will update and refine a matrix of what the behavioral expectations look like, sound like, and feel like in all the classroom and non-classroom areas. Under distance learning, the same expectations apply.	PBIS	Michael Colvig, Marian Lohne, & staff	ongoing	Lower suspension rates and office referrals
2: Principal and Assistant Principal to create a yearlong professional development schedule to reinforce PBIS	PBIS	Michael Colvig and Marian Lohne	Annual updates	Plan complete
3: Teaching matrix of expected behaviors implemented in classrooms by teachers as well as reinforced during distance learning.	PBIS	Michael Colvig and Marian Lohne	Annual updates	ongoing
4: Counselors trained in restorative practices are utilized as a tier 2 intervention support in the PBIS system.	Restorative Practices & PBIS	Michael Colvig and Marian Lohne	Annual updates	Ongoing, and resulting in a much lower level of suspensions and negative classroom behavior.

Objective #2 (optional)

Related Activities	Resources	Person(s) Responsible	Timeline	Evaluation

III. Component 2 Action Plan: Place

How will you create a physical environment that communicates respect for learning and for individuals?

When onsite prior to Covid - Campus open during lunch for all grades in order to instill personal responsibility, maintain a safe environment, and improve student and staff morale.

Under Covid-19, this was adapted to include virtual environment driving personal responsibility. Utilization of a common online learning platform as the school's virtual campus. Upon return to onsite learning, it has been a reintroduction into positive behaviors that drive personal safety and collective benefits as defined by current Covid-19 guidelines. The staff have been instructed to focus on specific daily actions which help promote a safe and positive learning space, which include open doorways & windows to promote fresh air flow, air purifier kept on during school hours, mask wearing by all individuals inside the classroom, washing/sanitizing of hands on a regular basis, and a health questionnaire to prescreen each student as they enter the classroom.

Goal Statement

Implement and adhere to a set of positive behaviors that drive personal safety as well as collective safety under Covid-19.

Objective #1

Reduction in discipline matters, personal & collective safety, development of better school spirit, and betterment of the overall learning environment

Related Activities	Resources	Person(s) Responsible	Timeline	Evaluation
1: Implementation of classified staff lunch supervision schedule, when onsite.	Administration and Staff	Michael Colvig and Marian Lohne	ongoing	Classified lunch duty schedule
2: Planned ASB lunch activities and increase in student clubs	Administration and Staff	Michael Colvig, Marian Lohne, and Leadership teacher	Monthly	Increase in lunch activities
3. Provide additional seating options outdoors in central quad to focus student activity & safety	Administration and Staff	Michael Colvig and Marian Lohne	ongoing	complete
4. Plan and create game zones in quad for students to engage in cooperative play	Administration and Staff	Michael Colvig and Marian Lohne and ASB leadership	ongoing	ongoing
5. Clearly communicate a set of behaviors that all students & staff adhere to in order to create a safe environment.	Administration and Staff	Michael Colvig, Marian Lohne	ongoing	ongoing

Objective #2 (optional)

By June of each year, administration will hold a minimum of three fire/emergency evacuation drills for faculty and students. A staff workshop will be held each year to address diverse emergency procedures and crisis plan.

Related Activities	Resources	Person(s) Responsible	Timeline	Evaluation
1: By December of each year, one fire/emergency evacuation drill will be held.	School Administration	Marian Lohne	Annual updates	Drill completed

Related Activities	Resources	Person(s) Responsible	Timeline	Evaluation
2: By March of each year, a second fire/emergency evacuation drill will be held.	School Administration	Marian Lohne	Annual updates	Drill Planned
3: By September of each year, an in-service on diverse emergencies and crisis plan will be held.	School Administration	Michael Colvig and Marian Lohne	Annual updates	In-service completed
4: Annually, one lockdown drill will be completed.	School Administration and Willits Police Department	Marian Lohne	Annual updates	Drill Planned

IV. Procedures for Complying With Existing School Safety Laws

Child Abuse Reporting

Each employee of Willits High School is a mandated reporter. If child abuse is suspected the police will be called, and/or the sexual abuse hotline. All staff and administrators are fully aware of the necessity to be vigilant surrounding the topic of child abuse and the appropriate reporting agencies. Each teacher signs a Child Abuse Reporting form subject to their employment. The necessary forms for reporting abuse to the appropriate authorities are housed in the main office.

IV. Procedures for Complying With Existing School Safety Laws (continued)

Disaster Procedures

In any disaster the school will refer to the disaster procedure for that event which are posted on the wall in the school office. The school will participate in the required safety drills required by the state of California, and the staff will be educated on what to do in that situation.

Follow all current Covid-19 safety guidelines in order to provide a safe school environment.

ALL CLASSROOMS are equipped with an Emergency Procedures Folio located by the classroom exit which provides protocols and information for the following emergency situations. An Emergency Red Backpack is also located within each classroom that is designated for emergency situations. If and when an emergency occurs, the teacher in each room will follow the appropriate procedure. The students and staff participate in fire drills, earthquake drills, and lockdown drills during the school year. The following procedures are clearly outlined for staff:

Civil Disturbance/Gunman
Flood
Fallen Aircraft
Severe Storm/Tornado
Earthquake
Explosion/Threat of Explosion
Chemical/Haz Mat Spill
Bomb Threat
Fire

PROCEDURES FOR SERIOUS EMERGENCY (fire, vehicle accident, serious injury, etc.) that occurs under the principal's jurisdiction:

1. Appropriate emergency service agencies (police, ambulance, fire) are notified.
2. If a student is involved, the parent/guardian will be notified.
3. The District Office will be notified. An Accident Reporting Form will be completed and sent to the District Office following the incident.
4. If an emergency occurs after school hours, the superintendent and/or will be notified. If necessary, employees will also be notified.

EARTHQUAKE DUCK AND COVER PROCEDURES

1. Kneel on the floor under a desk or table or near a supporting wall.
Place face on knees.
Clasp hands on back of head and neck.
Hold arms close to head for protection from flying glass coming in from the side.
If the furniture is vibrating away from the students, tell the students to hold on to a leg of the chair or table.
2. Leave the door as it is at the time of the drill or earthquake.
3. Stay in place until an announcement is given to EXIT the classroom.
4. Students will line up quietly and go to a specified area with the adult in charge.
5. Lock the classroom door upon leaving.
6. The teacher in charge will take roll once outside in designated area.
7. If this is a drill, the recess bell will ring, or an all call will be given, to signal return to class.

LOCKDOWN PROCEDURES

1. At the sound of the lockdown alert, all students are to proceed to the closest classroom

unless otherwise directed by school staff.

2. Teacher will lock the doors and windows and turn off the lights after ensuring students are safely inside. The Office door and doors to the school will be locked as well. Dependent upon the emergency, the main gate to the school may be locked as well.
3. The teacher in the classroom will direct all students to be out of the line of sight through the windows. Teacher will post the "GREEN SHEET" (indicating that everyone inside is OK) or "RED SHEET" (indicating that someone inside requires assistance) in the window. Students will stay low and quiet and follow all directions of the staff member in charge.
4. Teacher will contact office via cell phone or classroom phone to tell secretary/principal which students are in their rooms from other classrooms.
5. The lockdown will continue until further directions come from the principal/secretary or law enforcement personnel, or when the "All Clear" signal is given.
6. If there is an emergency that necessitates evacuation from the school site, teachers/staff members will walk their students to the Willits High School cafeteria, our evacuation site.
7. Teachers will not release any student during a lockdown. If there is a medical emergency in a classroom, the safety personnel will come to the room or call with directions.

IF OUTSIDE:

1. If shots are fired, immediately "Drop and Cover."
2. If safe to do so, the adults in charge will move students into the closest building and follow procedures above.

RELEASE PROCEDURES

1. If a lockdown requires release other than a normal school day dismissal, Law Enforcement will most likely be in charge of these procedures and will direct administration and school personnel.
2. Parents will be directed to an evacuation site location and will be required to sign out students by Office Staff.

Willits Unified School District Pandemic Illness Response, Surveillance, and Reporting

Response

WUSD will create a plan specific to the type of strategies to effectively mitigate the particular challenges presented by the illness as advised by public health officials. However, the following general provisions will apply.

Daily cleaning of classrooms and facilities will focus on sanitizing spaces.

Increased cleaning of frequently touched surfaces throughout the day

Maximized ventilation in district buildings and classrooms.

Encouraging everyone to frequently and thoroughly wash their hands for at least 20 seconds at a time.

Symptom screening and exclusion of symptomatic individuals from campuses until no longer symptomatic for at least 24 hours.

Advising symptomatic individuals to stay at home.

Surveillance and Reporting

During all stages of a pandemic illness outbreak, it will be essential to monitor and document the number of students and faculty who are absent with symptoms of the illness. Keeping track of these numbers will help health officials determine when and where to close schools, whether the pandemic is increasing in scope and whether to declare an epidemic, making state support available through the Office of Emergency Services.

Utilize the following information and forms to monitor illness rates and potential epidemic:

Basic surveillance instructions and definitions of surveillance levels

Symptom Screening and Surveillance

Reporting form(s) to submit to the Health Department

Attendance Log to document illness related absences to assist in tracking case counts

Definition of Surveillance Levels

Standard Surveillance

Minimal illness activity reported in the community

Monitor daily attendance for increased reports of absence due to symptoms of illness

Do not report absences to the Health Department unless greater than 10%

Heightened Surveillance

Heightened illness activity reported in the community (less than 10% school absenteeism due to illness)

Monitor daily attendance for illness related absences

Begin symptom screening before entering the classroom/site

Log absences due to illness with identified symptoms

Send weekly absence report to Health Department

Intensive Surveillance

High number of illness reported in the community (10% or greater school absenteeism due to illness with identified symptoms)

Monitor daily attendance and log absences on log sheet

Continue symptom screening before entering the classroom/site

Send daily absence report to Health Department

Begin preparation for potential school closure

Symptom Definitions

The California Department of Public Health and the U.S. Center for Disease Control will share updated symptoms for the relevant illness. These definitions could change as more information is learned through the course of the pandemic.

Willits Unified School District
Weekly Pandemic Illness Report

Once a pandemic illness has been confirmed as present in Mendocino County, use this form to report weekly to the Health Department about the number of students absent with illness.

Name of School _____ Week Ending _____

Reporting Individual _____ Phone _____

Students

Number of students absent with pandemic illness symptoms this week _____

Total number of students enrolled in school _____

ADA for the week _____

Staff/Faculty

Number of staff absent with pandemic illness symptoms this week _____

Total number of staff employed in the school _____

Assistance Needed/Comments:

Willits Unified School District
Daily Pandemic Illness Census Log

School _____ Date _____

Once pandemic illness has been confirmed as present in Mendocino County, log student absences on this form.

Student Name and Grade	Illness Symptoms	Partial or Whole Day Absence
_____	_____	__ Partial __ Whole Day

IV. Procedures for Complying With Existing School Safety Laws (continued)

Suspension, Expulsion, or Mandatory Expulsion Procedures

Students will be held to student code of conduct and discipline matrix created by the school administration and staff. The student handbooks outlines all school rules and regulations which pertain to them. The school rules are in conjunction with current education code, school district policies, and administrative regulations.

School Discipline Procedures:

Students are responsible for knowing and following school expectations, rules, and procedures. The staff at Willits High School teach the school rules and expectations as outlined in the Discipline Matrix and the Student Handbook at the beginning of the year. Failure to behave and perform in an acceptable and safe manner will result in consequences for disrupting and interfering with the learning atmosphere of the school. These consequences may include any of the following:

1. Knowing that inappropriate choices have been made
2. Warning and possible verbal and/or written parent notification
3. Conference with teacher, staff, parents/guardians, and/or principal
4. Written or verbal apology, when warranted
5. Free time restrictions
6. Written assignment with parent/guardian signature required
7. Conflict mediation and Restorative Practices implemented
8. In House or class suspension
9. Suspension from school for one to five days
10. Behavior contract written by student, parent/guardian, teacher, and/or principal
11. Possible expulsion

In the event of suspension from school, the following procedures will be followed:

1. The principal will be contacted by the staff member (when applicable)
2. The parent or guardian of the student will be contacted
3. A conference will be held with the student, parent/guardian, and principal in person or by phone. The teacher will be notified of the reason and length of suspension
4. Forms to process the suspension will be completed by the principal
5. During a suspension, the student is expected to remain in the custody of this/her parent/guardian during school hours
6. During a suspension, the student is not permitted to enter the school grounds or attend any extracurricular activity sponsored by the school

IV. Procedures for Complying With Existing School Safety Laws (continued)

Procedures to Notify Teachers of Dangerous Students

The staff will be trained in the Willits High School disaster plan updated each year by the principal. If an intruder comes onto campus the following words will be read on the over the public announcement system. This is code red, this is not a drill, this is a code red, this is not a drill, this is a code red, this is not a drill. The staff and students will be locked down in their rooms, along with the office staff locked in their classrooms. The staff will receive messages through their cell phones, school messaging system, and/or e mail. Willits Police Department will be notified through the high school office which will be the command center. At the sign of all clear, an all clear will be given over the public announcement system.

Notifying Teachers of Dangerous Pupils

Suspension/Expulsion Proceedings

It is essential that in the event a student attends Willits High School who could present a danger to his/herself, other students or staff, that the staff be made aware of this possibility.

In this venue, the following conditions must be met:

1. The administration will inform staff of any suspensions.
2. The administration will review cum records of new students to note behaviors which may lead to a dangerous situation at the school site. Any pertinent information will be provided to staff by the administration.

IV. Procedures for Complying With Existing School Safety Laws (continued)

Sexual Harassment Policy

The Willits Unified School District and Willits High School does not tolerate sexual harassment. In the case of sexual harassment, the student will be suspended for five days, issued a continuation of a suspension after five days until the board convenes with an expulsion hearing. Current school district policy will be followed. The authorities (police) will also be called along with child and protective services.

Sexual Harassment

It is the policy of Willits High School to provide an educational environment free of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. This behavior is unlawful and is prohibited between students, between employees and students and between employees.

Such conduct will unreasonably interfere with an individual's school performance or create an intimidating, hostile or offensive school environment.

In order to address this inappropriate behavior, students or parents are requested to report to a teacher or administrator any incidents for immediate investigation.

Bullying

It is also the policy of Willits High School to provide an academic environment that is free of bullying. Bullying can be either direct or indirect, can manifest in numerous ways and is destructive to both the emotional well-being of our students as well as a deterrent to their academic success.

As in form of harassment, in order for us to adequately address this behavior, students or parents are encouraged to report any instance of harassment to a teacher or administrator for immediate intervention.

IV. Procedures for Complying With Existing School Safety Laws (continued)

Schoolwide Dress Code

The Willits High School Dress Code:

Good grooming is a matter of personal pride in appearance. One's manner of dress influences the learning environment. The world of work requires a standard of dress. Schools require a standard as well. Any fashion (dress, grooming, accessory or hairstyle) that disrupts the educational process or presents a safety risk will not be permitted.

Dress standards for Willits High School address three general areas: clothing offering messages deemed inappropriate; excessively revealing clothing; and gang related clothing.

Inappropriate clothing included in WUSD Board Policy 5132

- Clothing advertising or supporting use of alcohol, tobacco or controlled substances
- Clothing displaying vulgar or offensive writing or symbols with sexual references
- Clothing that is excessively soiled, revealing or worn
- Clothing that is not safe to the wearer or others
- Clothing that is identified as gang-related

Follow all current Covid-19 guidelines for face coverings and use of PPE.

Gang Related Apparel and Markings

The following specific items have been identified as "gang related clothing" and thus unsafe or disruptive and therefore not allowed while at school or school sponsored activities (Recommended to school administration by the WHS Site Council, revised October 15, 2012).

1. Red or blue colored bandanas or bandana belts
2. The hanging of red or blue cotton braided belts
3. Clothing, hats, belt buckles, jewelry or preparation of clothing that exhibits any of the following:

"N", "S", "13", "14", "XII", "XIV", "X3", "X4", "Sureno" or any variation, "Norteno" or any variations, "WSK", "PAK"

Swastikas or any Nazi symbols and variations of those symbols, "SS" and related lightning bolts, "420", "KKK" or any symbol related to the Ku Klux Klan.

Any symbol related to an organized hate group.

4. Athletic wear with "N", "S", "13", "14" (excepting WHS athletic wear issued for school related activities).
5. As stated in WUSD Board Policy 5132, "'gang-related apparel' shall be defined as any apparel that reasonably could be determined to threaten the health and safety of the school environment if it were worn or displayed on a school campus. (Education Code 35294.1)."
6. Gang – related tattoos (must be covered by clothing, Band-Aids).

A student may be forbidden from wearing any color associated with a gang if the student is found to be in the possession of gang related material or responsible for marking or verbally promoting any gang symbol or activity on a school campus or during a school activity. The school administration will meet with the parents and student if a restriction of this nature is deemed necessary.

This policy will be posted in school attendance and counseling offices, the hallway of the school outside these offices and distributed to all teachers. Parents will be notified of the content of the above list in a parent newsletter. The list shall be reviewed and revised at least once each year by the school administration. Revisions will be reported to the school site council and in the parent newsletter.

IV. Procedures for Complying With Existing School Safety Laws (continued)

Procedures for Safe Ingress and Egress

Any safety matter must be reported to the teacher, and in turn they will report it to the principal. The principal will then either fix the problem or report it to the district office to get their support in resolving the issue.

Willits High School is an open campus located on Main Street in downtown Willits. There are parking areas clearly marked with appropriate parking lines. Students park in the north lot and along the school on the south side of the school. Staff and visitors park at the front or the back of the school. Handicapped parking areas are clearly marked.

The campus is secured each night by the night custodians, and the locker area locked up daily in the evening.

The campus is located on major thoroughfares and, as such, have properly posted traffic signs, crosswalks and traffic lights. The school site has high community and police visibility.

There are signs requiring all visitors to check in at the office upon arrival. Any non-staff person on campus is quickly approached by a staff member and asked to report to the office to check in.

Follow a Covid-19 check in procedure that adheres to current Covid-19 guidelines.

IV. Procedures for Complying With Existing School Safety Laws (continued)

A Safe and Orderly Environment

Willits High School is a comprehensive high school grades 9-12.

The daily schedules for students is normally 8:00-3:00 P.M. with after school extra curricular and co-curricular activities. Under Covid -19 distance learning the daily schedule for students is from 9:00am - 2:40pm. The school was built around 1920 with a math, science, shop, and library wings. Tennis courts, football field, baseball/softball fields occupy the north and eastern areas of campus. All staff with fidelity implements the same behavior expectations for all students.

The buildings and grounds are clean and well-maintained by the staff, the custodians, and the grounds person. The school site is cleaned daily. Willits High School has one daytime janitor, and two evening janitors. If a school site is not cleaned properly it is reported to the principal in a timely matter. If the problem is not fixed in a timely matter, the person filing the complaint may file a Williams Complaint. The Williams Complaint is an official complaint form which goes to the district office, and county school district. It must be addressed in 30 days.

All staff members interact with any and all students on campus to provide for a safe and secure environment. Standards for behavior in the classrooms, in the Library, and in the kitchen and hallway areas are outlined in the student/parent handbook. A system is in place for responding to and correcting inappropriate behavior. Students are recognized for their academic achievements and citizenship on a regular basis.

Standards and expectations for behavior on the campus are implemented and supported by all site staff.

This is a site with a principal, assistant principal, full teaching staff and guidance counselors, that help maintain the safety of the school.

IV. Procedures for Complying With Existing School Safety Laws (continued)

School Discipline

All students must comply with the Willits High School Discipline policy. All students have access to the student handbook and made aware of all rules and procedures and consequences for violations. Teachers also implement with fidelity classroom expectations that are the same for each classroom.

As portrayed in the 'Suspension' component of this report, barring any severe behavior infractions, a problem resolution/conflict mediation procedure is implemented to assist in changing student behavior and applying appropriate consequences. When these strategies/programs are not successful, the student is suspended from school and a meeting with parent/guardians is scheduled and attempted. WHS has implemented Restorative Practices, when responding to conflict, a restorative approach consists in asking a series of questions that may be used as a alternative to suspension.

The staff handles behavioral incidents with consistency and fidelity thereby portraying the campus as a site where students are supported academically and expected to maintain appropriate levels of behavior.

IV. Procedures for Complying With Existing School Safety Laws (continued)

Hate Crimes

In the event of any hate crime, the crime will be investigated and the person committing the hate crime a five day suspension, authorities notified, parents notified, and staff notified. If needed the school will extend the suspension until an expulsion hearing by the school board.

HATE-MOTIVATED BEHAVIOR

The Board of Trustees affirms the right of every student to be protected from hate-motivated behavior. It is the intent of the Board to promote harmonious relationships that enable students to gain a true understanding of the civil rights and social responsibilities of people in our society. Behavior or statements that degrade an individual on the basis of his/her race, ethnicity, culture, heritage, gender, sexual orientation, physical/mental attributes, religious beliefs or practices shall not be tolerated.

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

(cf. 0450 – Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 3515.4 – Recovery for Property Loss or Damage)

(cf. 5131.5 – Vandalism, Theft and Graffiti)

(cf. 5136 - Gangs)

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

(cf. 5145.3 – Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

(cf. 5145.7 – Sexual Harassment)

(cf. 6141.6 - Multicultural Education)

Any student who feels that he/she is a victim of hate-motivated behavior shall immediately contact the principal or designee. If the student believes that the situation has not been remedied by the principal or designee, he/she may file a complaint in accordance with district complaint procedures.

(cf. 1312.1 – Complaints Concerning District Employees)

(cf. 1312.3 – Uniform Complaint Procedures)

Staff who receive notice of hate-motivated behavior or personally observe such behavior shall notify the principal, Superintendent or designee, and law enforcement, as appropriate. Students demonstrating hate-motivated behavior shall be subject to discipline in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation.

(cf. 3515.3 – District Police Department)

(cf. 4158/4258/4358 - Employee Security)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

(cf. 5144.1 – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

(cf. 5144.2 – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

In addition, the district shall provide counseling and appropriate sensitivity training and diversity education for students exhibiting hate-motivated behavior. The district shall also provide counseling, guidance and support, as necessary, to those students who are the victims of hate-motivated behavior.

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that staff receive appropriate training to recognize hate-motivated behavior and methods for handling such behavior in appropriate ways.

BP 5145.9(b)

(cf. 4131 – Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 – Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 – Staff Development)

The district shall provide age-appropriate instruction to help promote understanding of and respect for human rights.

At the beginning of each school year, students and staff shall receive a copy of the district's policy on hate-motivated behavior.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262 Prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sex

48900.3 Suspension for hate violence

PENAL CODE

186.21 Street terrorism; legislative findings and declarations

422.6-422.95 Civil Rights

11410-11414 Terrorism

13023 Reports by law enforcement of crimes motivated by race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or physical or mental disability

13519.6 Hate crimes, training courses and guidelines

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 18

245 Federally protected activities

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Protecting Our Schools: Governing Board Strategies to Combat School Violence, 1995

ALAMEDA OFFICE OF EDUCATION & CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Hate-Motivated Behavior in Schools: Response Strategies for School Boards, Administrators, Law Enforcement and Communities, 1997

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS & NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATTORNEYS
GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

Protecting Students from Harassment and Hate Crime: A Guide for Schools, 1999

WEB SITES

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

California Association of Human Relations Organizations: <http://www.cahro.org>

United States Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OCR/index.html>

V. Verification of Public Meeting

Method for Communicating Plan and Notifying Public: Ed Code 32288

The plan will be posted on the school board agenda, and notice of public hearing will be posted where Willits Unified School District posts public hearing information.

Date of Board Meeting/Public Hearing: February 9, 2022

Site of Board Meeting/Public Hearing: Online, Zoom Meeting

Review of Progress for Last Year

Each School year the Safety Plan is reviewed by the School Safety Team and presented to its SSC to be approved annually. Community members are invite to the annual SSC meeting to review the Safety plan including the City, Police and Fire departments, representatives from parent and teacher groups, and RTPA and CSEA Presidents. The Safety Plan is also taken to the school board each year for approval and public review.

Law Enforcement Review **Date:** pending

Site Council Approval **Date:** February 1, 2022

School Board Approval **Date:** February 9, 2022

VI. Appendix 1: Board Policies and Administration Regulations

Board Policy and Administration Regulations:

CHILD ABUSE REPORTING PROCEDURES A.R.5141.4

Definitions

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

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

Child abuse or neglect does not include:

1. A mutual affray between minors (Penal Code 11165.6)
 2. An injury caused by reasonable and necessary force used by a peace officer acting within the course and scope of his/her employment (Penal Code 11165.6)
- (cf. 3515.3 - District Police/Security Department)
3. An injury resulting from the exercise by a teacher, vice principal, principal, or other certificated employee of the same degree of physical control over a student that a parent/guardian would be privileged to exercise, not exceeding the amount of physical control reasonably necessary to maintain order, protect property, protect the health and safety of students, or maintain proper and appropriate conditions conducive to learning (Education Code 44807)
 4. An injury caused by a school employee's use of force that is reasonable and necessary to quell a disturbance threatening physical injury to persons or damage to property, to protect himself/herself, or to obtain weapons or other dangerous objects within the control of the student (Education Code 49001)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

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

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

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

Reportable Offenses

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

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

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

Responsibility for Reporting

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

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

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

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

Reporting Procedures

1. Initial Telephone Report

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

Child Protective Services

(707) 463-7992

(866) 236-0368

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

2. Written Report

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

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

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

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

The mandated reporter shall make a report even if some of this information is not known or is uncertain to him/her. (Penal Code 11167)
The mandated reporter may give to an investigator from an agency investigating the case, including a licensing agency, any information relevant to an incident of child abuse or neglect or to a report made for serious emotional damage pursuant to Penal Code 11166.05. (Penal Code 11167)

3. Internal Reporting

The mandated reporter shall not be required to disclose his/her identity to his/her supervisor, the principal, or the Superintendent or designee. (Penal Code 11166)

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

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

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

Victim Interviews by Social Services

Whenever a representative from the Department of Social Services or another government agency investigating suspected child abuse or neglect deems it necessary, a suspected victim may be interviewed during school hours, on school premises, concerning a report of suspected child abuse or neglect that occurred within the child's home or out-of-home care facility. The child shall be given the choice of being interviewed in private or in the presence of any adult school employee or volunteer aide selected by the child. (Penal Code 11174.3)

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

1. The purpose of the selected person's presence at the interview is to lend support to the child and enable him/her to be as comfortable as possible.
2. The selected person shall not participate in the interview.
3. The selected person shall not discuss the facts or circumstances of the case with the child.
4. The selected person is subject to the confidentiality requirements of the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act, a violation of which is punishable as specified in Penal Code 11167.5.

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

Release of Child to Peace Officer

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

(cf. 5145.11 - Questioning and Apprehension by Law Enforcement)

Parent/Guardian Complaints

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

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

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)

In addition, if the child is enrolled in special education, a separate complaint may be filed with the California Department of Education pursuant to 5 CCR 4650.

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

Notifications

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

Before beginning employment, any person who will be a mandated reporter by virtue of his/her position shall sign a statement indicating that he/she has knowledge of the reporting obligations under Penal Code 11166 and will comply with those provisions. The signed statement shall be retained by the Superintendent or designee. (Penal Code 11166.5)

(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)

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

Regulation WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: August 7, 2013 Willits, California

NONDISCRIMINATION IN DISTRICT PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES BP 5145.3

The Governing Board desires to provide a safe school environment that allows all students equal access 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, 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.

This policy shall apply to all acts 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.

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

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)

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

(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504)

This policy shall apply to all acts 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.

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 includes the creation of a hostile environment through prohibited conduct that 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. He/she shall provide training and 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. He/she shall report his/her findings and recommendations to the Board after each review.

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

(cf. 1330 - Use of Facilities)

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

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.

(cf. 4118 - Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 4119.21/4219.21/4319.21 - Professional Standards)

(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)

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.

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination

48900.3 Suspension or expulsion for act of hate violence

48900.4 Suspension or expulsion for threats or harassment

48904 Liability of parent/guardian for willful student misconduct

48907 Student exercise of free expression

48950 Freedom of speech

48985 Translation of notices

49020-49023 Athletic programs

51500 Prohibited instruction or activity

51501 Prohibited means of instruction

60044 Prohibited instructional materials

CIVIL CODE

1714.1 Liability of parents/guardians for willful misconduct of minor

GOVERNMENT CODE

11135 Nondiscrimination in programs or activities funded by state

PENAL CODE

422.55 Definition of hate crime

422.6 Crimes, harassment

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

432 Student record

4600-4687 Uniform complaint procedures

4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1681-1688 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

12101-12213 Title II equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

794 Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

2000d-2000e-17 Title VI and Title VII Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended

2000h-2-2000h-6 Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

6101-6107 Age Discrimination Act of 1975

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28

35.107 Nondiscrimination on basis of disability; complaints

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

99.31 Disclosure of personally identifiable information

100.3 Prohibition of discrimination on basis of race, color or national origin

104.7 Designation of responsible employee for Section 504

106.8 Designation of responsible employee for Title IX

106.9 Notification of nondiscrimination on basis of sex

110.25 Prohibition of discrimination based on age

COURT DECISIONS

Donovan v. Poway Unified School District, (2008) 167 Cal.App.4th 567

Flores v. Morgan Hill Unified School District, (2003) 324 F.3d 1130

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Updated Legal Guidance: Protecting Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students Against Sex Discrimination, July 2016
CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS
Promoting a Safe and Secure Learning Environment for All: Guidance and Model Policies to Assist California's K-12 Schools in Responding to Immigration Issues, April 2018
FIRST AMENDMENT CENTER PUBLICATIONS
Public Schools and Sexual Orientation: A First Amendment Framework for Finding Common Ground, 2006
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS
Examples of Policies and Emerging Practices for Supporting Transgender Students, May 2016
Dear Colleague Letter: Title IX Coordinators, April 2015
Dear Colleague Letter: Harassment and Bullying, October 2010
Notice of Non-Discrimination, Fact Sheet, August 2010
WEB SITES
CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>
California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>
California Safe Schools Coalition: <http://www.casafeschools.org>
California Office of the Attorney General: <http://oag.ca.gov>
First Amendment Center: <http://www.firstamendmentcenter.org>
National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.org>
U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>
Policy WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
adopted: May 3, 2017 Willits, California
revised: June 13, 2018

EMERGENCIES AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PLAN BP 3516

The Governing Board recognizes that all district staff and students must be prepared to respond quickly and responsibly to emergencies, disasters, and threats of disaster. The district shall take all reasonable steps to prevent and/or mitigate the impact of a disaster on district students, staff, and schools.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and maintain a disaster preparedness plan which contains routine and emergency and disaster procedures, including, but not limited to, earthquake emergency procedures, and adaptations for individuals with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Such procedures shall be included in the comprehensive school safety plan. (Education Code 32282)

(cf. 0400 – Comprehensive Plans)

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 3516.3 - Earthquake Emergency Procedure System)

In developing the disaster preparedness plan, the Superintendent or designee shall involve district staff at all levels, including administrators, district police or security officers, facilities managers, transportation managers, food services personnel, school psychologists, counselors, school nurses, teachers, classified employees, and public information officers. As appropriate, he/she shall also collaborate with law enforcement, fire safety officials, emergency medical services, health and mental health professionals, parents/guardians, and students.

(cf. 0420 – School Plans/Site Councils)

(cf. 1220 – Citizen Advisory Committees)

(cf. 3513.3 – District Police/Security Department)

The plan shall comply with state-approved Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) guidelines established for multiple-jurisdiction or multiple-agency operations and with the National Incident Command System.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training to employees regarding their responsibilities, including periodic drills and exercises to test and refine staff's responsiveness in the event of an emergency.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

The Board shall grant the use of school buildings, grounds, and equipment to public agencies, including the American Red Cross, for mass care and welfare shelters during disasters or other emergencies affecting the public health and welfare. The Board shall cooperate with such agencies in furnishing and maintaining whatever services the district may deem necessary to meet the community's needs. (Education Code 32282)

(cf. 1330 - Use of School Facilities)

District employees are considered disaster service workers and are subject to disaster service activities assigned to them.

(Government Code 3100)

(cf. 4112.3/4212.3/4312.3 - Oath or Affirmation)

(cf. 4119.3/4219.3/4319.3 - Duties of Personnel)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

32001 Fire alarms and drills

32040 Duty to equip school with first aid kit

32280-32289 School safety plans

32290 Safety devices

39834 Operating overloaded bus

46390-46392 Emergency average daily attendance in case of disaster

49505 Natural disaster; meals for homeless students; reimbursement
 CIVIL CODE
 1714.5 Release from liability for disaster service workers and shelters
 GOVERNMENT CODE
 3100-3109 Public employees as disaster service workers; oath or affirmation
 8607 Standardized emergency management system
 CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION
 Article 20, Section 3 Oath or affirmation
 CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
 550 Fire drills
 560 Civil defense and disaster preparedness plans
 CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 19
 2400-2450 Standardized emergency management system
 UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42
 12101-12213 Americans with Disabilities Act
 Management Resources:
 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
 Crisis Response Box, 2000
 CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES PUBLICATIONS
 Active Shooter Awareness Guidance, February 2018
 State of California Emergency Plan, 2017
 School Emergency Response: Using SEMS at Districts and Sites, June 1998
 FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY PUBLICATIONS
 National Incident Management System, 3rd ed., October 2017
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
 Guide for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans, 2013
 WEB SITES
 CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>
 American Red Cross: <http://www.redcross.org>
 California Attorney General's Office: <https://oag.ca.gov>
 California Department of Education, Crisis Preparedness: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/lr/ss/cp>
 California Governor's Office of Emergency Services: <http://www.caloes.ca.gov>
 California Seismic Safety Commission: <http://www.seismic.ca.gov>
 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov>
 Federal Emergency Management Agency: <http://www.fema.gov>
 U.S. Department of Education, Emergency Planning: <http://www.ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/emergencyplan>
 U.S. Department of Homeland Security: <http://www.dhs.gov>
 Policy WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
 adopted: October 3, 2018 Willits, California

FIRE DRILLS AND FIRES BP 3516.1

Fire Drills

The principal shall cause the fire alarm signal to be sounded at least once every month. (Education Code 32001)
 The principal shall also hold fire drills at least once a month at the elementary level, four times every school year at the intermediate level, and not less than twice every school year at the secondary level. (Education Code 32001)

1. The principal shall notify staff as to the schedule for fire drills.
2. Whenever a fire drill is held, all students, teachers and other employees shall be directed to leave the building. (5 CCR 550)
3. Teachers shall ascertain that no student remains in the building.
4. Teachers shall be prepared to select alternate exits and shall direct their classes to these exits whenever the designated escape route is blocked.
5. The principal or designee shall keep a record of each fire drill conducted and file a copy of this record with the office of the Superintendent or designee.

Fires

When a fire is discovered in any part of the school, the following actions shall be taken:

1. The principal or designee shall sound fire signals, unless the school and/or building is equipped with an automatic fire detection and alarm system. (Education Code 32001)
2. The principal or designee shall call 911.
3. All persons shall be directed to leave the building and shall proceed outside to designated assembly areas.
4. Staff shall give students clear direction and supervision and help maintain a calm and orderly response.
5. In outside assembly areas, teachers shall take roll, report missing students, and provide assistance to any injured students.
6. In outside assembly areas, the principal, designee and/or each department head shall account for their staff, report missing staff, and provide assistance to any injured staff.
7. If the fire is extensive, students shall be taken to an alternate location for protective custody until parents/guardians can pick them up or until they can be safely transported to their homes.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
 (cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

17074.50-17074.56 Automatic fire detection, alarm and sprinkler systems

32001 Uniform fire signals

32040 Duty to equip school with first aid kit

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

550 Fire drills

Regulation WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: August 7, 2013 Willits, California

BOMB A.R. 3516.2

To maintain a safe and secure environment for district students and staff, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's emergency and disaster preparedness plan and/or each school's comprehensive safety plan includes procedures for dealing with bomb threats. He/she also shall provide training regarding the procedures to site administrators, safety personnel, and staff members who customarily handle mail, telephone calls, or email.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)

(cf. 4040 - Employee Use of Technology)

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

Receiving Threats

Any staff member receiving a telephoned bomb threat shall try to keep the caller on the line in order to gather information about the location and timing of the bomb and the person(s) responsible. To the extent possible, the staff member should also take note of the caller's gender, age, any distinctive features of voice or speech, and any background noises such as music, traffic, machinery, or voices.

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

Response Procedure

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

1. Any employee who receives a bomb threat shall immediately call 911 and also report the threat to the Superintendent or designee. If the threat is in writing, the employee shall place the message in an envelope and take note of where and by whom it was found.

2. Any student or employee who sees a suspicious package shall promptly notify the Superintendent or designee.

3. The Superintendent or designee shall immediately use fire drill signals and initiate standard evacuation procedures as specified in the emergency plan.

(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)

(cf. 3516.1 - Fire Drills and Fires)

4. The Superintendent or designee shall turn off any two-way radio equipment which is located in a threatened building.

Law enforcement and/or fire department staff shall conduct the bomb search. No school staff shall search for or handle any explosive or incendiary device.

(cf. 3515.3 - District Police/Security Department)

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

(cf. 3516.5 - Emergency Schedules)

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

(cf. 1112 - Media Relations)

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

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

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

(cf. 4118 - Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

(cf. 5131.7 - Weapons and Dangerous Instruments)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

44810 Willful interference with classroom conduct

48900 Grounds for suspension or expulsion

51202 Instruction in personal and public health and safety

PENAL CODE

17 Felony, misdemeanor, classification of offenses

148.1 False report of explosive or facsimile bomb
245 Assault with deadly weapon or force likely to produce great bodily injury; punishment
594 Vandalism; penalty
Management Resources:
CSBA PUBLICATIONS
911: A Manual for Schools and the Media During a Campus Crisis, 2001
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY PUBLICATIONS
Bomb Threat Checklist
WEB SITES
CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>
California Department of Education, Safe Schools: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss>
U.S. Department of Homeland Security: <http://www.dhs.gov>
U.S. Department of Treasury, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives:
<http://www.THREATPLAN.org>
Regulation WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
approved: August 7, 2013 Willits, California

EARTHQUAKE EMERGENCY PROCEDURE SYSTEM A.R. 3516.3

Earthquake Preparedness

Earthquake emergency procedures shall be established in every school building having an occupant capacity of 50 or more students, or more than one classroom, and shall be incorporated into the comprehensive safety plan. (Education Code 32282) (cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

Earthquake emergency procedures shall be aligned with the Standardized Emergency Management System and the National Incident Management System. (Government Code 8607; 19 CCR 2400-2450) (cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)

The Superintendent or designee may work with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services and the Seismic Safety Commission to develop and establish the earthquake emergency procedures. (Education Code 32282)

Earthquake emergency procedures shall outline the roles and responsibilities of students and staff during and after an earthquake.

Earthquake emergency procedures shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following: (Education Code 32282)

1. A school building disaster plan, ready for implementation at any time, for maintaining the safety and care of students and staff
2. A drop procedure whereby each student and staff member takes cover under a table or desk, dropping to his/her knees, with the head protected by the arms and the back to the windows

Drop procedures shall be practiced at least once each school quarter in elementary schools and at least once each semester in secondary schools.

3. Protective measures to be taken before, during, and following an earthquake

4. A program to ensure that students and staff are aware of and properly trained in the earthquake emergency procedure system

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

Staff and students shall be informed of the dangers to expect in an earthquake and procedures to be followed. Students shall be instructed to remain silent and follow directions given by staff in such an emergency. Staff and students also shall be taught safety precautions to take if they are in the open or on the way to or from school when an earthquake occurs.

Earthquake emergency procedures shall designate primary and alternative locations outside of buildings, which may include areas off campus if necessary, where individuals on a school site will assemble following evacuation. In designating such areas, the Superintendent or designee shall consider potential post-earthquake hazards outside school buildings including, but not limited to, power lines, trees, covered walkways, chain link fences that may be an electric shock hazard, and areas near buildings that may have debris.

Earthquake emergency procedures also shall outline primary and alternative evacuation routes that avoid areas with potential hazards to the extent possible. The needs of students with disabilities shall be considered when planning evacuation routes.

The Superintendent or designee shall consider the danger of a post-earthquake tsunami when developing evacuation routes and locations, including the need to evacuate to higher ground.

The Superintendent or designee shall identify at least one individual within each building to determine if an evacuation is necessary, the best evacuation location, and the best route to that location when an earthquake occurs.

The Superintendent or designee shall identify potential earthquake hazards in classrooms and other district facilities, including, but not limited to, areas where the main gas supply or electric current enters the building, suspended ceilings, pendant light fixtures, large windows, stairwells, science laboratories, storage areas for hazardous materials, shop areas, and unsecured furniture and equipment. To the extent possible, dangers presented by such potential hazards shall be minimized by securing equipment and furnishings and removing heavy objects from high shelves.

Earthquake While Indoors at School

When an earthquake occurs, the following actions shall be taken inside buildings and classrooms:

1. Staff shall have students perform the drop procedure. Students should stay in the drop position until the emergency is over or until further instructions are given.
2. In laboratories, burners should be extinguished, if possible, before taking cover.
3. As soon as possible, staff shall move students away from windows, shelves, and heavy objects or furniture that may fall.
4. After the earthquake, the principal or designee shall determine whether planned evacuation routes and assembly locations are safe and shall communicate with teachers and other staff.

5. When directed by the principal or designee to evacuate, or if classrooms or other facilities present dangerous hazards that require immediate evacuation, staff shall account for all students under their supervision and shall evacuate the building in an orderly manner.

Earthquake While Outdoors on School Grounds

When an earthquake occurs, the following actions shall be taken by staff or other persons in authority who are outdoors on school grounds:

1. Staff shall direct students to walk away from buildings, trees, overhead power lines, power poles, or exposed wires.
2. Staff shall have students perform the drop procedure.
3. Staff shall have students stay in the open until the earthquake is over or until further directions are given.

Earthquake While on the Bus

If students are on the school bus when an earthquake occurs, the bus driver shall take proper precautions to ensure student safety, which may include pulling over to the side of the road or driving to a location away from outside hazards, if possible. Following the earthquake, the driver shall contact the Superintendent or designee for instructions before proceeding on the route or, if such contact is not possible, drive to an evacuation or assembly location.

(cf. 3543 - Transportation Safety and Emergencies)

Subsequent Emergency Procedures

After an earthquake episode has subsided, the following actions shall be taken:

1. Staff shall extinguish small fires if safe.
2. Staff shall provide first aid to any injured students, take roll, and report missing students to the principal or designee.
3. Staff and students shall refrain from lighting any stoves or burners or operating any electrical switches until the area is declared safe.
4. All buildings shall be inspected for water and gas leaks, electrical breakages, and large cracks or earth slippage affecting buildings.
5. The principal or designee shall post staff at safe distances from all building entrances and instruct staff and students to remain outside the buildings until they are declared safe.
6. The principal or designee shall request assistance as needed from the county or city civil defense office, fire and police departments, city and county building inspectors, and utility companies and shall confer with them regarding the advisability of closing the school.
7. The principal or designee shall contact the Superintendent or designee and request further instructions after assessing the earthquake damage.
8. The Superintendent or designee shall provide updates to parents/guardians of district students and members of the community about the incident, any safety issues, and follow-up directions.

(cf. 1112 - Media Relations)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

32280-32289 School safety plans

GOVERNMENT CODE

3100 Public employees as disaster service workers

8607 Standardized Emergency Management System

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 19

2400-2450 Standardized Emergency Management System

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES PUBLICATIONS

The ABCs of Post-Earthquake Evacuation: A Checklist for School Administrators and Faculty Guide and Checklist for Nonstructural Earthquake Hazards in California Schools, January 2003

School Emergency Response: Using SEMS at Districts and Sites, June 1998

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY PUBLICATIONS

Guidebook for Developing a School Earthquake Safety Program, 1990

WEB SITES

American Red Cross: <http://www.redcross.org>

California Governor's Office of Emergency Services : <http://www.caloes.ca.gov>

California Seismic Safety Commission: <http://www.seismic.ca.gov>

Federal Emergency Management Agency: <http://www.fema.gov/hazards/earthquakes>

National Incident Management System: <http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims>

Regulation WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: January 4, 2017 Willits, California

EMERGENCY SCHEDULES B.P. 3516.5

In order to provide for the safety of students and staff, the Board of Trustees authorizes the Superintendent or designee to close a school site, change the regular school day schedule, or take any necessary action when hazardous environmental or weather conditions or other emergencies warrant.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 4157/4257/4357 - Employee Safety)

(cf. 5142 - Safety)

(cf. 6112 - School Day)

When an emergency condition causes a school closure, reduction in attendance, or change in schedule pursuant to Education

Code 41422 or 46392, thereby preventing the district from complying with the minimum number of instructional days or minutes required by law, the Superintendent or designee shall complete and submit to the Superintendent of Public Instruction the necessary forms for obtaining approval of the days of the closure, reduction in attendance, or change in schedule. The Superintendent or designee shall submit other relevant district records as may be required.

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

(cf. 6111 - School Calendar)

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a system for informing students and parents/guardians when school buses are not operating as scheduled, the school day schedule is changed, or the school is closed. The district's notification system shall include, but is not limited to, notifying local television and radio stations, posting on district web site(s), sending email and text messages, and/or making telephone calls.

(cf. 1112 - Media Relations)

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

(cf. 3542 - School Bus Drivers)

(cf. 3543 - Transportation Safety and Emergencies)

Whenever the school day schedule changes after students have arrived at school, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that students are supervised in accordance with the procedures specified in the district's emergency and disaster preparedness plan.

(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)

The Superintendent or designee may provide a means to make up lost instructional time later during the year. Students and parents/guardians shall receive timely advanced notice of any resulting changes in the school calendar or school day schedule.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

41420 Required length of school term

41422 Schools not maintained for 175 days

46010 Total days of attendance

46100-46192 Attendance; maximum credit; minimum day

46390 Calculation of ADA in emergency

46391 Lost or destroyed ADA records

46392 Decreased attendance in emergency situation

VEHICLE CODE

34501.6 School buses; reduced visibility

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION CORRESPONDENCE

90-01 Average Daily Attendance Credit During Periods of Emergency, February 10, 2005

WEB SITES

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

Policy WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: August 7, 2013 Willits, California

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY AND EMERGENCIES AR 3543

Cautionary Notice: Government Code 17581.5 relieves districts from the obligation to perform specified mandated activities when the Budget Act does not provide reimbursement during that fiscal year. The Budget Act of 2018 (SB 840, Ch. 29, Statutes of 2018) extends the suspension of these requirements through the 2018-19 fiscal year. As a result, certain provisions of the following administrative regulation related to transportation safety plans and safety instruction for students may be suspended.

Each day, prior to driving a school bus, each school bus driver shall inspect the bus to ensure that it is in safe operating condition and equipped as required by law and that all equipment is in good working order. At the completion of each day's work, the driver shall prepare and sign a written report of the condition of the equipment specified in 13 CCR 1215. The report shall indicate any defect or deficiency discovered by or reported to the driver which would affect safe operation or result in mechanical breakdown of the bus. If no defect or deficiency is discovered or reported, the driver shall so indicate on the report. Any defect or deficiency that would affect safe operation shall be repaired prior to operating the bus. (13 CCR 1215)

(cf. 3540 - Transportation)

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

(cf. 3542 - School Bus Drivers)

Passenger Restraint Systems

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that any school bus or student activity bus which is purchased or leased by the district is equipped with a combination pelvic and upper torso passenger restraint system at all designated seating positions if that bus: (Vehicle Code 27316, 27316.5; 13 CCR 1201)

1. Is a Type 1 school bus designed for carrying more than 16 passengers and the driver, and was manufactured on or after July 1, 2005

2. Is a Type 2 school bus or student activity bus designed for carrying 16 or fewer passengers and the driver, or for carrying 20 or fewer passengers and the driver if the bus has a manufacturer's vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less, and was manufactured on or after July 1, 2004

The Superintendent or designee shall prioritize the allocation of school buses purchased, leased, or contracted to ensure that elementary students receive first priority for new school buses equipped with passenger restraint systems whenever feasible.

When a school bus or student activity bus is equipped with a passenger restraint system, all passengers shall use the passenger restraint system. (5 CCR 14105)

Bus drivers shall be instructed regarding procedures to enforce the proper use of the passenger restraint system. Students who fail to follow instructions of the bus driver may be subject to discipline, including suspension of riding privileges, in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulations.

(cf. 5131.1 - Bus Conduct)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

Fire Extinguishers

Each school bus shall be equipped with at least one fire extinguisher, located in the driver's compartment, which meets the standards specified in law. In addition, a wheelchair school bus shall have another fire extinguisher placed at the wheelchair loading door or emergency exit. All fire extinguishers shall be regularly inspected and serviced in accordance with regulations adopted by the State Fire Marshal. (Education Code 39838; 13 CCR 1242; 19 CCR 574-575.3)

Child Safety Alert System

In accordance with Vehicle Code 28160, each school bus or student activity bus shall be equipped with an operational child safety alert system at the interior rear of the bus that requires the driver to either manually contact or scan the device, thereby prompting the driver to inspect the entirety of the interior of the vehicle before exiting.

A student activity bus that does not have a child safety alert system may be used only if all of the following apply: (Vehicle Code 28160)

1. The student activity bus is not used exclusively to transport students.
2. When the student activity bus is used to transport students, the students are accompanied by at least one adult chaperone selected by a school official. If an adult chaperone is not a school employee, the chaperone shall meet the requirements for a school volunteer.
(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)
3. One adult chaperone has a list of every student and adult chaperone, including a school employee, who is on the student activity bus at the time of departure.
4. The driver has reviewed all safety and emergency procedures before the initial departure, and the driver and adult chaperone have signed a form, with the time and date, acknowledging that the safety plan and procedures were reviewed.
5. Immediately before departure from any location, the adult chaperone shall account for each student on the list of students, verify the number of students to the driver, and sign a form indicating that all students are present or accounted for.
6. After students have exited a student activity bus, and before driving away, the driver shall check all areas of the bus, including, but not limited to, overhead compartments and bathrooms, to ensure that the bus is vacant.
7. The driver shall sign a form with the time and date verifying that all required procedures have been followed.
8. The information required to be recorded pursuant to items #4, 5, and 7 may be recorded on a single form and shall be retained by the district for a minimum of two years.

Electronic Communications Devices

A bus driver is prohibited from driving a school bus or student activity bus while using a wireless telephone or other electronic wireless communications device except for work-related or emergency purposes, including, but not limited to, contacting a law enforcement agency, health care provider, fire department, or other emergency service agency or entity. In any such permitted situation, the driver shall only use a wireless telephone or device that is specifically designed and configured to allow voice-operated and hands-free operation or a function that requires only a single swipe or tap of the driver's finger provided the device is mounted on the windshield, dashboard, or center console of the bus. (Vehicle Code 23123.5, 23125)

Safe Bus Operations

School buses and student activity buses shall not be operated whenever the number of passengers exceeds bus seating capacity, except when necessary in emergency situations which require that individuals be transported immediately to ensure their safety. (Education Code 39834)

(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)

School bus operations shall be limited when atmospheric conditions reduce visibility on the roadway to 200 feet or less during regular home-to-school transportation service. Bus drivers for school activity trips may discontinue bus operation whenever they determine that it is unsafe to continue operation because of reduced visibility. (Vehicle Code 34501.6)

Unauthorized Entry

The Superintendent or designee may place a notice at bus entrances that warns against unauthorized entry. The driver or another school official may order any person to disembark if that person enters a bus without prior authorization. (Education Code 39842; 13 CCR 1256.5)

(cf. 3515.2 - Disruptions)

Transportation Safety Plan for Boarding and Exiting Buses

The Superintendent or designee shall develop a transportation safety plan containing procedures for school personnel to follow to ensure the safe transport of students. The plan shall address all of the following: (Education Code 39831.3)

1. Determination of whether students in grades prekindergarten through 8 require an escort to cross a private road or highway at a bus stop pursuant to Vehicle Code 22112
2. Procedures for all students in grades prekindergarten through 8 to follow as they board and exit the bus at their bus stops
3. Boarding and exiting a school bus at a school or other trip destination
4. Procedures to ensure that a student is not left unattended on a school bus, student activity bus, or, if applicable, youth bus
5. Procedures and standards for designating an adult chaperone, other than the driver, to accompany students on a school activity bus

A copy of the plan shall be kept at each school site and made available upon request to the California Highway Patrol (CHP). (Education Code 39831.3)

Parental Notifications

The Superintendent or designee shall provide written safety information to the parents/guardians of all students in grades

prekindergarten through 6 who have not previously been transported in a district school bus or student activity bus. This information shall be provided upon registration and shall contain: (Education Code 39831.5)

1. A list of school bus stops near each student's home
 2. General rules of conduct at school bus loading zones
 3. Red light crossing instructions
 4. A description of the school bus danger zone
 5. Instructions for safely walking to and from school bus stops
- (cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

Student Instruction

Students who are transported in a school bus or student activity bus shall receive instruction in school bus emergency procedures and passenger safety as follows: (Education Code 39831.5; 5 CCR 14102)

1. Each year, all students who receive home-to-school transportation in a school bus shall be provided appropriate instruction in safe riding practices and emergency evacuation drills.
2. At least once each school year, all students in grades prekindergarten through 8 who receive home-to-school transportation shall receive safety instruction which includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Proper loading and unloading procedures, including escorting by the driver
 - b. How to safely cross the street, highway, or private road
 - c. In school buses with passenger restraint systems, instruction in the use of such systems as specified in 5 CCR 14105, including, but not limited to, the proper fastening and release of the passenger restraint system, acceptable placement of passenger restraint systems on students, times at which the passenger restraint systems should be fastened and released, and acceptable placement of the passenger restraint systems when not in use
 - d. Proper passenger conduct
 - e. Bus evacuation procedures
 - f. Location of emergency equipment

As part of this instruction, students shall evacuate the school bus through emergency exit doors. Instruction also may include responsibilities of passengers seated next to an emergency exit.

Each time the above instruction is given, the following information shall be documented:

- a. District name
- b. School name and location
- c. Date of instruction
- d. Names of supervising adults
- e. Number of students participating
- f. Grade levels of students
- g. Subjects covered in instruction
- h. Amount of time taken for instruction
- i. Bus driver's name
- j. Bus number
- k. Additional remarks

This documentation shall be kept on file at the district office or the school for one year and shall be available for inspection by the CHP.

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

3. Before departing on a school activity trip, all students riding on a school bus or student activity bus shall receive safety instruction which includes, but is not limited to, the location of emergency exits and the location and use of emergency equipment. This instruction also may include responsibilities of passengers seated next to an emergency exit.

Bus Accidents

In the event of a school bus accident, the driver shall immediately notify the CHP and the Superintendent or designee. The driver shall not leave the immediate vicinity of the bus to seek aid unless necessary. (13 CCR 1219)

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a report of each accident that occurred on public or private property involving a school bus with students aboard. The report shall contain pertinent details of the accident and shall be retained for 12 months from the date of the accident. If the accident was not investigated by the CHP, the Superintendent or designee shall forward a copy of the report to the local CHP within five work days of the date of the accident. (13 CCR 1234)

The Superintendent or designee shall review all investigations of bus incidents and accidents to develop preventative measures.

(cf. 4112.42/4212.42/4312.42 - Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus Drivers)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

39830-39843 Transportation, school buses

39860 Contract for transportation; requirement that student not be left unattended

51202 Instruction in personal and public health and safety

PENAL CODE

241.3 Assault against school bus driver

243.3 Battery against school bus driver

VEHICLE CODE

415 Definition of motor vehicle

545-546 Definition of school bus and student activity bus

22112 Loading and unloading passengers

23123.5 Use of wireless telephone or communications device while driving; exceptions

23125 Use of wireless telephone prohibited while driving school bus
 27316-27316.5 Passenger restraint systems
 28160 Child safety alert system
 34500 California Highway Patrol responsibility to regulate safe operation of school buses
 34501.5 California Highway Patrol responsibility to adopt rules re: safe operation of school buses
 34501.6 School buses; reduced visibility
 34508 California Highway Patrol responsibility to adopt rules re: equipment and bus operations
 CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
 14100-14105 School buses and student activity buses
 CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 13
 1200-1294 Motor carrier safety
 2480 Airborne toxic control measure; limitation on bus idling
 CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 19
 574-575.3 Inspection and maintenance of fire extinguishers
 CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 49
 571.1-571.500 Motor vehicle standards, including school buses
 Management Resources:
 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
 Passenger Restraints Frequently Asked Questions
 WEB SITES
 American School Bus Council: <http://www.americanschoolbuscouncil.org>
 California Association of School Business Officials: <http://www.casbo.org>
 California Association of School Transportation Officials: <http://www.castoways.org>
 California Department of Education, Office of School Transportation: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/tn>
 California Highway Patrol: <http://www.chp.ca.gov>
 National Transportation Safety Board: <http://www.nts.gov>
 U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration: <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov>
 Regulation WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
 approved: April 10, 2019 Willits, California

INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM A.R. 6159

At the beginning of each school year, the district shall have an individualized education program (IEP) in effect for each student with a disability within district jurisdiction. The IEP shall be a written statement designed by the IEP team to meet the unique educational needs of a student with a disability. (Education Code 56344; 34 CFR 300.323)

Members of the IEP Team

The IEP team for any student with a disability shall include the following members: (Education Code 56341, 56341.5; 20 USC 1414(d)(1); 34 CFR300.321)

1. One or both of the student's parents/guardians and/or a representative selected by them
2. If the student is or may be participating in the regular education program, at least one of the student's regular education teachers designated by the Superintendent or designee to represent the student's teachers

The regular education teacher shall, to the extent appropriate, participate in the development, review, and revision of the student's IEP, including assisting in the determination of appropriate positive behavioral interventions, supports, and other strategies for the student, and supplementary aids and services, program modifications, and supports for school personnel that will be provided for the student, consistent with 34 CFR300.320. (Education Code 56341; 20 USC 1414(d)(3)(C); 34 CFR 300.324)

(cf. 6159.4 - Behavioral Interventions for Special Education Students)

3. At least one of the student's special education teachers or, where appropriate, special education providers
4. A representative of the district who is:
 - a. Qualified to provide or supervise the provision of specially designed instruction to meet the unique needs of students with disabilities
 - b. Knowledgeable about the general education curriculum
 - c. Knowledgeable about the availability of district and/or special education local plan area (SELPA) resources

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

5. An individual who can interpret the instructional implications of assessment results
 This individual may already be a member of the team as described in items #2-4 above or in item #6 below.

6. At the discretion of the parent/guardian or the Superintendent or designee, other individuals who have knowledge or special expertise regarding the student, including related services personnel, as appropriate

The determination of whether the individual has knowledge or special expertise regarding the student shall be made by the party who invites the individual to be a member of the IEP team.

7. Whenever appropriate, the student with a disability
 In the development, review, or revision of his/her IEP, the student shall be allowed to provide confidential input to any representative of his/her IEP team. (Education Code 56341.5)

8. When the student is suspected of having a specific learning disability, at least one individual who is qualified to conduct individual diagnostic examinations of the student such as a school psychologist, speech language pathologist, or remedial reading teacher
 In accordance with 34 CFR 300.310, at least one team member other than the student's regular education teacher shall observe the student's academic performance and behavior in the areas of difficulty in his/her learning environment, including in the regular

classroom setting. If the child is younger than five years or not enrolled in school, a team member shall observe the child in an environment appropriate for a child of that age.

In the following circumstances, the Superintendent or designee shall invite other specified individuals to an IEP team meeting:

1. When the student has been placed in a group home by the juvenile court, a representative of the group home shall be invited to attend IEP team meetings. (Education Code 56341.2)
2. Whenever the IEP team is meeting to consider the student's postsecondary goals and the transition services needed to assist him/her in reaching the goals as stated in Education Code 56345(a)(8), the following individuals shall be invited to attend: (34 CFR 300.321)

a. The student, regardless of his/her age

If the student does not attend the IEP team meeting, the Superintendent or designee shall take other steps to ensure that the student's preferences and interests are considered.

b. To the extent appropriate, and with the consent of the parent/guardian, a representative of any other agency that is likely to be responsible for providing or paying for the transition services

3. If the student was previously served under the Early Education for Individuals with Exceptional Needs (Education Code 56425-56432) or the California Early Intervention Services Act (Government Code 95000-95004), and upon request of the student's parent/guardian, the Superintendent or designee shall invite the Infant and Toddlers with Disabilities Coordinator or other representative of the early education

or early intervention system to the initial IEP team meeting to assist with the smooth transition of services. (Education Code 56341; 20 USC 1414(d)(1)(D); 34 CFR 300.321)

A member of the IEP team shall not be required to attend an IEP team meeting, in whole or in part, if the parent/guardian and the district agree, in writing, that the attendance of the member is not necessary because the member's area of the curriculum or related services is not being modified or discussed at the meeting. Even if the meeting involves a discussion of the IEP team member's area of the curriculum or related service, the member may be excused from the meeting if the parent/guardian, in writing, and the district consent to the excusal after conferring with the member and the member submits to the parent/guardian and team written input into the development of the IEP prior to the meeting. (Education Code 56341; 20 USC 1414(d)(1)(C); 34 CFR 300.321)

Contents of the IEP

The IEP shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following: (Education Code 56043, 56345, 56345.1; 20 USC 1414(d)(1)(A); 34 CFR 300.320)

1. A statement of the present levels of the student's academic achievement and functional performance, including:
 - a. The manner in which the student's disability affects his/her involvement and progress in the general education curriculum (i.e., the same curriculum as for nondisabled students)
 - b. For a preschool child, as appropriate, the manner in which the disability affects his/her participation in appropriate activities
 - c. For a student with a disability who takes alternate assessments aligned to alternate achievement standards, a description of benchmarks or short-term objectives
2. A statement of measurable annual goals, including academic and functional goals, designed to:
 - a. Meet the student's needs that result from his/her disability in order to enable the student to be involved in and progress in the general education curriculum
 - b. Meet each of the student's other educational needs that result from his/her disability
3. A description of the manner in which the student's progress toward meeting the annual goals described in item #2 above will be measured and when the district will provide periodic reports on the progress the student is making toward meeting the annual goals, such as through the use of quarterly or other periodic reports, concurrent with the issuance of report cards
4. A statement of the special education instruction and related services and supplementary aids and services, based on peer-reviewed research to the extent practicable, to be provided to the student or on behalf of the student, and a statement of the program modifications or supports for school personnel that will be provided to enable the student to:
 - a. Advance appropriately toward attaining the annual goals
 - b. Be involved and make progress in the general education curriculum in accordance with item #1 above and to participate in extracurricular and other nonacademic activities
 - c. Be educated and participate with other students with disabilities and nondisabled students in the activities described in the IEP (cf. 3541.2 - Transportation for Students with Disabilities)
5. An explanation of the extent, if any, to which the student will not participate with nondisabled students in the regular class and in extracurricular and other nonacademic activities described in the IEP
6. A statement of any appropriate individual accommodations necessary to measure the academic achievement and functional performance of the student on state and districtwide assessments

If the IEP team determines that the student shall take an alternate assessment instead of a particular regular state or districtwide assessment, the student's IEP also shall include a statement of the reason that he/she cannot participate in the regular assessment and the reason that the particular alternate assessment selected is appropriate for him/her.

(cf. 6146.4 - Differential Graduation and Competency Standards for Students with Disabilities)

(cf. 6162.51 - Standardized Testing and Reporting Program)

(cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)

7. The projected date for the beginning of the services and modifications described in item #4 above and the anticipated frequency, location, and duration of those services and modifications
8. Beginning not later than the first IEP to be in effect when the student is 16 years of age, or younger if determined appropriate by the IEP team, and updated annually thereafter, the following:
 - a. Appropriate measurable postsecondary goals based upon age-appropriate transition assessments related to training, education, employment, and where appropriate, independent living skills

- b. The transition services, including courses of study, needed to assist the student in reaching those goals
9. Beginning at least one year before the student reaches age 18, a statement that the student has been informed of his/her rights, if any, that will transfer to him/her upon reaching age 18, pursuant to Education Code 56041.5
- Where appropriate, the IEP shall also include: (Education Code 56345)
1. For a student in grades 7-12, any alternative means and modes necessary for the student to complete the district's prescribed course of study and to meet or exceed proficiency standards required for graduation
(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)
(cf. 6146.11 - Alternative Credits Toward Graduation)
 2. Linguistically appropriate goals, objectives, programs, and services for a student whose native language is not English
(cf. 6174 - Education for English Language Learners)
 3. Extended school year services when the IEP team determines, on an individual basis, that the services are necessary for the provision of a free appropriate public education (FAPE)
(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)
(cf. 6177 - Summer School)
 4. Provision for transition into the regular education program if the student is to be transferred from a special class or center or nonpublic, nonsectarian school into a regular education program in a public school for any part of the school day, including descriptions of activities intended to:
 - a. Integrate the student into the regular education program, including indications of the nature of each activity and the time spent on the activity each day or week
 - b. Support the transition of the student from the special education program into the regular education program
(cf. 6176 - Weekend/Saturday Classes)
(cf. 6178 - Career Technical Education)
(cf. 6181 - Alternative Schools/Programs of Choice)
 5. Specialized services, materials, and equipment for a student with low incidence disabilities, consistent with the guidelines pursuant to Education Code 56136

Development of the IEP

Within 30 days of a determination that a student needs special education and related services, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that a meeting to develop an initial IEP is conducted. (34 CFR 300.323)

Any IEP required as a result of an assessment of a student shall be developed within 60 days from the date of receipt of the parent/guardian's written consent for assessment, unless the parent/guardian agrees, in writing, to an extension. Days between the student's regular school sessions, terms, or vacation of more than five school days shall not be counted. In the case of school vacations, the 60-day time limit shall recommence on the date that the student's school days reconvene. (Education Code 56344)

However, when the IEP is required as a result of an assessment of a student for whom a referral has been made 30 days or less prior to the end of the preceding regular school year, the IEP shall be developed within 30 days after the commencement of the subsequent regular school year. (Education Code 56344)

In developing the IEP, the IEP team shall consider all of the following: (Education Code 56341.1, 56345; 20 USC 1414(d)(3)(A); 34 CFR 300.324)

1. The strengths of the student
2. The concerns of the parents/guardians for enhancing the education of their child
3. The results of the initial or most recent assessment of the student
4. The academic, developmental, and functional needs of the student
5. In the case of a student whose behavior impedes his/her learning or that of others, the use of positive behavioral interventions and supports and other strategies to address that behavior
6. In the case of a student with limited English proficiency, the language needs of the student as such needs relate to the student's IEP
7. In the case of a student who is blind or visually impaired, the need to provide for instruction in Braille and instruction in the use of Braille

However, such instruction need not be included in the IEP if the IEP team determines that instruction in Braille or the use of Braille is not appropriate for the student. This determination shall be based upon an assessment of the student's reading and writing skills, his/her future needs for instruction in Braille or the use of Braille, and other appropriate reading and writing media.

8. The communication needs of the student and, in the case of a student who is deaf or hard of hearing, the student's language and communication needs, opportunities for direct communications with peers and professional personnel in the student's language and communication mode, academic level, and full range of needs, including opportunities for direct instruction in the student's language and communication mode

The team shall also consider the related services and program options that provide the student with an equal opportunity for communication access, as described in Education Code 56345.

9. Whether the student requires assistive technology devices and services

If, in considering the special factors in items #1-9 above, the IEP team determines that the student needs a particular device or service, including an intervention, accommodation, or other program modification, in order to receive FAPE, the team shall include a statement to that effect in the student's IEP. (Education Code 56341.1)

Provision of Special Education and Related Services

The district shall ensure that, as soon as possible following development of the IEP, special education services and related services are made available to the student in accordance with his/her IEP. (Education Code 56344; 34 CFR 300.323)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the student's IEP is accessible to each regular education teacher, special education teacher, related service provider, and any other service provider who is responsible for its implementation. The Superintendent or designee also shall ensure that such teachers and providers are informed of their specific responsibilities related to implementing

the IEP and the specific accommodations, modifications, and supports that must be provided to the student in accordance with the IEP. (34 CFR 300.323)

Review and Revision of the IEP

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the IEP team reviews the IEP periodically, but at least annually, in order to:

(Education Code 56043, 56341.1, 56380; 20 USC 1414(d)(4); 34 CFR 300.324)

1. Determine whether the annual goals for the student are being achieved
2. Revise the IEP, as appropriate, to address:
 - a. Any lack of expected progress toward the annual goals and in the general education curriculum, where appropriate
 - b. The results of any reassessment conducted pursuant to Education Code 56381
 - c. Information about the student provided to or by the parents/guardians regarding review of evaluation data pursuant to 34 CFR 300.305(a)(2) and Education Code 56381(b)
 - d. The student's anticipated needs
 - e. Any other relevant matter
3. Consider the special factors listed in items #5-9 above under "Development of the IEP," when reviewing the IEP of any student with a disability to whom one of those factors may apply

The IEP team shall also meet at any other time upon request by the student's parent/guardian or teacher to review or revise the IEP.

(Education Code 56343)

When a parent/guardian requests an IEP team meeting to review the IEP, the team shall meet within 30 days of receiving the parent/guardian's written request, not counting days between the student's regular school sessions or terms or days of school vacation in excess of five school days. If a parent/guardian makes an oral request, the district shall notify the parent/guardian of the need for a written request and the procedure for filing such a request. (Education Code 56043, 56343.5)

A regular education or special education teacher may request a review of the classroom assignment of a student with a disability by submitting a written request to the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee shall consider the request within 20 days of receiving it, not counting days when school is not in session or, for year-round schools, days when the school is off track. If the review indicates a need for change in the student's placement, instruction, and/or related services, the Superintendent or designee shall convene an IEP team meeting, which shall be held within 30 days of the Superintendent or designee's review, not counting days when school is not in session or days when school is off track, unless the student's parent/guardian consents in writing to an extension of time.

If a participating agency other than the district fails to provide the transition services described in the student's IEP, the team shall reconvene to identify alternative strategies to meet the transition service objectives set out for the student in the IEP. (Education Code 56345.1; 20 USC 1414(d); 34 CFR 300.324)

If a student with a disability residing in a licensed children's institution or foster family home has been placed by the district in a nonpublic, nonsectarian school, the Superintendent or designee shall conduct an annual evaluation as part of the IEP process of whether the placement is the least restrictive environment that is appropriate to meet the student's needs. (Education Code 56157) (cf. 6159.2 - Nonpublic, Nonsectarian School and Agency Services for Special Education)

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

When an IEP calls for a residential placement as a result of a review by an expanded IEP team, the IEP shall include a provision for a review, at least every six months, by the full IEP team of the case progress, the continuing need for out-of-home placement, the extent of compliance with the IEP, and progress toward alleviating the need for out-of-home care. (Education Code 56043)

To the extent possible, the Superintendent or designee shall encourage the consolidation of reassessment meetings and other IEP team meetings for a student. (20 USC 1414(d)(3)(A); 34 CFR 300.324)

When a change is necessary to a student's IEP after the annual IEP team meeting for the school year has been held, the parent/guardian and the Superintendent or designee may agree not to convene an IEP team meeting for the purpose of making the change and instead may develop a written document to amend or modify the student's current IEP. The IEP team shall be informed of any such changes. Upon request, the Superintendent or designee shall provide the parent/guardian with a revised copy of the IEP with the incorporated amendments. (20 USC 1414(d)(3)(D); 34 CFR 300.324)

Audio Recording of IEP Team Meetings

Parents/guardians and the Superintendent or designee shall have the right to audio record the proceedings of IEP team meetings, provided members of the IEP team are notified of this intent at least 24 hours before the meeting. If the Superintendent or designee gives notice of intent to audio record a meeting and the parent/guardian objects or refuses to attend because the meeting would be audio recorded, the meeting shall not be audio recorded. Parents/guardians also have the right to: (Education Code 56341.1)

1. Inspect and review the audio recordings
2. Request that an audio recording be amended if they believe it contains information that is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student's privacy rights or other rights
3. Challenge, in a hearing, information that the parents/guardians believe is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student's privacy rights or other rights

Parent/Guardian Participation and Other Rights

The Superintendent or designee shall take steps to ensure that one or both of the parents/guardians of the student with a disability are present at each IEP team meeting or are afforded the opportunity to participate. These steps shall include notifying the parents/guardians of the meeting early enough to ensure that they will have the opportunity to attend and scheduling the meeting at a mutually agreed upon time and place. (Education Code 56341.5; 34 CFR 300.322)

The Superintendent or designee shall send parents/guardians notices of IEP team meetings that: (Education Code 56341.5; 34 CFR 300.322)

1. Indicate the purpose, time, and location of the meeting
2. Indicate who will be in attendance at the meeting
3. Inform them of:

- a. Their right to bring to the meeting other individuals who have knowledge or special expertise about the student, pursuant to Education Code 56341(b)(6)
 - b. The provision of Education Code 56341(i) relating to the participation of the Infant and Toddlers with Disabilities Coordinator at the initial IEP team meeting, if the student was previously served under Early Education for Individuals with Exceptional Needs (Education Code 56425-56432) or the California Early Intervention Services Act (Government Code 95000-95004)
- In addition, when the IEP team meeting is to consider the development, review, or revision of the IEP of a student with a disability who is 16 years of age or older, or younger than 16 if deemed appropriate by the IEP team, the Superintendent or designee's notice to the student's parents/guardians shall include the following: (Education Code 56341.5)
1. An indication that a purpose of the meeting will be the consideration of postsecondary goals and transition services for the student pursuant to Education Code 56345.1, 20 USC 1414(d)(1)(A)(i)(VIII), and 34 CFR 300.320(b)
 2. An indication that the student is invited to the IEP team meeting
 3. Identification of any other agency that will be invited to send a representative

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

At each IEP team meeting convened by the district, the district administrator or specialist on the team shall inform the parent/guardian and student of the federal and state procedural safeguards included in the notice of parental rights provided pursuant to Education Code 56321. (Education Code 56500.1)

(cf. 6159.1 - Procedural Safeguards and Complaints for Special Education)

The parent/guardian shall have the right and opportunity to examine all of his/her child's school records upon request, before any IEP meeting, and in connection with any hearing or resolution session on matters affecting his/her child, including, but not limited to, initial formal assessment, procedural safeguards, and due process. Upon receipt of an oral or written request, the Superintendent or designee shall provide complete copies of the records within five business days. (Education Code 56043, 56504)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

The parent/guardian shall have the right to present information to the IEP team in person or through a representative and the right to participate in meetings that relate to eligibility for special education and related services, recommendations, and program planning. (Education Code 56341.1)

If neither parent/guardian can attend the meeting, the Superintendent or designee shall use other methods to ensure parent/guardian participation, including video conferences or individual or conference telephone calls. (Education Code 56341.5; 20 USC 1414(f); 34 CFR 300.322)

An IEP team meeting may be conducted without a parent/guardian in attendance if the Superintendent or designee is unable to convince the parent/guardian that he/she should attend. In such a case, the Superintendent or designee shall maintain a record of the attempts to arrange a mutually agreed upon time and place for the meeting, including: (Education Code 56341.5; 34 CFR 300.322)

1. Detailed records of telephone calls made or attempted and the results of those calls
2. Copies of correspondence sent to the parent/guardian and any responses received
3. Detailed records of visits made to the parent/guardian's home or place of employment and the results of those visits

The Superintendent or designee shall take any action necessary to ensure that the parents/guardians understand the proceedings of the meeting, including arranging for an interpreter for parents/guardians with deafness or whose native language is not English. (Education Code 56341.5; 34 CFR 300.322)

The Superintendent or designee shall give the parents/guardians of a student with a disability a copy of his/her child's IEP at no cost. (Education Code 56341.5; 34 CFR 300.322)

Parent/Guardian Consent for Provision of Special Education and Services

Before providing special education and related services to any student, the Superintendent or designee shall seek to obtain informed consent of the student's parent/guardian pursuant to 20 USC 1414(a)(1). The district shall not provide services by utilizing the due process hearing procedures pursuant to 20 USC 1415(f) if the parent/guardian refuses to consent to the initiation of services. If the parent/guardian does not consent to all of the components of the IEP, then those components to which the parent/guardian has consented shall be implemented so as not to delay providing instruction and services to the student. (Education Code 56346)

If the Superintendent or designee determines that a part of a proposed IEP to which the parent/guardian does not consent is necessary in order to provide the student with FAPE, a due process hearing shall be initiated in accordance with 20 USC 1415(f). While the due process hearing is pending, the student shall remain in the current placement unless the parent/guardian and the Superintendent or designee agree otherwise. (Education Code 56346)

If at any time subsequent to the initial provision of services, the student's parent/guardian, in writing, revokes consent for the continued provision of special education services, the Superintendent or designee shall provide prior written notice within a reasonable time before ceasing to provide services to the student. The Superintendent or designee shall not request a due process hearing or pursue mediation in order to require an agreement or ruling that services be provided to the student. (Education Code 56346; 34 CFR 300.300, 300.503)

Prior to the discontinuation of services, the Superintendent or designee may offer to meet with the parents/guardians to discuss concerns for the student's education. However, this meeting shall be voluntary on the part of the parent/guardian and shall not delay the implementation of the parent/guardian's request for discontinuation of services. In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall send a letter to the parent/guardian confirming the parent/guardian's decision to discontinue all services.

When the district ceases to provide special education services in response to the parent/guardian's revocation of consent, the student shall be classified as a general education student.

Transfer Students

To facilitate the transition of a student with a disability who is transferring into the district, the Superintendent or designee shall take reasonable steps to promptly obtain the student's records, including his/her IEP and the supporting documents related to the provision of special education services. (Education Code 56325; 34 CFR 300.323)

If the student transfers into the district from another school district within the same SELPA during the school year, the district shall continue to provide services comparable to those described in the student's existing IEP, unless his/her parent/guardian and the district agree to develop, adopt, and implement a new IEP that is consistent with state and federal law. (Education Code 56325; 34 CFR 300.323)

If the student transfers into the district from a school district outside of the district's SELPA during the school year, the district shall provide the student with FAPE, including services comparable to those described in the previous district's IEP. Within 30 days, the Superintendent or designee shall, in consultation with the student's parents/guardians, adopt the previous district's IEP or shall develop, adopt, and implement a new IEP that is consistent with state and federal law. (Education Code 56325; 34 CFR 300.323)

If the student transfers into the district from an out-of-state district during the school year, the district shall provide the student with FAPE, including services comparable to the out-of-state district's IEP, in consultation with the parent/guardian, until such time as the Superintendent or designee conducts an assessment, if it determines that such an assessment is necessary, and develops, adopts, and implements a new IEP, if appropriate. (Education Code 56325; 34 CFR 300.323)

Regulation WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: August 7, 2013 Willits, California

WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS A.R. 5131.7

Prohibited weapons and dangerous instruments include, but are not limited to: (Education Code 48915, 49330; Penal Code 626.10, 16100-17350, 30310)

1. Firearms: pistols, revolvers, shotguns, rifles, "zip guns," "stun guns," tasers, and any other device capable of propelling a projectile by the force of an explosion or other form of combustion
2. Ammunition or reloaded ammunition
3. Knives, razor blades, and box cutters: any dirks, daggers, ice picks, or other weapons with a fixed, sharpened blade fitted primarily for stabbing, weapons with a blade fitted primarily for stabbing, weapons with a blade longer than 2-1/2 inches, folding knives with a blade that locks into place, and razors with an unguarded blade
4. Explosive and/or incendiary devices: pipe bombs, time bombs, cap guns, containers of inflammable fluids, and other hazardous devices
5. Any instrument that expels a metallic projectile, such as a BB or a pellet, through the force of air pressure, carbon dioxide pressure, or spring action, or any spot marker gun
6. Any other dangerous device, instrument, or weapon, including those defined in Penal Code 12020, including a blackjack, slingshot, billy, nunchaku, sandclub, sandbag, metal knuckles, or any metal plate with three or more radiating points with one or more sharp edges designed for use as a weapon
7. Any imitation firearm, defined as a replica of a firearm that is so substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm

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

(cf. 5145.12 - Search and Seizure)

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

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

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 3515.3 - District/Police Security Department)

(cf. 4158/4258/4358 - Employee Security)

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

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

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

Regulation WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: August 7, 2013 Willits, California

SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION/DUE PROCESS AR 5144.1

Definitions

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

1. Reassignment to another education program or class at the same school where the student will receive continuing instruction for the length of day prescribed by the Board of Trustees for students of the same grade level
2. Referral to a certificated employee designated by the principal to advise students
3. Removal from the class, but without reassignment to another class or program, for the remainder of the class period without sending the student to the principal or designee as provided in Education Code 48910

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

Notice of Regulations

At the beginning of each school year, the principal of each school shall ensure that all students and parents/guardians are notified in writing of all school rules related to discipline, including suspension and expulsion. (Education Code 35291, 48900.1, 48980) (cf. 5144 - Discipline)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades K-12

Acts for which a student, including a student with disabilities, may be suspended or expelled shall be only those specified as follows: (cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

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

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

(cf. 5131.7 - Weapons and Dangerous Instruments)

3. Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, otherwise furnished, or was under the influence of any controlled substance as defined in Health and Safety Code 11053-11058, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind (Education Code 48900(c))

(cf. 3513.4 - Drug and Alcohol Free Schools)

(cf. 5131.6 - Alcohol and Other Drugs)

4. Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any controlled substance as defined in Health and Safety Code 11053-11058, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind, and then sold, delivered, or otherwise furnished to any person another liquid, substance, or material and represented same as such controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant (Education Code 48900(d))

5. Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion (Education Code 48900(e))

6. Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property (Education Code 48900(f))

7. Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property (Education Code 48900(g))

8. Possessed or used tobacco or products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including, but not limited to, cigars, cigarettes, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets, and betel, except that this restriction shall not prohibit a student from using or possessing his/her own prescription products (Education Code 48900(h))

(cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)

9. Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity (Education Code 48900(i))

10. Unlawfully possessed, offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any drug paraphernalia, as defined in Health and Safety Code 11014.5 (Education Code 48900(j))

11. Knowingly received stolen school property or private property (Education Code 48900(l))

12. Possessed an imitation firearm (Education Code 48900(m))

Imitation firearm means a replica of a firearm that is so substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm. (Education Code 48900(m))

13. Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault as defined in Penal Code 261, 266c, 286, 288, 288a, or 289, or committed a sexual battery as defined in Penal Code 243.4 (Education Code 48900(n))

14. Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a student who is a complaining witness or witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for the purpose of preventing that student from being a witness and/or retaliating against that student for being a witness (Education Code 48900(o))

15. Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma (Education Code 48900(p))

16. Engaged in, or attempted to engage in, hazing (Education Code 48900(q))

Hazing means a method of initiation or pre-initiation into a student organization or body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution, which is likely to cause serious bodily injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to a former, current, or prospective student. Hazing does not include athletic events or school-sanctioned events. (Education Code 48900(q))

17. Engaged in an act of bullying (Education Code 48900(r))

Bullying means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, directed toward one or more students that has or can reasonably be predicted to have the effect of placing a reasonable student in fear of harm to himself/herself or his/her property; cause the student to experience a substantially detrimental effect on his/her physical or mental health; or cause the student to experience substantial interferences with his/her academic performance or ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school. (Education Code 48900(r))

Bullying includes any act of sexual harassment, hate violence, or harassment, threat, or intimidation, as defined in Education Code 48900.2, 48900.3, or 48900.4 and below in items #1-3 of "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 4-12," that has any of the effects described above on a reasonable student.

Bullying also includes an act of cyber sexual bullying by a student through the dissemination of, or the solicitation or incitement to disseminate, a photograph or other visual recording that depicts a nude, semi-nude, or sexually explicit photograph or other visual recording of an identifiable minor, when such dissemination is to another student or to school personnel by means of an electronic act and has or can be reasonably predicted to have one or more of the effects of bullying described above. Cyber sexual bullying does not include a depiction, portrayal, or image that has any serious literary, artistic, educational, political, or scientific value or that involves athletic events or school-sanctioned activities.

Electronic act means the creation or transmission originated on or off the school site by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager, of a communication including, but not limited to: (Education Code 48900(r))

a. A message, text, sound, video, or image

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

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

(cf. 1114 - District-Sponsored Social Media)

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

(cf. 6163.4 - Student Use of Technology)

(cf. 6164.4 - Identification and Evaluation of Individuals for Special Education)

(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education under Section 504)

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

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

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

Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 4-12

Any student in grades 4-12 may be suspended, but not expelled, for disrupting school activities or otherwise willfully defying the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, other school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties. (Education Code 48900(k))

(cf. 5131.4 - Student Disturbances)

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

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

Sexual harassment means conduct which, when considered from the perspective of a reasonable person of the same gender as the victim, is sufficiently severe or pervasive as to have a negative impact upon the victim's academic performance or to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. (Education Code 212.5, 48900.2)

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

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

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

(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)

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

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

Suspension from Class by a Teacher

A teacher may suspend a student, including a grade K-3 student, from class for the remainder of the day and the following day for disruption, willful defiance, or any of the other acts specified in Education Code 48900 and listed as items #1-18 under "Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades K-12" above. (Education Code 48910)

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

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

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

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

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

Suspension by Superintendent, Principal or Principal's Designee

To implement disciplinary procedures at a school site, the principal may, in writing, designate as the principal's designee another administrator or, if the principal is the only administrator at the school site, a certificated employee. As necessary, the principal

may, in writing, also designate another administrator or certificated employee as the secondary designee to assist with disciplinary procedures when the principal and the principal's primary designee are absent from the school site.

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

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

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

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

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

Length of Suspension

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

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

(cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)

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

Due Process Procedures for Suspension

Suspensions shall be imposed in accordance with the following procedures:

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

This conference may be omitted if the Superintendent, principal, or designee determines that an emergency situation exists involving a clear and present danger to the lives, safety, or health of students or school personnel. If a student is suspended without this conference, both the parent/guardian and student shall be notified of the student's right to return to school for the purpose of the conference and the conference shall be held within two school days, unless the student waives his/her right to it or is physically unable to attend for any reason. In such a case, the conference shall be held as soon as the student is physically able to return to school. (Education Code 48911)

2. Administrative Actions: All requests for student suspension are to be processed by the principal or designee. A school employee shall report the suspension, including the name of the student and the cause for the suspension, to the Superintendent or designee. (Education Code 48911)

3. Notice to Parents/Guardians: At the time of the suspension, a school employee shall make a reasonable effort to contact the parent/guardian by telephone or in person. Whenever a student is suspended, the parent/guardian shall also be notified in writing of the suspension. (Education Code 48911)

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

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

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

If school officials request to meet with the parent/guardian, the notice may state that the law requires the parent/guardian to respond to such requests without delay. However, no penalties may be imposed on the student for the failure of the parent/guardian to attend such a conference. The student may not be denied reinstatement solely because the parent/guardian failed to attend the conference. (Education Code 48911)

5. Extension of Suspension: If the Board is considering the expulsion of a suspended student from any school or the suspension of a student for the balance of the semester from continuation school, the Superintendent or designee may, in writing, extend the suspension until such time as the Board has made a decision, provided the following requirements are followed: (Education Code 48911)

a. The extension of the original period of suspension is preceded by notice of such extension with an offer to hold a conference concerning the extension, giving the student an opportunity to be heard. This conference may be held in conjunction with a meeting requested by the student or parent/guardian to challenge the original suspension.

b. The Superintendent or designee determines, following a meeting in which the student and the student's parent/guardian were invited to participate, that the student's presence at the school or at an alternative school would endanger persons or property or threaten to disrupt the instructional process. (Education Code 48911)

c. If the student involved is a foster youth, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the district liaison for foster youth of the need to invite the student's attorney and a representative of the appropriate county child welfare agency to attend the meeting. (Education Code 48853.5, 48911, 48918.1)

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

d. If the student involved is a homeless child or youth, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the district liaison for homeless students. (Education Code 48918.1)

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)

In lieu of or in addition to suspending a student, the Superintendent, principal, or designee may provide services or require the student to participate in an alternative disciplinary program designed to correct his/her behavior and keep him/her in school.

Suspension by the Board

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

The Board may suspend a student enrolled in a continuation school or class for a period not longer than the remainder of the semester.

The suspension shall meet the requirements of Education Code 48915. (Education Code 48912.5)

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

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

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

On-Campus Suspension

A student for whom an expulsion action has not been initiated and who poses no imminent danger or threat to the school, students, or staff may be assigned to on-campus suspension in a separate classroom, building, or site for the entire period of suspension. The following conditions shall apply: (Education Code 48911.1)

1. The on-campus suspension classroom shall be staffed in accordance with law.
2. The student shall have access to appropriate counseling services.
3. The on-campus suspension classroom shall promote completion of schoolwork and tests missed by the student during the suspension.
4. The student shall be responsible for contacting his/her teacher(s) to receive assignments to be completed in the supervised suspension classroom. The teacher(s) shall provide all assignments and tests that the student will miss while suspended. If no such work is assigned, the person supervising the suspension classroom shall assign schoolwork.

At the time a student is assigned to an on-campus suspension classroom, the principal or designee shall notify the student's parent/guardian in person or by telephone. When the assignment is for longer than one class period, this notification may be made in writing. (Education Code 48911.1)

Superintendent or Principal's Authority to Recommend Expulsion

Unless the Superintendent or principal determines that expulsion should not be recommended under the circumstances or that an alternative means of correction would address the conduct, he/she shall recommend a student's expulsion for any of the following acts: (Education Code 48915)

1. Causing serious physical injury to another person, except in self-defense
2. Possession of any knife or other dangerous object of no reasonable use to the student
3. Unlawful possession of any controlled substance as listed in Health and Safety Code 11053-11058, except for (a) the first offense for the possession of not more than one ounce of marijuana, other than concentrated cannabis, or (b) the student's possession of over-the-counter medication for his/her use or other medication prescribed for him/her by a physician
4. Robbery or extortion
5. Assault or battery, as defined in Penal Code 240 and 242, upon any school employee

In determining whether or not to recommend the expulsion of a student, the Superintendent, principal, or designee shall act as quickly as possible to ensure that the student does not lose instructional time. (Education Code 48915)

Student's Right to Expulsion Hearing

Any student recommended for expulsion shall be entitled to a hearing to determine whether he/she should be expelled. The hearing shall be held within 30 school days after the Superintendent, principal, or designee determines that the student has committed the act(s) that form the basis for the expulsion recommendation. (Education Code 48918(a))

The student is entitled to at least one postponement of an expulsion hearing for a period of not more than 30 calendar days. The request for postponement shall be in writing. Any subsequent postponement may be granted at the Board's discretion. (Education Code 48918(a))

If the Board finds it impractical during the regular school year to comply with these time requirements for conducting an expulsion hearing, the Superintendent or designee may, for good cause, extend the time period by an additional five school days. Reasons for the extension shall be included as a part of the record when the expulsion hearing is held. (Education Code 48918(a))

If the Board finds it impractical to comply with the time requirements of the expulsion hearing due to a summer recess of Board meetings of more than two weeks, the days during the recess shall not be counted as school days. The days not counted during the recess may not exceed 20 school days, as defined in Education Code 48925. Unless the student requests in writing that the expulsion hearing be postponed, the hearing shall be held not later than 20 calendar days prior to the first day of the next school year. (Education Code 48918(a))

Once the hearing starts, all matters shall be pursued with reasonable diligence and concluded without unnecessary delay. (Education Code 48918(a))

Stipulated Expulsion

After a determination that a student has committed an expellable offense, the Superintendent, principal, or designee shall offer the student and his/her parent/guardian the option to waive a hearing and stipulate to the expulsion or to a suspension of the expulsion under certain conditions. The offer shall be made only after the student or his/her parent/guardian has been given written notice of the expulsion hearing pursuant to Education Code 48918.

The stipulation agreement shall be in writing and shall be signed by the student and his/her parent/guardian. The stipulation agreement shall include notice of all the rights that the student is waiving, including the waiving of his/her right to have a full hearing, to appeal the expulsion to the County Board of Education, and to consult legal counsel.

A stipulated expulsion agreed to by the student and his/her parent/guardian shall be effective upon approval by the Board.

Rights of Complaining Witness

An expulsion hearing involving allegations of sexual assault or sexual battery may be postponed for one school day in order to accommodate the special physical, mental, or emotional needs of a student who is the complaining witness. (Education Code 48918.5)

Whenever the Superintendent or designee recommends an expulsion hearing that addresses allegations of sexual assault or sexual battery, he/she shall give the complaining witness a copy of the district's suspension and expulsion policy and regulation and shall advise the witness of his/her right to: (Education Code 48918.5)

1. Receive five days' notice of his/her scheduled testimony at the hearing
2. Have up to two adult support persons of his/her choosing present at the hearing at the time he/she testifies
3. Have a closed hearing during the time he/she testifies

Whenever any allegation of sexual assault or sexual battery is made, the Superintendent or designee shall immediately advise complaining witnesses and accused students to refrain from personal or telephone contact with each other during the time when an expulsion process is pending. (Education Code 48918.5)

Written Notice of the Expulsion Hearing

Written notice of the expulsion hearing shall be forwarded to the student and the student's parent/guardian at least 10 calendar days before the date of the hearing. The notice shall include: (Education Code 48900.8, 48918(b))

1. The date and place of the hearing
2. A statement of the specific facts, charges, and offense upon which the proposed expulsion is based
3. A copy of district disciplinary rules which relate to the alleged violation
4. Notification of the student's or parent/guardian's obligation, pursuant to Education Code 48915.1, to provide information about the student's status in the district to any other district in which the student seeks enrollment

This obligation applies when a student is expelled for acts other than those described in Education Code 48915(a) or (c).

(cf. 5119 - Students Expelled from Other Districts)

5. The opportunity for the student or the student's parent/guardian to appear in person or be represented by legal counsel or by a nonattorney adviser

Legal counsel means an attorney or lawyer who is admitted to the practice of law in California and is an active member of the State Bar of California.

Nonattorney adviser means an individual who is not an attorney or lawyer, but who is familiar with the facts of the case and has been selected by the student or student's parent/guardian to provide assistance at the hearing.

6. The right to inspect and obtain copies of all documents to be used at the hearing
7. The opportunity to confront and question all witnesses who testify at the hearing
8. The opportunity to question all evidence presented and to present oral and documentary evidence on the student's behalf, including witnesses

Additional Notice of Expulsion Hearing for Foster Youth and Homeless Students

If the student facing expulsion is a foster student, the Superintendent or designee shall also send notice of the hearing to the student's attorney and a representative of an appropriate child welfare agency at least 10 days prior to the hearing. (Education Code 48918.1)

If the student facing expulsion is a homeless student, the Superintendent or designee shall also send notice of the hearing to the district liaison for homeless students at least 10 days prior to the hearing. (Education Code 48918.1)

Any notice for these purposes may be provided by the most cost-effective method possible, including by email or a telephone call. (Education Code 48918.1)

Conduct of Expulsion Hearing

1. Closed Session: Notwithstanding Education Code 35145, the Board shall conduct a hearing to consider the expulsion of the student in a session closed to the public unless the student requests in writing at least five days prior to the hearing that the hearing be a public meeting. If such a request is made, the meeting shall be public to the extent that privacy rights of other students are not violated. (Education Code 48918)

Whether the expulsion hearing is held in closed or public session, the Board may meet in closed session to deliberate and determine whether or not the student should be expelled. If the Board admits any other person to this closed session, the parent/guardian, the student, and the counsel of the student also shall be allowed to attend the closed session. (Education Code 48918(c))

If a hearing that involves a charge of sexual assault or sexual battery is to be conducted in public, a complaining witness shall have the right to have his/her testimony heard in closed session when testifying in public would threaten serious psychological harm to the witness and when there are no alternative procedures to avoid the threatened harm, including, but not limited to, a videotaped deposition or contemporaneous examination in another place communicated to the hearing room by closed-circuit television. (Education Code 48918(c))

2. Record of Hearing: A record of the hearing shall be made and may be maintained by any means, including electronic recording, as long as a reasonably accurate and complete written transcription of the proceedings can be made. (Education Code 48918(g))
3. Subpoenas: Before commencing a student expulsion hearing, the Board may issue subpoenas, at the request of either the student or the Superintendent or designee, for the personal appearance at the hearing of any person who actually witnessed the action that gave rise to the recommendation for expulsion. After the hearing has commenced, the Board or the hearing officer or administrative panel may issue such subpoenas at the request of the student or the County Superintendent of Schools or designee. All subpoenas shall be issued in accordance with Code of Civil Procedure 1985-1985.2 and enforced in accordance with Government Code 11455.20. (Education Code 48918(i))

Any objection raised by the student or the Superintendent or designee to the issuance of subpoenas may be considered by the Board in closed session, or in open session if so requested by the student, before the meeting. The Board's decision in response to such an objection shall be final and binding. (Education Code 48918(i))

If the Board determines, or if the hearing officer or administrative panel finds and submits to the Board, that a witness would be subject to unreasonable risk of harm by testifying at the hearing, a subpoena shall not be issued to compel the personal attendance of that witness at the hearing. However, that witness may be compelled to testify by means of a sworn declaration as described in item #4 below. (Education Code 48918(i))

4. Presentation of Evidence: Technical rules of evidence shall not apply to the expulsion hearing, but relevant evidence may be admitted and used as proof only if it is the kind of evidence on which reasonable persons can rely in the conduct of serious affairs. The decision of the Board to expel shall be supported by substantial evidence that the student committed any of the acts pursuant to Education Code 48900 and listed in "Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades K-12" and "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 4-12" above. (Education Code 48918(h))

Findings of fact shall be based solely on the evidence at the hearing. Although no finding shall be based solely on hearsay, sworn declarations may be admitted as testimony from witnesses whose disclosure of their identity or testimony at the hearing may subject them to an unreasonable risk of physical or psychological harm. (Education Code 48918(f))

In cases where a search of a student's person or property has occurred, evidence describing the reasonableness of the search shall be included in the hearing record.

5. Testimony by Complaining Witnesses: The following procedures shall be observed when a hearing involves allegations of sexual assault or sexual battery by a student: (Education Code 48918, 48918.5)

- a. Any complaining witness shall be given five days' notice before being called to testify.
 - b. Any complaining witness shall be entitled to have up to two adult support persons, including, but not limited to, a parent/guardian or legal counsel, present during his/her testimony.
 - c. Before a complaining witness testifies, support persons shall be admonished that the hearing is confidential.
 - d. The person presiding over the hearing may remove a support person whom he/she finds is disrupting the hearing.
 - e. If one or both support persons are also witnesses, the hearing shall be conducted in accordance with Penal Code 868.5.
 - f. Evidence of specific instances of prior sexual conduct of a complaining witness shall be presumed inadmissible and shall not be heard unless the person conducting the hearing determines that extraordinary circumstances require the evidence to be heard. Before such a determination is made, the complaining witness shall be given notice and an opportunity to oppose the introduction of this evidence. In the hearing on the admissibility of this evidence, the complaining witness shall be entitled to be represented by a parent/guardian, legal counsel, or other support person. Reputation or opinion evidence regarding the sexual behavior of a complaining witness shall not be admissible for any purpose.
 - g. In order to facilitate a free and accurate statement of the experiences of the complaining witness and to prevent discouragement of complaints, the district shall provide a nonthreatening environment.
 - (1) The district shall provide a room separate from the hearing room for the use of the complaining witness before and during breaks in testimony.
 - (2) At the discretion of the person conducting the hearing, the complaining witness shall be allowed reasonable periods of relief from examination and cross-examination during which he/she may leave the hearing room.
 - (3) The person conducting the hearing may:
 - (a) Arrange the seating within the hearing room so as to facilitate a less intimidating environment for the complaining witness
 - (b) Limit the time for taking the testimony of a complaining witness to the hours he/she is normally in school, if there is no good cause to take the testimony during other hours
 - (c) Permit one of the support persons to accompany the complaining witness to the witness stand
6. Decision: The Board's decision as to whether to expel a student shall be made within 40 school days after the student is removed from his/her school of attendance, unless the student requests in writing that the decision be postponed. (Education Code 48918(a))

Alternative Expulsion Hearing: Hearing Officer or Administrative Panel

Instead of conducting an expulsion hearing itself, the Board may contract with the county hearing officer or with the Office of Administrative Hearings of the State of California for a hearing officer. The Board may also appoint an impartial administrative panel composed of three or more certificated personnel, none of whom shall be members of the Board or on the staff of the school in which the student is enrolled. (Education Code 48918)

A hearing conducted by the hearing officer or administrative panel shall conform to the same procedures applicable to a hearing conducted by the Board as specified above in "Conduct of Expulsion Hearing," including the requirement to issue a decision within 40 school days of the student's removal from school, unless the student requests that the decision be postponed. (Education Code 48918(a) and (d))

The hearing officer or administrative panel shall, within three school days after the hearing, determine whether to recommend expulsion of the student to the Board. If expulsion is not recommended, the expulsion proceeding shall be terminated and the student shall be immediately reinstated and permitted to return to the classroom instructional program from which the referral was made, unless another placement is requested in writing by the student's parent/guardian. Before the student's placement decision is made by

his/her parent/guardian, the Superintendent or designee shall consult with the parent/guardian and district staff, including the student's teachers, regarding other placement options for the student in addition to the option to return to the classroom instructional program from which the student's expulsion referral was made. The decision to not recommend expulsion shall be final. (Education Code 48918(e))

If expulsion is recommended, findings of fact in support of the recommendation shall be prepared and submitted to the Board. All findings of fact and recommendations shall be based solely on the evidence presented at the hearing. The Board may accept the recommendation based either upon a review of the findings of fact and recommendations submitted or upon the results of any supplementary hearing the Board may order. (Education Code 48918(f))

In accordance with Board policy, the hearing officer or administrative panel may recommend that the Board suspend the enforcement of the expulsion. If the hearing officer or administrative panel recommends that the Board expel a student but suspend the enforcement of the expulsion, the student shall not be reinstated and permitted to return to the classroom instructional program from which the referral was made until the Board has ruled on the recommendation. (Education Code 48917, 48918)

Final Action by the Board

Whether the expulsion hearing is conducted in closed or open session by the Board, a hearing officer, or an administrative panel or is waived through the signing of a stipulated expulsion agreement, the final action to expel shall be taken by the Board in public. (Education Code 48918(j))

(cf. 9321.1 - Closed Session Actions and Reports)

The Board's decision is final. If the decision is to not expel, the student shall be reinstated immediately. If the decision is to suspend the enforcement of the expulsion, the student shall be reinstated under the conditions of the suspended expulsion.

Upon ordering an expulsion, the Board shall set a date when the student shall be reviewed for readmission to a school within the district. For a student expelled for any "mandatory recommendation and mandatory expulsion" act listed in the section "Authority to Expel" in the accompanying Board policy, this date shall be one year from the date the expulsion occurred, except that the Board may set an earlier date on a case-by-case basis. For a student expelled for other acts, this date shall be no later than the last day of the semester following the semester in which the expulsion occurred. If an expulsion is ordered during summer session or the intersession period of a year-round program, the Board shall set a date when the student shall be reviewed for readmission not later than the last day of the semester following the summer session or intersession period in which the expulsion occurred. (Education Code 48916)

At the time of the expulsion order, the Board shall recommend a plan for the student's rehabilitation, which may include: (Education Code 48916)

1. Periodic review, as well as assessment at the time of review, for readmission
2. Recommendations for improved academic performance, tutoring, special education assessments, job training, counseling, employment, community service, or other rehabilitative programs

With parent/guardian consent, students who have been expelled for reasons relating to controlled substances or alcohol may be required to enroll in a county-sponsored drug rehabilitation program before returning to school. (Education Code 48916.5)

Written Notice to Expel

The Superintendent or designee shall send written notice of the decision to expel to the student or parent/guardian. This notice shall include the following:

1. The specific offense committed by the student for any of the causes for suspension or expulsion listed above under "Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades K-12" or "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 4-12" (Education Code 48900.8)
2. The fact that a description of readmission procedures will be made available to the student and his/her parent/guardian (Education Code 48916)
3. Notice of the right to appeal the expulsion to the County Board (Education Code 48918)
4. Notice of the alternative educational placement to be provided to the student during the time of expulsion (Education Code 48918)
5. Notice of the student's or parent/guardian's obligation to inform any new district in which the student seeks to enroll of the student's status with the expelling district, pursuant to Education Code 48915.1 (Education Code 48918)

Decision to Suspend Expulsion Order

In accordance with Board policy, when deciding whether to suspend the enforcement of an expulsion order, the Board shall take into account the following criteria:

1. The student's pattern of behavior
2. The seriousness of the misconduct
3. The student's attitude toward the misconduct and his/her willingness to follow a rehabilitation program

The suspension of the enforcement of an expulsion shall be governed by the following:

1. The Board may, as a condition of the suspension of enforcement, assign the student to a school, class, or program appropriate for the student's rehabilitation. This rehabilitation program may provide for the involvement of the student's parent/guardian in the student's education. However, a parent/guardian's refusal to participate in the rehabilitation program shall not be considered in the Board's determination as to whether the student has satisfactorily completed the rehabilitation program. (Education Code 48917)
2. During the period when enforcement of the expulsion order is suspended, the student shall be on probationary status. (Education Code 48917)
3. The suspension of the enforcement of an expulsion order may be revoked by the Board if the student commits any of the acts listed under "Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades K-12" or "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 4-12" above or violates any of the district's rules and regulations governing student conduct. (Education Code 48917)
4. When the suspension of enforcement of an expulsion order is revoked, a student may be expelled under the terms of the original expulsion order. (Education Code 48917)
5. Upon satisfactory completion of the rehabilitation assignment, the Board shall reinstate the student in a district school. Upon reinstatement, the Board may order the expunging of any or all records of the expulsion proceedings. (Education Code 48917)

6. The Superintendent or designee shall send written notice of any decision to suspend the enforcement of an expulsion order during a period of probation to the student or parent/guardian. The notice shall inform the parent/guardian of the right to appeal the expulsion to the County Board, the alternative educational placement to be provided to the student during the period of expulsion, and the student's or parent/guardian's obligation to inform any new district in which the student seeks to enroll of his/her status with the expelling district, pursuant to Education Code 48915.1(b). (Education Code 48918(j))
7. Suspension of the enforcement of an expulsion order shall not affect the time period and requirements for the filing of an appeal of the expulsion order with the County Board. (Education Code 48917)

Appeal

The student or parent/guardian is entitled to file an appeal of the Board's decision with the County Board. The appeal must be filed within 30 days of the Board's decision to expel, even if the expulsion order is suspended and the student is placed on probation. (Education Code 48919)

If the student submits a written request for a copy of the written transcripts and supporting documents from the district simultaneously with the filing of the notice of appeal with the County Board, the district shall provide the student with these documents within 10 school days following the student's written request. (Education Code 48919)

Notification to Law Enforcement Authorities

Prior to the suspension or expulsion of any student, the principal or designee shall notify appropriate city or county law enforcement authorities of any student acts of assault which may have violated Penal Code 245. (Education Code 48902)

The principal or designee shall notify appropriate city or county law enforcement authorities of any student acts which may involve the possession or sale of narcotics or of a controlled substance, or of any student acts involving the possession, sale, or furnishing of firearms, explosives, or other dangerous weapons in violation of Education Code 48915(c)(1) or (5) or Penal Code 626.9 and 626.10. (Education Code 48902)

Within one school day after a student's suspension or expulsion, the principal or designee shall notify appropriate county or district law enforcement authorities, by telephone or other appropriate means, of any student acts which may violate Education Code 48900(c) or (d), relating to the possession, use, offering, or sale of controlled substances, alcohol, or intoxicants of any kind. (Education Code 48902)

Placement During Expulsion

The Board shall refer expelled students to a program of study that is: (Education Code 48915, 48915.01)

1. Appropriately prepared to accommodate students who exhibit discipline problems
2. Not provided at a comprehensive middle, junior, or senior high school or at any elementary school, unless the program is offered at a community day school established at any of these
3. Not housed at the school site attended by the student at the time of suspension

(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)

(cf. 6185 - Community Day School)

When the placement described above is not available and when the County Superintendent so certifies, students expelled for only acts described in items #6-12 under "Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades K-12" and items #1-3 under "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 4-12" above may be referred to a program of study that is provided at another comprehensive middle, junior, or senior high school or at an elementary school. (Education Code 48915)

The program for a student expelled from any of grades K-6 shall not be combined or merged with programs offered to students in any of grades 7-12. (Education Code 48916.1)

Readmission After Expulsion

Prior to the date set by the Board for the student's readmission:

1. The Superintendent or designee shall hold a conference with the parent/guardian and the student. At the conference, the student's rehabilitation plan shall be reviewed and the Superintendent or designee shall verify that the provisions of this plan have been met. School regulations shall be reviewed and the student and parent/guardian shall be asked to indicate in writing their willingness to comply with these regulations.
2. The Superintendent or designee shall transmit to the Board his/her recommendation regarding readmission. The Board shall consider this recommendation in closed session. If a written request for open session is received from the parent/guardian or adult student, it shall be honored to the extent that privacy rights of other students are not violated.
3. If the readmission is granted, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the student and parent/guardian, by registered mail, of the Board's decision regarding readmission.
4. The Board may deny readmission only if it finds that the student has not satisfied the conditions of the rehabilitation plan or that the student continues to pose a danger to campus safety or to other district students or employees. (Education Code 48916)
5. If the Board denies the readmission of a student, the Board shall determine either to continue the student's placement in the alternative educational program initially selected or to place the student in another program that serves expelled students, including placement in a county community school.
6. The Board shall provide written notice to the expelled student and parent/guardian describing the reasons for denying readmittance into the regular program. This notice shall indicate the Board's determination of the educational program which the Board has chosen. The student shall enroll in that program unless the parent/guardian chooses to enroll the student in another school district. (Education Code 48916)

No student shall be denied readmission into the district based solely on the student's arrest, adjudication by a juvenile court, formal or informal supervision by a probation officer, detention in a juvenile facility, enrollment in a juvenile court school, or other such contact with the juvenile justice system. (Education Code 48645.5)

Maintenance of Records

The district shall maintain a record of each suspension and expulsion, including its specific cause(s). (Education Code 48900.8)

Expulsion records of any student shall be maintained in the student's mandatory interim record and sent to any school in which the student subsequently enrolls upon written request by that school. (Education Code 48918(k))

The Superintendent or designee shall, within five working days, honor any other district's request for information about an expulsion from this district. (Education Code 48915.1)
(cf. 5119 - Students Expelled from Other Districts)
Regulation WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
approved: December 5, 2018 Willits, California

SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION DUE PROCESS (STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES) AR 5144.2

A student identified as an individual with a disability pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 USC 1400-1482, is subject to the same grounds and procedures for suspension and expulsion which apply to students without disabilities, except as otherwise specified in this administrative regulation.

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

Suspension

The Superintendent or designee may suspend a student with a disability for up to 10 consecutive school days for a single incident of misconduct, and for up to 20 school days in a school year, as long as the suspension(s) does not constitute a change in placement pursuant to 34 CFR 300.536. (Education Code 48903; 34 CFR 300.530)

The principal or designee shall monitor the number of days, including portions of days, in which a student with a valid individualized education program (IEP) has been suspended during the school year.

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

The Superintendent or designee shall determine, on a case-by-case basis, whether a pattern of removals of a student from his/her current educational placement for disciplinary reasons constitutes a change of placement. A change of placement shall be deemed to have occurred under either of the following circumstances: (34 CFR 300.536)

1. The removal is for more than 10 consecutive school days.
2. The student has been subjected to a series of removals that constitute a pattern because of all of the following:
 - a. The series of removals total more than 10 school days in a school year.
 - b. The student's behavior is substantially similar to his/her behavior in previous incidents that resulted in the series of removals.
 - c. Additional factors, such as the length of each removal, the total amount of time the student has been removed, and the proximity of the removals to one another, indicate a change of placement.

If a student's removal is determined to be a change of placement as specified in items #1-2 above, or the student is suspended for more than 10 school days in the same school year, the student's IEP team shall determine the appropriate educational services.

Such services shall be designed to enable the student to continue to participate in the general education curriculum in another setting, to progress toward meeting the goals set out in his/her IEP, and to address the student's behavior violation so that it does not recur. (20 USC 1412(a)(1)(A); 34 CFR 300.530)

If the IEP of a student with a disability requires the district to provide the student with transportation, the district shall provide the student with an alternative form of transportation at no cost to him/her or to his/her parent/guardian when he/she is to be excluded from school bus transportation. (Education Code 48915.5)

(cf. 3541.2 - Transportation for Students with Disabilities)

Interim Alternative Educational Placement Due to Dangerous Behavior

The district may unilaterally place a student with a disability in an appropriate interim alternative educational setting for up to 45 school days, without regard to whether the behavior is a manifestation of the student's disability, when the student commits one of the following acts while at school, going to or from school, or at a school-related function: (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(G); 34 CFR 300.530)

1. Carries or possesses a weapon, as defined in 18 USC 930
2. Knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs
3. Sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance as identified in 21 USC 812(c), Schedules I-V
4. Inflicts serious bodily injury upon another person as defined in 18 USC 1365

The student's interim alternative educational setting shall be determined by his/her IEP team. (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(G); 34 CFR 300.531)

On the date the decision to take disciplinary action is made, the student's parent/guardian shall be notified of the decision and provided the procedural safeguards notice pursuant to 34 CFR 300.504. (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(H); 34 CFR 300.530)

A student who has been removed from his/her current placement because of dangerous behavior shall receive services, although in another setting, to the extent necessary to allow him/her to participate in the general education curriculum and to progress toward meeting the goals set out in his/her IEP. As appropriate, the student shall also receive a functional behavioral assessment and behavioral intervention services and modifications that are designed to address the behavior violation so that it does not recur. (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(D); 34 CFR 300.530)

Manifestation Determination

The following procedural safeguards shall apply when a student with a disability is suspended for more than 10 consecutive school days, when a series of removals of a student constitutes a pattern, or when a change of placement of a student is contemplated due to a violation of the district's code of conduct:

1. Notice: On the date the decision to take disciplinary action is made, the student's parent/guardian shall be notified of the decision and provided the procedural safeguards notice pursuant to 34 CFR 300.504. (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(H); 34 CFR 300.530)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

(cf. 6159.1 - Procedural Safeguards and Complaints for Special Education)

2. Manifestation Determination Review: Immediately if possible, but in no case later than 10 school days after the date the decision to take disciplinary action is made, a manifestation determination review shall be made of the relationship between the student's disability and the behavior subject to the disciplinary action. (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(E); 34 CFR 300.530)

At the manifestation determination review, the district, the student's parent/guardian, and relevant members of the IEP team (as

determined by the district and parent/guardian) shall review all relevant information in the student's file, including the student's IEP, any teacher observations, and any relevant information provided by the parents/guardians, to determine whether the conduct in question was either of the following: (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(E); 34 CFR 300.530)

a. Caused by or had a direct and substantial relationship to the student's disability

b. A direct result of the district's failure to implement the student's IEP, in which case the district shall take immediate steps to remedy those deficiencies

If the manifestation review team determines that either of the above conditions applies, the student's conduct shall then be determined to be a manifestation of his/her disability. (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(E); 34 CFR 300.530)

3. Determination that Behavior is a Manifestation of the Student's Disability: When the student's conduct has been determined to be a manifestation of his/her disability, the IEP team shall conduct a functional behavioral assessment, unless one had been conducted before the occurrence of the behavior that resulted in the change of placement, and shall implement a behavioral intervention plan for the student. If a behavioral intervention plan has already been developed, the IEP team shall review the behavioral intervention plan and modify it as necessary to address the behavior. (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(F); 34 CFR 300.530)

The student shall be returned to the placement from which he/she was removed, unless the parent/guardian and Superintendent or designee agree to a change of placement as part of the modification of the behavioral intervention plan. (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(F); 34 CFR 300.530)

(cf. 6159.4 - Behavioral Interventions for Special Education Students)

4. Determination that Behavior is Not a Manifestation of the Student's Disability: When it has been determined that the student's conduct was not a manifestation of his/her disability, the student may be disciplined in accordance with the procedures for students without disabilities. However, the student's IEP team shall determine services necessary to enable him/her to participate in the general education curriculum in another setting and to allow him/her to progress toward meeting the goals set out in his/her IEP. (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(D); 34 CFR 300.530)

As appropriate, the student also shall receive a functional behavioral assessment and behavioral intervention services and modifications that are designed to address the behavior violation so that it does not recur. (20 USC 1415(k)(1)(D); 34 CFR 300.530)

(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)

(cf. 6185 - Community Day School)

Due Process Appeals

If the parent/guardian disagrees with any district decision regarding placement under 34 CFR 300.530 (suspension and removal for dangerous circumstances) or 34 CFR 300.531 (interim alternative placement), or the manifestation determination under 34 CFR 300.530(e), he/she may appeal the decision by requesting a hearing. The district may request a hearing if the district believes that maintaining the student's current placement is substantially likely to result in injury to the student or others. In order to request a due process hearing, the requesting party shall file a complaint pursuant to 34 CFR 300.507 and 300.508(a) and (b). (20 USC 1415(k)(3); 34 CFR 300.532)

Whenever a hearing is requested as specified above, the parent/guardian or the district shall have an opportunity for an expedited due process hearing consistent with requirements specified in 34 CFR 300.507, 300.508 (a)-(c), and 300.510-300.514.

If the student's parent/guardian or the district has initiated a due process hearing under 34 CFR 300.532 as detailed above, the student shall remain in the interim alternative educational setting pending the decision of the hearing officer or until the expiration of the 45-day time period, whichever occurs first, unless the parent/guardian and district agree otherwise. (20 USC 1415(k)(4); 34 CFR 300.533)

Readmission

Readmission procedures for students with disabilities shall be the same as those adopted for students without disabilities. Upon readmission of a student with disabilities, an IEP team meeting shall be convened to review and, as necessary, modify the student's IEP.

Decision Not to Enforce Expulsion Order

The Board of Trustee's criteria for suspending the enforcement of an expulsion order shall be applied to students with disabilities in the same manner as they are applied to all other students. (Education Code 48917)

Notification to Law Enforcement Authorities

Law enforcement notification requirements involving students with disabilities shall be the same as those specified for all students in AR 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process.

When giving any required notification concerning a student with disabilities to any law enforcement official, the principal or designee shall require the law enforcement official to certify in writing that he/she will not disclose the student's information or records to any other person without the prior written consent of the student's parent/guardian. (Education Code 49076)

(cf. 5131.7 - Weapons and Dangerous Instruments)

Report to County Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent or designee shall report to the County Superintendent of Schools when any special education student has been expelled or suspended for more than 10 school days. The report shall include the student's name, last known address, and the reason for the action. (Education Code 48203)

Procedures for Students Not Yet Eligible for Special Education Services

A student who has not been determined to be eligible for special education and related services and who has violated the district's code of student conduct may nevertheless assert any of the protections under IDEA, if the district had knowledge of the student's disability. (20 USC 1415(k)(5); 34 CFR 300.534)

Knowledge means that, before the occurrence of the behavior that precipitated the disciplinary action, one of the following occurred: (20 USC 1415(k)(5); 34 CFR 300.534)

1. The parent/guardian, in writing, has expressed concern to district supervisory or administrative personnel, or to a teacher of the student, that the student is in need of special education or related services.

2. The parent/guardian has requested an evaluation of the student for special education pursuant to 20 USC 1414(a)(1)(B) or 34 CFR 300.300-300.311.

(cf. 6164.4 - Identification and Evaluation of Individuals for Special Education)

3. The teacher of the student or other district personnel has expressed specific concerns directly to the district's director of special education or other supervisory district personnel about a pattern of behavior demonstrated by the student.

However, the district shall not be deemed to have knowledge of a student's disability if the student's parent/guardian has not allowed him/her to be evaluated for special education services or has refused services or, after evaluating the student pursuant to 34 CFR 300.300-300.311, the district determined that he/she was not an individual with a disability.

When the district is deemed to not have knowledge of a student's disability, the student shall be disciplined in accordance with procedures established for students without disabilities who engage in comparable behavior. (20 USC 1415(k)(5); 34 CFR 300.534)

If a request is made for an evaluation of a student during the time period in which the student is subject to disciplinary measures pursuant to 34 CFR 300.530, the evaluation shall be conducted in an expedited manner. Until the evaluation is completed, the student shall remain in the educational placement determined by school authorities. (20 USC 1415(k)(5); 34 CFR 300.534)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35146 Closed sessions re: suspensions

35291 Rules of governing board

48203 Reports of severance of attendance of disabled students

48900-48925 Suspension and expulsion

49076 Access to student records

56000 Special education; legislative findings and declarations

56320 Educational needs; requirements

56321 Development or revision of individualized education program

56329 Independent educational assessment

56340-56347 Individualized education program teams

56505 State hearing

PENAL CODE

245 Assault with deadly weapon

626.2 Entry upon campus after written notice of suspension or dismissal without permission

626.9 Gun-Free School Zone Act

626.10 Dirks, daggers, knives, razors, or stun guns

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 18

930 Weapons

1365 Serious bodily injury

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1412 State eligibility

1415 Procedural safeguards

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 21

812 Controlled substances

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

706 Definitions

794 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

104.35 Evaluation and placement

104.36 Procedural safeguards

300.1-300.818 Assistance to states for the education of students with disabilities, especially:

300.530-300.537 Discipline procedures

COURT DECISIONS

Schaffer v. Weast, (2005) 546 U.S. 549

Parents of Student W. v. Puyallup School District, (1994 9th Cir.) 31 F.3d 1489

M.P. v. Governing Board of Grossmont Union High School District, (1994) 858 F.Supp. 1044

Honig v. Doe, (1988) 484 U.S. 305

Management Resources:

FEDERAL REGISTER

Rules and Regulations, August 14, 2006, Vol. 71, Number 156, pages 46539-46845

WEB SITES

California Department of Education, Special Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/se>

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/osep>

Regulation WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: August 7, 2013 Willits, California

EMPLOYEE SECURITY A.R. 4358

An employee may use reasonable and necessary force for his self-defense or defense of another person, to quell a disturbance threatening physical injury to others; or to obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects within the control of a student. (Education Code 44807, 49001)

(cf. 5131.7 - Weapons and Dangerous Instruments)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

An employee shall promptly report to the principal or other immediate supervisor any attack, assault, or physical threat made against him/her by a student or by any individual in relation to the employee's performance of his/her duties, and any action the employee took in response. When appropriate, the employee and the principal or other immediate supervisor shall report the incident to law enforcement.

(cf. 3515.2 – Disruptions) Reports of attack, assault, or threat shall be forwarded immediately to the Superintendent or designee.

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

(cf. 3515.4 - Recovery for Property Loss or Damage)

(cf. 3530 - Risk Management/Insurance)

Notice Regarding Student Offenses Committed While Under School Jurisdiction

The Superintendent or designee shall inform the teacher(s) of each student who, during the previous three school years, has engaged in or is reasonably suspected to have engaged in any act, except the possession or use of tobacco products, that would constitute a ground for suspension or expulsion as specified in AR 5144.1 – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process. This information shall be based upon district records maintained in the ordinary course of business or records received from a law enforcement agency. (Education Code 49079)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

Upon receiving a transfer student's record regarding acts committed by the student that resulted in his/her suspension or expulsion, the Superintendent or designee shall inform the student's teacher(s) that the student was suspended or expelled from his/her former district and of the act that resulted in the suspension or expulsion. (Education Code 48201)

Information received by teacher(s) shall be received in confidence for the limited purpose for which it was provided and shall not be further disseminated by the teacher. (Education Code 49079)

Notice Regarding Student Offenses Committed While Outside School Jurisdiction

When a minor student has been found by a court of competent jurisdiction to have illegally used, sold, or possessed a controlled substance or committed specified crimes involving serious acts of violence, the district police or security department may provide written notification to the Superintendent. (Welfare and Institutions Code 828.1)

(cf. 3515.3 - District Police/Security Department)

When informed by the court that a minor student has been found by a court to have committed any felony or any misdemeanor involving curfew, gambling, alcohol, drugs, tobacco products, carrying of weapons, a sex offense listed in Penal Code 290, assault or battery, larceny, vandalism, or graffiti, the Superintendent or designee shall so inform the school principal. (Welfare and Institutions Code 827)

The principal shall disseminate this information to any counselor who directly supervises or reports on the student's behavior or progress. The principal also may inform any teacher or administrator directly supervising or reporting on the student's behavior or progress whom he/she thinks may need the information so as to work with the student appropriately, avoid being needlessly vulnerable, or protect others from vulnerability. (Welfare and Institutions Code 827)

Any court-initiated information that a teacher, counselor, or administrator receives shall be kept confidential and used only to rehabilitate the student and protect other students and staff. The information shall be further disseminated only when communication with the student, parent/guardian, law enforcement staff, and probation officer is necessary to rehabilitate the student or to protect students and staff. (Welfare and Institutions Code 827)

When a student is removed from school as a result of his/her offense, the Superintendent shall hold the court's information in a separate confidential file until the student is returned to the district. If the student is returned to a different district, the Superintendent shall transmit the information provided by the student's parole or probation officer to the superintendent of the new district of attendance. (Welfare and Institutions Code 827)

Any confidential file of court-initiated information shall be kept until the student becomes 18, graduates from high school, or is released from juvenile court jurisdiction, whichever occurs first, and shall then be destroyed. (Welfare and Institutions Code 827)

Procedures to Maintain Confidentiality of Student Offenses

In order to maintain confidentiality when providing information about student offenses to counselors and teachers of classes/programs to which a student is assigned, the principal or designee shall send the staff member a written notification that one of his/her students has committed an offense that requires his/her review of a student's file in the school office. This notice shall not name or otherwise identify the student. The staff member shall be asked to initial the notification and return it to the principal or designee. He/she shall also initial the student's file when reviewing it in the school office.

Use of Pepper Spray

The Superintendent or designee shall notify employees of the district's policy prohibiting the possession of pepper spray on school property or at school-related activities without prior approval of the Superintendent or designee. Employees wishing to carry pepper spray shall submit to the Superintendent or designee a written request setting forth the need for the pepper spray. The Superintendent or designee shall notify the employee in writing as to whether the request was approved or denied.

When approving an employee's request, the Superintendent or designee shall inform the employee of the following conditions:

1. The pepper spray shall be used only in self-defense.

2. An employee who uses pepper spray other than in self-defense shall be subject to disciplinary action by the district and, in accordance with law, a fine and/or imprisonment.

(cf. 4118 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

3. The pepper spray must be stored in a secure place and not be accessible to students or other individuals. Negligent storage of the pepper spray may subject the employee to disciplinary action.

Regulation WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
approved: October 3, 2018 Willits, California

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES A.R. 1312.3

Except as the Board of Trustees may otherwise specifically provide in other district policies, these uniform complaint procedures (UCP) shall be used to investigate and resolve only the complaints specified in BP 1312.3.

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)

(cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)

(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)

(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)

Compliance Officers

The district designates the individual(s), position(s), or unit(s) identified below as responsible for coordinating the district's response to complaints and for complying with state and federal civil rights laws. The individual(s), position(s), or unit(s) also serve as the compliance officer(s) specified in AR 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment responsible for handling complaints regarding unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying). The compliance officer(s) shall receive and coordinate the investigation of complaints and shall ensure district compliance with law.

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

Superintendent, Mark Westerburg

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Willits, CA 95490

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The compliance officer who receives a complaint may assign another compliance officer to investigate and resolve the complaint. The compliance officer shall promptly notify the complainant and respondent, if applicable, if another compliance officer is assigned to the complaint.

In no instance shall a compliance officer be assigned to a complaint in which the compliance officer has a bias or conflict of interest that would prohibit the fair investigation or resolution of the complaint. Any complaint against a compliance officer or that raises a concern about the compliance officer's ability to investigate the complaint fairly and without bias shall be filed with the Superintendent or designee who shall determine how the complaint will be investigated.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that employees assigned to investigate and resolve complaints receive training and are knowledgeable about the laws and programs at issue in the complaints to which they are assigned. Training provided to such employees shall cover current state and federal laws and regulations governing the program, applicable processes for investigating and resolving complaints, including those alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), applicable standards for reaching decisions on complaints, and appropriate corrective measures. Assigned employees may have access to legal counsel as determined by the Superintendent or designee.

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

(cf. 9124 - Attorney)

The compliance officer or, if necessary, any appropriate administrator shall determine whether interim measures are necessary during and pending the result of an investigation. If interim measures are determined to be necessary, the compliance officer or the administrator shall consult with the Superintendent, the Superintendent's designee, or, if appropriate, the site principal to implement one or more interim measures. The interim measures shall remain in place until the compliance officer determines that they are no longer necessary or until the district issues its final written decision, whichever occurs first.

Notifications

The district's UCP policy and administrative regulation shall be posted in all district schools and offices, including staff lounges and student government meeting rooms. (Education Code 234.1)

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall annually provide written notification of the district's UCP to students, employees, parents/guardians of district students, district advisory committee members, school advisory committee members, appropriate private school officials or representatives, and other interested parties. (5 CCR 4622)

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

The notice shall include:

1. A statement that the district is primarily responsible for compliance with federal and state laws and regulations, including those related to prohibition of unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying against any protected group and all programs and activities that are subject to UCP as identified in the section "Complaints Subject to UCP" in the accompanying Board policy
2. A statement that a complaint regarding student fees or the local control and accountability plan (LCAP) may be filed anonymously if the complainant provides evidence or information leading to evidence to support the complaint

(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)

(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)

3. A statement that a student enrolled in a public school shall not be required to pay a fee for participation in an educational activity that constitutes an integral fundamental part of the district's educational program, including curricular and extracurricular activities

4. A statement that a complaint regarding student fees must be filed no later than one year from the date the alleged violation occurred
5. A statement that the district will post a standardized notice of the educational rights of foster youth, homeless students, former juvenile court school students now enrolled in the district, children of military families, migrant students, and immigrant students enrolled in a newcomer program, as specified in Education Code 48853, 48853.5, 49069.5, 51225.1, and 51225.2, and the complaint process

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

(cf. 6173.2 - Education of Children of Military Families)

(cf. 6173.3 - Education for Juvenile Court School Students)

(cf. 6175 - Migrant Education Program)

6. Identification of the responsible staff member(s), position(s), or unit(s) designated to receive complaints

7. A statement that complaints will be investigated in accordance with the district's UCP and a written decision will be sent to the complainant within 60 days from the receipt of the complaint, unless this time period is extended by written agreement of the complainant

8. A statement that the complainant has a right to appeal the district's decision to CDE by filing a written appeal, including a copy of the original complaint and the district's decision, within 15 days of receiving the district's decision

9. A statement advising the complainant of any civil law remedies, including, but not limited to, injunctions, restraining orders, or other remedies or orders that may be available under state or federal antidiscrimination laws, if applicable

10. A statement that copies of the district's UCP are available free of charge

The annual notification, complete contact information of the compliance officer(s), and information related to Title IX as required pursuant to Education Code 221.61 shall be posted on the district web site and may be provided through district-supported social media, if available.

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

(cf. 1114 - District-Sponsored Social Media)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all students and parents/guardians, including students and parents/guardians with limited English proficiency, have access to the relevant information provided in the district's policy, regulation, forms, and notices concerning the UCP.

If 15 percent or more of students enrolled in a particular district school speak a single primary language other than English, the district's policy, regulation, forms, and notices concerning the UCP shall be translated into that language, in accordance with Education Code 234.1 and 48985. In all other instances, the district shall ensure meaningful access to all relevant UCP information for parents/guardians with limited English proficiency.

Filing of Complaints

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

All complaints shall be filed in writing and signed by the complainant. If a complainant is unable to put a complaint in writing due to conditions such as a disability or illiteracy, district staff shall assist in the filing of the complaint. (5 CCR 4600)

Complaints shall also be filed in accordance with the following rules, as applicable:

1. A complaint alleging district violation of applicable state or federal law or regulations governing the programs specified in the accompanying Board policy (item #1 of the section "Complaints Subject to UCP") may be filed by any individual, public agency, or organization. (5 CCR 4630)
2. Any complaint alleging noncompliance with law regarding the prohibition against student fees, deposits, and charges or any requirement related to the LCAP may be filed anonymously if the complaint provides evidence, or information leading to evidence, to support an allegation of noncompliance. A complaint about a violation of the prohibition against the charging of unlawful student fees may be filed with the principal of the school or with the Superintendent or designee. However, any such complaint shall be filed no later than one year from the date the alleged violation occurred. (Education Code 49013, 52075; 5 CCR 4630)
3. A complaint alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) may be filed only by persons who allege that they have personally suffered unlawful discrimination or who believe that an individual or any specific class of individuals has been subjected to unlawful discrimination. The complaint shall be initiated no later than six months from the date that the alleged unlawful discrimination occurred, or six months from the date that the complainant first obtained knowledge of the facts of the alleged unlawful discrimination. The time for filing may be extended for up to 90 days by the Superintendent or designee for good cause upon written request by the complainant setting forth the reasons for the extension. (5 CCR 4630)
4. When a complaint alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) is filed anonymously, the compliance officer shall pursue an investigation or other response as appropriate, depending on the specificity and reliability of the information provided and the seriousness of the allegation.
5. When the complainant of unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) or the alleged victim, when not the complainant, requests confidentiality, the compliance officer shall inform the complainant or victim that the request may limit the district's ability to investigate the conduct or take other necessary action. When honoring a request for confidentiality, the district shall nevertheless take all reasonable steps to investigate and resolve/respond to the complaint consistent with the request.

Mediation

Within three business days after receiving the complaint, the compliance officer may informally discuss with all the parties the possibility of using mediation. Mediation shall be offered to resolve complaints that involve more than one student and no adult. However, mediation shall not be offered or used to resolve any complaint involving an allegation of sexual assault or where there is a reasonable risk that a party to the mediation would feel compelled to participate. If the parties agree to mediation, the compliance officer shall make all arrangements for this process.

Before initiating the mediation of a complaint alleging retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the compliance officer shall ensure that all parties agree to make the mediator a party to relevant confidential information. The compliance officer shall also notify all parties of the right to end the informal process at any time. If the mediation process does not resolve the problem within the parameters of law, the compliance officer shall proceed with an investigation of the complaint.

The use of mediation shall not extend the district's timelines for investigating and resolving the complaint unless the complainant agrees in writing to such an extension of time. If mediation is successful and the complaint is withdrawn, then the district shall take only the actions agreed upon through the mediation. If mediation is unsuccessful, the district shall then continue with subsequent steps specified in this administrative regulation.

Investigation of Complaint

Within 10 business days after the compliance officer receives the complaint, the compliance officer shall begin an investigation into the complaint.

Within one business day of initiating the investigation, the compliance officer shall provide the complainant and/or the complainant's representative with the opportunity to present the information contained in the complaint to the compliance officer and shall notify the complainant and/or representative of the opportunity to present the compliance officer with any evidence, or information leading to evidence, to support the allegations in the complaint. Such evidence or information may be presented at any time during the investigation.

In conducting the investigation, the compliance officer shall collect all available documents and review all available records, notes, or statements related to the complaint, including any additional evidence or information received from the parties during the course of the investigation. The compliance officer shall individually interview all available witnesses with information pertinent to the complaint, and may visit any reasonably accessible location where the relevant actions are alleged to have taken place. At appropriate intervals, the compliance officer shall inform both parties of the status of the investigation.

To investigate a complaint alleging retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the compliance officer shall interview the alleged victim(s), any alleged offenders, and other relevant witnesses privately, separately, and in a confidential manner. As necessary, additional staff or legal counsel may conduct or support the investigation.

A complainant's refusal to provide the district's investigator with documents or other evidence related to the allegations in the complaint, failure or refusal to cooperate in the investigation, or engagement in any other obstruction of the investigation may result in the dismissal of the complaint because of a lack of evidence to support the allegation. Similarly, a respondent's refusal to provide the district's investigator with documents or other evidence related to the allegations in the complaint, failure or refusal to cooperate in the investigation, or engagement in any other obstruction of the investigation may result in a finding, based on evidence collected, that a violation has occurred and in the imposition of a remedy in favor of the complainant. (5 CCR 4631)

In accordance with law, the district shall provide the investigator with access to records and other information related to the allegation in the complaint and shall not in any way obstruct the investigation. Failure or refusal of the district to cooperate in the investigation may result in a finding based on evidence collected that a violation has occurred and in the imposition of a remedy in favor of the complainant. (5 CCR 4631)

Timeline for Final Decision

Unless extended by written agreement with the complainant, the compliance officer shall prepare and send to the complainant a written report, as described in the section "Final Written Decision" below, within 60 calendar days of the district's receipt of the complaint. (5 CCR 4631)

For any complaint alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying), the respondent shall be informed of any extension of the timeline agreed to by the complainant. The respondent also shall be sent the district's final written decision at the same time it is provided to the complainant.

Final Written Decision

For all complaints, the district's final written decision shall include: (5 CCR 4631)

1. The findings of fact based on the evidence gathered. In reaching a factual determination, the following factors may be taken into account:
 - a. Statements made by any witnesses
 - b. The relative credibility of the individuals involved
 - c. How the complaining individual reacted to the incident
 - d. Any documentary or other evidence relating to the alleged conduct
 - e. Past instances of similar conduct by any alleged offenders
 - f. Past false allegations made by the complainant
2. The conclusion(s) of law
3. Disposition of the complaint
4. Rationale for such disposition

For complaints of retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the disposition of the complaint shall include a determination for each allegation as to whether retaliation or unlawful discrimination has occurred.

The determination of whether a hostile environment exists may involve consideration of the following:

- a. The manner in which the misconduct affected one or more students' education
 - b. The type, frequency, and duration of the misconduct
 - c. The relationship between the alleged victim(s) and offender(s)
 - d. The number of persons engaged in the conduct and at whom the conduct was directed
 - e. The size of the school, location of the incidents, and context in which they occurred
 - f. Other incidents at the school involving different individuals
5. Corrective action(s), including any actions that have been taken or will be taken to address the allegations in the complaint and including, with respect to a student fees complaint, a remedy that comports with Education Code 49013 and 5 CCR 4600

For complaints of unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the decision may, as required by law, include:

- a. The corrective actions imposed on the respondent
- b. Individual remedies offered or provided to the complainant or another person who was the subject of the complaint, but this information should not be shared with the respondent.
- c. Systemic measures the school has taken to eliminate a hostile environment and prevent recurrence
6. Notice of the complainant's and respondent's right to appeal the district's decision to CDE within 15 calendar days, and procedures to be followed for initiating such an appeal

The decision may also include follow-up procedures to prevent recurrence or retaliation and for reporting any subsequent problems. In consultation with district legal counsel, information about the relevant part of a decision may be communicated to a victim who is not the complainant and to other parties who may be involved in implementing the decision or are affected by the complaint, as long as the privacy of the parties is protected. In a complaint alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying), notice of the district's decision to the alleged victim shall include information about any sanction to be imposed upon the respondent that relates directly to the alleged victim.

If the complaint involves a limited-English-proficient student or parent/guardian and the student involved is enrolled in a school at which 15 percent or more of the students speak a single primary language other than English, then the decision shall also be translated into that language pursuant to Education Code 48985. In all other instances, the district shall ensure meaningful access to all relevant information for parents/guardians with limited English proficiency.

For complaints alleging unlawful discrimination based on state law (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying), the decision shall also include a notice to the complainant that:

1. The complainant may pursue available civil law remedies outside of the district's complaint procedures, including seeking assistance from mediation centers or public/private interest attorneys, 60 calendar days after the filing of an appeal with CDE. (Education Code 262.3)
2. The 60 days moratorium does not apply to complaints seeking injunctive relief in state courts or to discrimination complaints based on federal law. (Education Code 262.3)
3. Complaints alleging discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, gender, disability, or age may also be filed with the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights at www.ed.gov/ocr within 180 days of the alleged discrimination.

Corrective Actions

When a complaint is found to have merit, the compliance officer shall adopt any appropriate corrective action permitted by law.

Appropriate corrective actions that focus on the larger school or district environment may include, but are not limited to, actions to reinforce district policies; training for faculty, staff, and students; updates to school policies; or school climate surveys.

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

For complaints involving retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), appropriate remedies that may be offered to the victim but not communicated to the respondent may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Counseling
(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)
2. Academic support
3. Health services
4. Assignment of an escort to allow the victim to move safely about campus
5. Information regarding available resources and how to report similar incidents or retaliation
6. Separation of the victim from any other individuals involved, provided the separation does not penalize the victim
7. Restorative justice
8. Follow-up inquiries to ensure that the conduct has stopped and there has been no retaliation

For complaints involving retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), appropriate corrective actions that focus on a student offender may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Transfer from a class or school as permitted by law
2. Parent/guardian conference
3. Education regarding the impact of the conduct on others
4. Positive behavior support
5. Referral to a student success team
(cf. 6164.5 - Student Success Teams)
6. Denial of participation in extracurricular or cocurricular activities or other privileges as permitted by law
(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)
7. Disciplinary action, such as suspension or expulsion, as permitted by law
(cf. 5144 - Discipline)
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

When an employee is found to have committed retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the district shall take appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, in accordance with applicable law and collective bargaining agreement.

(cf. 4118 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

The district may also consider training and other interventions for the larger school community to ensure that students, staff, and parents/guardians understand the types of behavior that constitute unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), that the district does not tolerate it, and how to report and respond to it.

When a complaint is found to have merit, an appropriate remedy shall be provided to the complainant or other affected person.

However, if a complaint alleging noncompliance with the laws regarding student fees, deposits, and other charges, physical education instructional minutes for students in elementary schools, or any requirement related to the LCAP is found to have merit, the district shall provide a remedy to all affected students and parents/guardians subject to procedures established by regulation of the State Board of Education. (Education Code 49013, 51223, 52075)

For complaints alleging noncompliance with the laws regarding student fees, the district shall attempt in good faith, by engaging in reasonable efforts, to identify and fully reimburse all affected students and parents/guardians who paid the unlawful student fees within one year prior to the filing of the complaint. (Education Code 49013; 5 CCR 4600)

Appeals to the California Department of Education

Any complainant who is dissatisfied with the district's final written decision on a complaint regarding any specified federal or state educational program subject to UCP may file an appeal in writing with CDE within 15 calendar days of receiving the district's decision. (5 CCR 4632)

The complainant shall specify the basis for the appeal of the decision and how the facts of the district's decision are incorrect and/or the law has been misapplied. The appeal shall be sent to CDE with a copy of the original locally filed complaint and a copy of the district's decision in that complaint. (5 CCR 4632)

When a respondent in any complaint alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying) is dissatisfied with the district's final written decision, the respondent, in the same manner as the complainant, may file an appeal with CDE.

Upon notification by CDE that the district's decision has been appealed, the Superintendent or designee shall forward the following documents to CDE: (5 CCR 4633)

1. A copy of the original complaint
2. A copy of the written decision
3. A summary of the nature and extent of the investigation conducted by the district, if not covered by the decision
4. A copy of the investigation file including, but not limited to, all notes, interviews, and documents submitted by the parties and gathered by the investigator
5. A report of any action taken to resolve the complaint
6. A copy of the district's UCP
7. Other relevant information requested by CDE

Regulation WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: May 8, 2019 Willits, California

SEXUAL HARASSMENT AR 4219.11

This administrative regulation shall apply to all allegations of sexual harassment involving employees, interns, volunteers, and job applicants, but shall not be used to resolve any complaint by or against a student.

Definitions

Prohibited sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, unwanted requests for sexual favors, or other unwanted verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature made against another person of the same or opposite sex in the work or educational setting when: (Education Code 212.5; Government Code 12940: 2CCR 11034))

1. Submission to the conduct is made explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of the individual's employment.
2. Submission to or rejection of the conduct is used as the basis for an employment decision affecting the individual. .
3. Submission to or rejection of the conduct is used as the basis for any decision affecting the individual regarding benefits, services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through the district.

Prohibited sexual harassment also includes conduct which, regardless of whether or not it is motivated by sexual desire, is so severe or pervasive as to unreasonably interfere with the victim's work performance or create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment.

Examples of actions that might constitute sexual harassment in the work or educational setting, , whether committed by a supervisor, a co-worker, or a non-employee, include, but are not limited to:

1. Unwelcome verbal conduct such as sexual flirtations or propositions; graphic comments about an individual's body; overly personal conversations or pressure for sexual activity; sexual jokes or stories; unwelcome sexual slurs, epithets, threats, innuendoes, derogatory comments, sexually degrading descriptions, or the spreading of sexual rumors
2. Unwelcome visual conduct such as drawings, pictures, graffiti, or gestures; sexually explicit emails; displaying sexually suggestive objects
3. Unwelcome physical conduct such as massaging, grabbing, fondling, stroking, or brushing the body; touching an individual's body or clothes in a sexual way; cornering, blocking, leaning over, or impeding normal movements

Training

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all employees receive training regarding the district's sexual harassment policies when hired and periodically thereafter. The training shall include how to recognize prohibited or harassing conduct, the procedures for reporting and/or filing complaints involving an employee, employees' duty to use the district's complaint procedures, and employee obligations when a sexual harassment report involving a student is made to the employee. The training shall also include information about processes for employees to informally share or obtain information about harassment without filing a complaint.

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

Every two years, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that supervisory employees receive at least two hours of classroom or other effective interactive training and education regarding sexual harassment. All newly hired or promoted supervisory employees shall receive training within six months of their assumption of the new position. (Government Code 12950.1)

A supervisory employee is any employee having the authority, in the interest of the district, to hire, transfer, suspend, lay off, promote, discharge, assign, reward, or discipline other employees, or the responsibility to direct them, adjust their grievances, or effectively recommend such action, when the exercise of the authority is not of a merely routine or clerical nature, but requires the use of independent judgment. (Government Code 12926)

(cf. 4300 - Administrative and Supervisory Personnel)

The district's sexual harassment training and education program for supervisory employees shall be aimed at assisting them in preventing and effectively responding to incidents of sexual harassment, as well as implementing mechanisms to promptly address and correct wrongful behavior. The training shall include, but is not limited to, the following. (Government Code 12950.1; 2 CCR 11024)

1. Information and practical guidance regarding federal and state laws on the prohibition, prevention, and correction of sexual harassment, the remedies available to sexual harassment victims in civil actions, and potential district and/or individual exposure or liability
2. The types of conduct that constitute sexual harassment and practical examples which illustrate sexual harassment, discrimination, and retaliation using training modalities such as role plays, case studies, and group discussions, based on factual scenarios taken from case law, news and media accounts, and hypotheticals based on workplace situations and other sources
3. A supervisor's obligation to report sexual harassment, discrimination, and retaliation of which he/she becomes aware and what to do if the supervisor himself/herself is personally accused of harassment
4. Strategies for preventing harassment, discrimination, and retaliation and appropriate steps to ensure that remedial measures are taken to correct harassing behavior, including an effective process for investigation of a complaint
5. The essential elements of the district's anti-harassment policy, including the limited confidentiality of the complaint process and resources for victims of unlawful sexual harassment, such as to whom they should report any alleged sexual harassment, and how to use the policy if a harassment complaint is filed
6. A copy of the district's sexual harassment policy and administrative regulation, which each participant shall acknowledge in writing that he/she has received
7. The definition and prevention of abusive conduct that addresses the use of derogatory remarks, insults, or epithets, other verbal or physical conduct that a reasonable person would find threatening, intimidating, or humiliating, and the gratuitous sabotage or undermining of a person's work performance
8. Practical examples of harassment based on gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation

The Superintendent or designee shall retain for at least two years the records of any training provided to supervisory employees. Such records shall include the names of trained employees, date of the training, the type of training, and the name of the training provider. (2 CCR 11024)

Notifications

A copy of the Board policy and this administrative regulation shall: (Education Code 231.5)

1. Be displayed in a prominent location in the main administrative building, district office, or other area of the school where notices of district rules, regulations, procedures, and standards of conduct are posted
2. Be provided to every district employee at the beginning of the first quarter or semester of the school year or whenever a new employee is hired

(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)

3. Appear in any school or district publication that sets forth the schools or district's comprehensive rules, regulations, procedures, and standards of conduct

All employees shall receive a copy of an information sheet prepared by the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) or the district that contains, at a minimum, components on: (Government Code 12950)

1. The illegality of sexual harassment
2. The definition of sexual harassment under applicable state and federal law
3. A description of sexual harassment, with examples
4. The district's complaint process available to the employee
5. The legal remedies and complaint process available through DFEH and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)
6. Directions on how to contact DFEH and the EEOC
7. The protection against retaliation provided by 2 CCR 11021 for opposing harassment prohibited by law or for filing a complaint with or otherwise participating in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing conducted by DFEH and the EEOC

In addition, the district shall post, in a prominent and accessible location, DFEH's poster on discrimination in employment and the illegality of sexual harassment and the DFEH poster regarding transgender rights. (Government Code 12950)

REGULATION WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: October 3, 2018 Willits, California

NONDISCRIMINATION/HARASSMENT BP 5145.3

The Governing Board desires to provide a safe school environment that allows all students equal access 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, 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.

This policy shall apply to all acts 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.

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

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

(cf. 5145.7 – Sexual Harassment)

(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)

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

(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504)

This policy shall apply to all acts 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.

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 includes the creation of a hostile environment through prohibited conduct that 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. He/she shall provide training and 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. He/she shall report his/her findings and recommendations to the Board after each review.

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

(cf. 1330 - Use of Facilities)

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

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.

(cf. 4118 - Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 4119.21/4219.21/4319.21 - Professional Standards)

(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)

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.

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination

48900.3 Suspension or expulsion for act of hate violence

48900.4 Suspension or expulsion for threats or harassment

48904 Liability of parent/guardian for willful student misconduct

48907 Student exercise of free expression
48950 Freedom of speech
48985 Translation of notices
49020-49023 Athletic programs
51500 Prohibited instruction or activity
51501 Prohibited means of instruction
60044 Prohibited instructional materials
CIVIL CODE
1714.1 Liability of parents/guardians for willful misconduct of minor
GOVERNMENT CODE
11135 Nondiscrimination in programs or activities funded by state
PENAL CODE
422.55 Definition of hate crime
422.6 Crimes, harassment
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
432 Student record
4600-4687 Uniform complaint procedures
4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
1681-1688 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
12101-12213 Title II equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29
794 Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42
2000d-2000e-17 Title VI and Title VII Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended
2000h-2-2000h-6 Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
6101-6107 Age Discrimination Act of 1975
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28
35.107 Nondiscrimination on basis of disability; complaints
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34
99.31 Disclosure of personally identifiable information
100.3 Prohibition of discrimination on basis of race, color or national origin
104.7 Designation of responsible employee for Section 504
106.8 Designation of responsible employee for Title IX
106.9 Notification of nondiscrimination on basis of sex
110.25 Prohibition of discrimination based on age
COURT DECISIONS
Donovan v. Poway Unified School District, (2008) 167 Cal.App.4th 567
Flores v. Morgan Hill Unified School District, (2003) 324 F.3d 1130
Management Resources:
CSBA PUBLICATIONS
Updated Legal Guidance: Protecting Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students Against Sex Discrimination, July 2016
CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS
Promoting a Safe and Secure Learning Environment for All: Guidance and Model Policies to Assist California's K-12 Schools in Responding to Immigration Issues, April 2018
FIRST AMENDMENT CENTER PUBLICATIONS
Public Schools and Sexual Orientation: A First Amendment Framework for Finding Common Ground, 2006
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS
Examples of Policies and Emerging Practices for Supporting Transgender Students, May 2016
Dear Colleague Letter: Title IX Coordinators, April 2015
Dear Colleague Letter: Harassment and Bullying, October 2010
Notice of Non-Discrimination, Fact Sheet, August 2010
WEB SITES
CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>
California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>
California Safe Schools Coalition: <http://www.casafeschools.org>
California Office of the Attorney General: <http://oag.ca.gov>
First Amendment Center: <http://www.firstamendmentcenter.org>
National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.org>
U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>
Policy WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
adopted: May 3, 2017 Willits, California
revised: June 13, 2018

DRESS AND GROOMING/SCHOOL UNIFORMS A.R. 5132

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.

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

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.

(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

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

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

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

(Education Code 35183.5)

(cf. 5141.7 - Sun Safety)

Gang-Related Apparel

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

Because gang-related symbols are constantly changing, definitions of gang-related apparel shall be reviewed at least once each semester and updated whenever related information is received. As necessary, the school shall collaborate with law enforcement agencies to update 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. (Education Code 35183)

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

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

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

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

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

Regulation WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: October 9, 2019 Willits, California

SAFETY A.R. 5142

Each principal or designee shall establish school rules for the safe and appropriate use of school equipment and materials and for student conduct consistent with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation. Copies of the rules shall be distributed to parents/guardians and shall be readily available at the school at all times.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

Release of Students

Students shall be released during the school day only to the custody of an adult if:

1. The adult is the student's custodial parent/guardian.

(cf. 5021 - Noncustodial Parents)

2. The adult has been authorized on the student's emergency card as someone to whom the student may be released when the custodial parent/guardian cannot be reached, and the principal or designee verifies the adult's identity.

(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)

3. The adult is an authorized law enforcement officer acting in accordance with law.

(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting)

(cf. 5145.11 - Questioning and Apprehension by Law Enforcement)

4. The adult is taking the student to emergency medical care at the request of the principal or designee.

(cf. 5141 - Health Care and Emergencies)

Supervision of Students

Teachers shall be present at their respective rooms and shall open them to admit students not less than 30 minutes before the time when school starts. (5 CCR 5570)

Every teacher shall hold students accountable for their conduct on the way to and from school, on the playgrounds, and during recess. (Education Code 44807)

The principal or designee shall require all individuals supervising students to remain alert in spotting dangerous conditions, promptly report any such conditions to the principal or designee, and file a written report on such conditions as appropriate.

(cf. 3530 - Risk Management/Insurance)

In arranging for appropriate supervision on playgrounds, the principal or designee shall:

1. Where playground supervision is not otherwise provided, provide for certificated employees to supervise the conduct and safety, and direct the play, of students who are on school grounds before and after school and during recess and other intermissions (5 CCR 5552)
2. Clearly identify supervision zones on the playground and require all playground supervisors to remain outside at a location from which they can observe their entire zone of supervision
3. Consider the size of the playground area, the number of areas that are not immediately visible, and the age of the students to determine the ratio of playground supervisors to students

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that teachers, teacher aides, playground supervisors, yard aides, and volunteers who supervise students receive training in safety practices and in supervisory techniques that will help them to forestall problems and resolve conflicts. Such training shall be documented and kept on file.

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)

(cf. 3515.2 - Disruptions)

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 5131.4 - Student Disturbances)

(cf. 5138 - Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation)

Playground Safety

Any new playground or any replacement of equipment or modification of components inside an existing playground shall conform to standards set forth by the American Society for Testing and Materials and the guidelines set forth by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. (Health and Safety Code 115725)

Any playground installed between January 1, 1994, and December 31, 1999, shall conform to these standards not later than 15 years after the date of installation. (Health and Safety Code 115725)

Activities with Safety Risks

Because of concerns about the risk to student safety, the principal or designee shall not permit the following activities on campus or during school-sponsored events unless the activity is properly supervised, students wear protective gear as appropriate, and each participant has insurance coverage:

1. Trampolining
2. Scuba diving
3. Skateboarding or use of scooters
4. In-line or roller skating or use of skate shoes
5. Sailing, boating, or water skiing
6. Snow trips
7. Motorcycling
8. Target shooting
9. Horseback riding
10. Rodeo
11. Other activities determined by the principal to have a high risk to student safety

(cf. 5143 - Insurance)

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

(cf. 6153 - School-Sponsored Trips)

Students who operate or ride as a passenger on a bicycle, nonmotorized scooter, or skateboard upon a street, bikeway, or any other public bicycle path or trail shall wear a properly fitted and fastened bicycle helmet that meets the standards of law. Students also shall be required to wear such helmets while wearing in-line or roller skates. (Vehicle Code 21212)

Laboratory Safety

The principal of each school offering laboratory work shall develop procedures for laboratory safety and designate a trained certificated employee to implement and regularly review these procedures.

Eye Safety Devices

The Superintendent or designee shall provide schools with eye safety devices for use whenever students, teachers, or visitors are engaged in or observing an activity or using hazardous substances likely to cause injury to the eyes. Eye safety devices may be sold to students for an amount not to exceed their actual cost to the district. (Education Code 32030, 32031, 32033)

(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)

Regulation WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: August 7, 2013 Willits, California

POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE B.P. 5000

The Board of Trustees shall make every effort to maintain a safe, positive school environment and student services that promote student welfare and academic achievement. The Board expects students to make good use of learning opportunities by demonstrating regular attendance, appropriate conduct and respect for others.

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

The Board is fully committed to providing equal educational opportunities and keeping the schools free from discriminatory practices.

The Board shall not tolerate the intimidation or harassment of any student for any reason.

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

The Superintendent or designee shall establish and keep parents/guardians and students well informed about school and district rules and regulations related to attendance, health examinations, records, grades and student conduct. When conducting hearings related to discipline, attendance and other student matters, the Board shall afford students their due process rights in accordance with law.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35160 Authority of governing boards

35160.1 Broad authority of school districts

35291-35291.5 Rules

Policy WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: August 7, 2013 Willits, California

DISCIPLINE BP 5144

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

(cf. 5113.1 - Chronic Absence and Truancy)

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

(cf. 5131.1 - Bus Conduct)

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

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

(cf. 5138 - Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation)

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

In addition, the Superintendent or designee's strategies for correcting student misconduct shall reflect the Board's preference for the use of positive interventions and alternative disciplinary measures over exclusionary discipline measures.

Disciplinary measures that may result in loss of instructional time or cause students to be disengaged from school, such as detention, suspension, and expulsion, shall be imposed only when required or permitted by law or when other means of correction have been documented to have failed. (Education Code 48900.5)

(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

(cf. 6159.4 - Behavioral Interventions for Special Education Students)

(cf. 6164.5 - Student Success Teams)

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

(cf. 3550 - Food Service/Child Nutrition Program)

(cf. 3551 - Food Service Operations/Cafeteria Fund)

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

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

(cf. 5131.41 - Use of Seclusion and Restraint)

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

The administrative staff at each school may develop disciplinary rules to meet the school's particular needs consistent with law, Board policy, and district regulations. The Board, at an open meeting, shall review the approved school discipline rules for consistency with Board policy and state law. Site-level disciplinary rules shall be included in the district's comprehensive safety plan. (Education Code 32282, 35291.5)

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

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

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

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

(cf. 0415 - Equity)

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

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

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

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

(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)

(cf. 3100 - Budget)

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

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

32280-32289 School safety plans

35146 Closed sessions

35291 Rules

35291.5-35291.7 School-adopted discipline rules

37223 Weekend classes

44807.5 Restriction from recess

48900-48926 Suspension and expulsion

48980-48985 Notification of parent/guardian

49005-49006.4 Seclusion and restraint

49330-49335 Injurious objects

49550-49564.5 Meals for needy students

52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan

CIVIL CODE

1714.1 Parental liability for child's misconduct

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

307 Participation in school activities until departure of bus

353 Detention after school

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1400-1482 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

794 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

1751-1769j School Lunch Program

1773 School Breakfast Program

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Recent Legislation on Discipline: AB 240, Fact Sheet, March 2015

The Case for Reducing Out-of-School Suspensions and Expulsions, Fact Sheet, April 2014

Providing a Safe, Nondiscriminatory School Environment for Transgender and Gender-Nonconforming Students, Policy Brief, February 2014

Safe Schools: Strategies for Governing Boards to Ensure Student Success, 2011

Maximizing Opportunities for Physical Activity during the School Day, Fact Sheet, 2009

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROGRAM ADVISORIES

Classroom Management: A California Resource Guide for Teachers and Administrators of Elementary and Secondary Schools, 2000

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS

Dear Colleague Letter on the Nondiscriminatory Administration of School Discipline, January 2014

WEB SITES

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

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

Public Counsel: <http://www.fixschooldiscipline.org>

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>

Policy WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: April 10, 2019 Willits, California

HATE-MOTIVATED BEHAVIOR B.P. 5145.9

In order to create a safe learning environment for all students, the Board of Trustees desires to protect the right of every student to be free from hate-motivated behavior and will promote harmonious relationships among students so as to enable them to gain a true understanding of the civil rights and social responsibilities of people in society. The district prohibits discriminatory behavior or statements that degrade an individual on the basis of his/her actual or perceived race, ethnicity, culture, heritage, gender, sex, sexual orientation, physical/mental attributes, or religious beliefs or practices.

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

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 3515.4 - Recovery for Property Loss or Damage)

(cf. 5131.5 - Vandalism and Graffiti)

(cf. 5136 - Gangs)

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

(cf. 5141.52 - Suicide Prevention)

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

(cf. 5147 - Dropout Prevention)

(cf. 5149 - At-Risk Students)

The Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with regional programs and community organizations to promote safe environments for youth. These efforts shall be focused on providing an efficient use of district and community resources.

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)

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

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

(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)

(cf. 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education)

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

The district shall provide age-appropriate instruction to help promote an understanding of and respect for human rights, diversity, and tolerance in a multicultural society and to provide strategies to manage conflicts constructively.

(cf. 5138 - Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation)

(cf. 6142.3 - Civic Education)

(cf. 6142.4 - Service Learning/Community Service Classes)

(cf. 6141.94 - History-Social Science Instruction)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that staff receive training on recognizing hate-motivated behavior and on strategies to help respond appropriately to such behavior.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

Grievance Procedures

Any student who believes he/she is a victim of hate-motivated behavior shall immediately contact the Coordinator for Nondiscrimination/Principal. Upon receiving such a complaint, the Coordinator/Principal shall immediately investigate the complaint in accordance with school-level complaint process/grievance procedures as described in AR 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment. A student who has been found to have demonstrated hate-motivated behavior shall be subject to discipline in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

Staff who receive notice of hate-motivated behavior or personally observe such behavior shall notify the Coordinator/Principal, Superintendent or designee, and/or law enforcement, as appropriate.

(cf. 3515.3 - District Police/Security Department)

(cf. 4158/4258/4358 - Employee Security)

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

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination

32282 School safety plans

48900.3 Suspension for hate violence

48900.4 Suspension or expulsion for threats or harassment

PENAL CODE

422.55 Definition of hate crime

422.6 Crimes, harassment

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4600-4687 Uniform Complaint Procedures

4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LEGAL ADVISORIES

California Student Safety and Violence Prevention - Laws and Regulations, April 2004

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS & NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

Protecting Students from Harassment and Hate Crime: A Guide for Schools, 1999

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PUBLICATIONS

Preventing Youth Hate Crimes: A Guide for Schools and Communities, 1997

WEB SITES

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

California Association of Human Relations Organizations: <http://www.cahro.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

National Youth Violence Prevention Resource Center: <http://www.safeyouth.org>

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>

U.S. Department of Justice, Community Relations Service: <http://www.usdoj.gov/crs>

Policy WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: August 7, 2013 Willits, California

VII. Appendix 2: Incident Management Response Plan