



RIVER DELTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

2022-2023

PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK & ANNUAL NOTIFICATIONS



SCHOOL SITES

Bates Elementary School (Dual Language Immersion - in Spanish) - 180 Primasing, Courtland, CA 95615

Clarksburg Middle School (7-9) - 52870 Netherlands, Clarksburg, CA 95615

Delta High School (10-12) - 52810 Netherlands, Clarksburg, CA 95615

D.H. White Elementary School (TK-6) - 500 Elm Way, Rio Vista, CA 94571

Isleton Elementary School (PK-6) - 412 Union St., Isleton, CA 95641

Mokelumne High School - Continuation (9-12) 151 Courtland High School Lane, Courtland, CA 95615

Rio Vista High School (9-12) - 410 South Fourth St., Rio Vista, CA 94571

Riverview Middle School (7-8) – 525 South Second Street, Rio Vista, CA 94571

River Delta Community Day School - 151 Courtland High School Lane, Courtland, CA 95615

River Delta High/Elementary School (Independent Study) - 525 South Second Street, Rio Vista, CA 94571

Walnut Grove Elementary School (TK-6) - 14181 Grove St., Walnut Grove, CA 95690




RIVER DELTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

445 Montezuma Street, Rio Vista, CA 94571

 *Website:*
www.riverdelta.org

 *Contact:*
707-374-1700

 *Email:*
Contactus@rdusd.org



Creating Excellence To Ensure That All Students Learn

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Creating Excellence To Ensure That All Students Learn

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River Delta Unified School District

OUR MISSION

In a diverse community, rich in agricultural and family traditions, the River Delta Unified School District will provide a safe, supportive, rigorous, student-centered education in which all students are prepared to achieve their maximum potential and become productive members of society.

WE BELIEVE.....

- ◆ learning is continuous
- ◆ developing self-respect and mutual respect is essential
- ◆ we are responsible for ourselves and our actions
- ◆ families, schools and communities need to work cooperatively
- ◆ positive thinking develops a positive attitude
- ◆ a sense of humor is healthy
- ◆ change is inevitable and we should plan accordingly
- ◆ leadership affects actions, perceptions and attitudes
- ◆ accountability for our commitments is expected
- ◆ and communication is essential



OUR STRATEGIES.....

Curriculum:

We will implement curriculum and instruction aligned with state and local standards and assessment to ensure articulated k-12 continuous learning.

Facilities:

We will utilize and update all of our resources and facilities to their fullest potential for the educational benefits and safety of our students and for our community.

Growth and Update:

We will address the needs of each community and take appropriate action based on anticipation of growth and updates of existing structures.

School Efficiency:

We will design and implement a strategic plan which addresses planning and communication among teachers, students, parents, administrators and community.

Social Issues:

We will implement age-appropriate programs that will educate students and parents about physical, emotional and social development and responsibility.

Technology:

We will utilize technology to enhance student learning; improve communication with families, communities and district

OUR OBJECTIVES.....

...are focused on student growth, success and achievement and satisfaction:

- ◆ Students will be able to achieve success at the next educational level.
- ◆ Our high school graduates will be adequately prepared to begin their post-secondary pursuits.
- ◆ Students will be encouraged to think creatively and to act socially responsibly.
- ◆ We will utilize communication, accountability and leadership to provide the best environment for all students.

Welcome to the 2022-2023 River Delta USD School Year



Dear Parents, Students and River Delta Communities,

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year! All staff members of our River Delta USD team have been hard at work preparing for the new school year. We are excited to welcome all new and returning students to school on Wednesday, August 10th.

Over the past two years, River Delta students and staff met the unprecedented challenges and requirements associated with the pandemic head on for the benefit of all students. Now it's time for us to move forward. This year we will be focused on working with a unified motto to *Engage Together*. Engage all students in active learning experiences, particularly rich academic conversations, to promote critical thinking and high order thinking skills. Engage all teachers and staff members to set lofty goals to enhance their instructional and intervention strategies. Engage with families to meet the individual needs of students. Engage with our communities to maximize our knowledge and resources to support all students. We encourage all parents to engage in every opportunity to be a part of your child's school experiences.

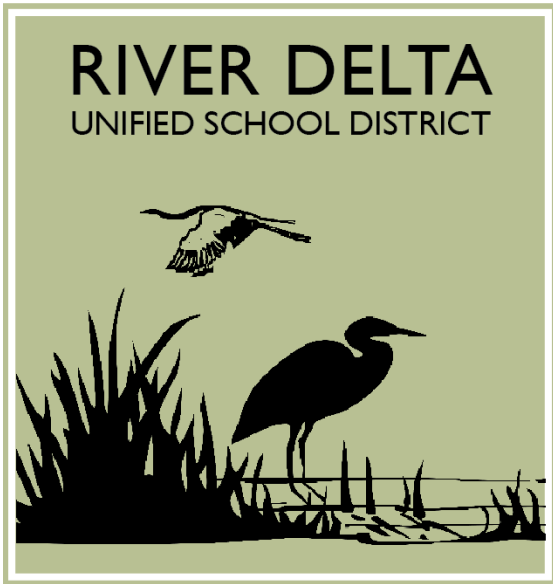
We hope to see you in the first days of school in the 2022-2023 school year. Every one of our staff members are doing all they can to make this the best school year yet for your child and feel blessed to serve as one of many educational professionals to have a positive impact on your child. Thank you for being an essential partner of ours in your child's education.

Please accept my best wishes for a wonderful school year!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathy Wright". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Superintendent



Members of the Board of Trustee Area are:

Area I (Rio Vista —2018-2022)	Dan Mahoney
Area II (Isleton —2018-2022)	Jennifer Stone
Area III (Walnut Grove—2018-2022)	Rafaela Casillas
Area IV (Rio Vista —2020-2024)	Marilyn Riley
Area V (Clarksburg —2020-2022)	Marcial Lamera
Area VI (Rio Vista—2020-2024)	Wanda Apel
Area VII (Rio Vista - 2020-2024)	Randall Jelly

2022 Board Officers

President: Jennifer Stone
 Vice President: Dan Mahoney
 Clerk: Marilyn Riley

The Board of Trustees consists of seven members who are elected to four-year terms by a district wide vote. Each member of the Board must live in the Trustee Area for which they serve representing different parts of the District. The Board of Trustees is responsible for setting District policy, approving the District’s annual budget and Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP). The Board and District staff works hard to ensure that the District Mission outlined earlier is fulfilled in all classrooms.

After you have read the Parent/Student Handbook, please fill out the required documentation found in Parent Square.

ParentSquare is a communication platform that provides RDUSD with the ability to communicate mass notifications including urgent alerts & "Smart" alerts, auto notices, Attendance or Lunch Balance Notifications, Classroom Communications, two-way Direct & Group Messaging, newsletters, Aeries information and much more! Through the ParentSquare portal, parents will be able to receive gradebook alerts, parent-teacher conference information, volunteer and & signup for school events, sign and submit permission slips & forms, take surveys & polls and RSVP for school-based activities. For the 2022-2023 school year, the ParentSquare platform will replace our school-based websites and school messaging system. RDUSD will now have a “one-stop-shop” for school and District communication. Please be on the look out for future communication regarding ParentSquare and be sure to attend the ParentSquare for Parents training at your campus Back to School Night.

Log into Parent Square through your student's Aeries Portal.

Your Rights and Responsibilities

The Parent & Student Handbook contains important information about laws related to public schools and your rights and responsibilities as a parent. This includes laws pertaining to the federal Every Student Succeeds Act and the military’s access to information about high school students.

The handbook also contains a lot of useful information to help parents guide their child’s education. Additional information is available on the district’s website and in the high school course catalogue.

THANK YOU FOR NOT SMOKING ON OUR CAMPUSES!

Smoking, vaping and use of any tobacco product is prohibited at all times on district property. This includes outdoor areas. Thank you for your cooperation.

2022-2023 RIVER DELTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR

2022-2023 RIVER DELTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR

MONTH	FIRST WEEK					SECOND WEEK					THIRD WEEK					FOURTH WEEK					FIFTH WEEK					#
	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	
JULY					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	0
AUGUST	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30	31			16
SEPTEMBER				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30	21
OCTOBER	3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21	24	25	26	27	28	31					21
NOVEMBER		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30			15
DECEMBER				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30	12
JANUARY	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30	31				16
FEBRUARY			1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24	27	28				18
MARCH			1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30	31	23
APRIL	3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21	24	25	26	27	28						14
MAY	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30	31			22
JUNE				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30	2
TOTAL DAYS																							TOTAL STUDENT DAYS		180	

- = Non Student Days/Recess
- = Legal Holidays
- = Board Granted Holidays
- = Minimum Days
- = Teacher Pre-Service Days
- = Staff Development Days

SS = School Begins = August 10, 2022

SE = School Ends = June 2, 2023

P = Parent Conference Days = October 10, 11, 13, 14, 2022

Non Student Days = November 1, 2022

Thanksgiving Break = November 21–25, 2022

Winter Break = December 19, 2022–January 6, 2023

Spring Break = April 3–April 10, 2023

Quarter **Days**

Quarter 1 – Ends October 7, 2022	42
Quarter 2 – Ends December 16, 2022	43
Quarter 3 – Ends March 17, 2023	47
Quarter 4 – Ends June 2, 2023	48

Board Approve December 14, 2021

PARENT INVOLVEMENT IS CRITICAL TO STUDENT SUCCESS

Parents are the most important educators in their children’s lives. Studies have proven that children whose parents are involved in their education perform better in school than children whose parents are not. That is why we encourage parents to be active with their children at all grade levels — even high school.

Following are some tips to help your child succeed in school:

Visit your child’s school. You are always welcome! Make sure your child gets enough sleep, eats breakfast, wears appropriate clothes, and arrives at school on time. Read to your child every day, or encourage your child to read independently. Insist that children treat school staff members with respect and obey school rules. Call a teacher or write a note when you have a question, a compliment, or a concern. Volunteer your time. Many volunteer tasks can be done at home. Participate in the PTA, PTO, PTSA, or parent club. Attend School Site Council meetings at your child’s school. Attend parent- teacher conferences to discuss your child’s progress and any potential problems. Carefully review your child’s report cards, school newsletters, and other information from school. Encourage your child to work hard in class and to complete homework on a regular basis. Ask the teacher for help well before the test if your child is having difficulty in a particular area. Without making your child feel stressed, discuss up coming tests and mention that it is important for the child to do his or her best.

WE OFFER A WELL-BALANCED ACADEMIC PROGRAM

River Delta teachers are not content to educate tomorrow's citizens with yesterday's methods. The professional staff continually searches for more effective approaches. The River Delta Unified School District is located near many outstanding colleges, junior and vocational colleges and universities. California State University at Sacramento, University of the Pacific, University of California at Davis and Berkeley, Delta College of Stockton, Solano College, Los Medanos College to name a few which are within commuting distance.

Career and Technical Education (CTE)

The River Delta Unified School District's Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs have been determined through the use of state labor market data to be high skill, high wage and/or high demand career opportunities for students. Students enroll in the CTE program that matches their career goals and complete a sequence of courses that leads to the completion of industry-validated assessments and certifications.

Delta High School's CTE Programs:

Agriscience, Ag Construction and Ag Mechanics

Rio Vista High School's CTE Programs:

Agriscience, Ag Mechanics, Ag Construction, Culinary Arts, Digital Imaging and Teacher Pathway.



Common Core State Standards (CCSS)

In California, the State Board of Education decides on the educational standards for all students, from kindergarten through high school. Since 2010, a number of states across the nation have adopted the same standards for English and Mathematics. These standards are called the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

California's adoption of the CCSS demonstrates its commitment to providing a world-class education to all of its students. California's implementation of the CCSS renews its vision that all students graduating from our public school system be lifelong learners and have the skills and knowledge necessary to be ready to assume their position in the 21st century global economy.

~California Department of Education, April 2014

If you have questions see the District's Web Site: <http://riverdelta.org>



When you have a question, it is best to start with your children's teacher, the school's Principal or the school's Secretary.

HOMework SUPPORTS CLASSROOM LESSONS

- ◆ Homework is an important way to extend the classroom lesson and give children more time to practice, review concepts they have learned, and develop organization skills.
- ◆ Homework also benefits students by developing good study skills, discipline, and responsibility. It also gives parents the opportunity to be involved in their child's education.
- ◆ It should relate to classroom instruction, reinforce and extend learning, promote immediate recall of basic skills, and match the student's needs.
- ◆ Schools and individual teachers have developed homework practices that are shared with parents in school handbooks and various parent meetings.
- ◆ There are minimum amounts of homework — including students reading by themselves or with their parents — which can be assigned at each grade level, ranging from 20 minutes a day, four days a week in kindergarten to 75 minutes a day, four days a week in sixth grade.

DUTIES OF THE STUDENT

All pupils shall comply with the regulations, pursue the required course of study, and submit to the authority of the teachers and staff of the schools and district.

Attendance in School Is Important

California law requires that children between the ages of 6 and 18 attend school every day. While the law does not currently apply to children below the age of six, research shows that early education (pre-school and kindergarten) are essential for future academic success. It is the parent/caregiver's responsibility to ensure that his/her child gets to school every day. National and local research has shown that students with frequent absences, whether excused or unexcused, have lower literacy levels, lower grades and higher drop-out rates than students who attend school regularly.

Public school districts in California receive their funding from the state of California based on the actual number of students who are present for classes, not on the district's enrollment. Districts are not paid for students who are absent, no matter whether an absence is excused or unexcused. River Delta Unified School District urges parents to make sure their children attend school regularly and to schedule medical and other appointments so that a student misses none, or only a small portion, of the school day. The district also asks that travel or other absences be avoided during the time school is in session. The better a student's attendance rate, the more a student will learn and the greater the amount of funding that the district will receive from the state for classroom instruction and academic programs. The school calendar is designed to minimize problems for families who plan vacations around traditional holiday periods, and thereby minimize student absences.

Following an absence, a student is required to bring a written excuse from home when returning to school, or the school must have received a phone call from a parent/guardian. Illnesses and doctor and dental appointments are considered excused absences. Children should not be sent to school when they are not feeling well. Absences without a written excuse or phone call from home are recorded as unexcused.

Student Attendance Review Board (SARB)

The purpose of School Attendance Review Board (SARB) is to provide a coordinated community effort to meet the needs of those students with school attendance problems. Pursuant to Education Code 48200, every child from ages 6 to 18 is required to attend school on a regular basis. Students who have continued attendance problems, along with their parents, are required to attend a hearing with the SARB Panel. The SARB Panel consists of school officials as well as representatives of law enforcement, social services and community organizations.

The goal of the SARB Hearing is to review the student's attendance issues and offer alternative solutions and community resources to help remediate the student's attendance problem.

How Does SARB Help?

SARB provides a wide variety of services that are designed to meet the needs of students and their families. The ultimate goal is to help students stay in school, attend regularly, and graduate. To that end, SARB:

Collaborates with schools and counselors

Recommends placements

Connects families with agencies for counseling, tutoring and other services

Works with probation and law enforcement

Reinforces parental legal responsibility for student attendance, as required by the California Education Code

Initiates subpoenas, citations and petitions to court

What Happens in a SARB Hearing?

A panel of volunteers examines the situation after listening to the student and parent explain why they are not attending school. The panel will develop a plan and the conditions/support that is developed will be added to a legally-binding contract which the student and parent will be required to follow. The SARB case manager has the authority to refer the case to the District Attorney if trancies and unexcused absences continue to be a problem following the SARB hearing.

PARENTS: You are responsible for your child's school attendance. You must let the school know if your child is out of school and give a legitimate reason for the absence. You must be sure your child attends school regularly and on time every day.

STUDENTS: If you miss school, you miss out on opportunities to learn how to become a good citizen, build lasting friendships and develop the skills and attitudes needed to become a valued employee.

River Delta Unified School District Field Trip Policies and Procedures

The Board of Trustees recognizes that school-sponsored trips are an important component of a student's development and supplement and enrich the classroom learning experience. School-sponsored trips may be conducted in connection with the district's course of study or school-related social, educational, cultural, athletic, school band activities, or other extracurricular or co-curricular activities.

The principal shall establish a process for approving a staff member's request to conduct a school-sponsored trip. When planning trips, staff shall consider student safety, objectives of instruction, the most effective use of instructional time, the distance from school, district and student expense, and transportation and supervision requirements. Principals may exclude from the trip any student whose presence on the trip would pose a safety or disciplinary risk. The following policies will be adhered to on all school-sponsored trips:

- The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that adequate supervision is provided on all school-sponsored trips and that there is an appropriate ratio of adults to students present on the trip.
- All students attending the field trip must have a signed permission slip on file. Students without permission or who refrain from attending will be provided an alternative educational opportunity.
- Teachers or other certificated personnel shall accompany students on all trips and shall assume responsibility for their proper conduct.
- Before the trip, teachers shall provide any adult chaperones who may accompany the students with clear information regarding their responsibilities.
- Chaperones shall be 21 years of age or older and have a clear TB test on file with the school district. Chaperones for overnight school-sponsored trips will be required to have fingerprinting on file.
- Chaperones shall be assigned a prescribed group of students and shall be responsible for the continuous monitoring of these students' activities at a ratio of one chaperone per ten students.
- If the trip involves water activities, this ratio must change to 1 chaperone to 8 students for grades 4-8 and change to 1 chaperone to 4 students for grades K-3.
- Teachers and chaperones shall not consume alcoholic beverages or use controlled substances while accompanying and supervising students on a trip.

When a trip is made to a place of business or industry, the teacher shall arrange for an employee of the host company to serve as conductor.

Guidelines for Parent Participation:

Children must travel to and from field trip site by bus or vehicles that have been approved by the office to have necessary paperwork and insurance on file.

- The number of parents asked to attend a field trip will depend on the nature and demands of the particular trip being taken. For grade level trips, teachers will work as a team to determine the number of parents per class that will attend the field trip. Often, only a specific number of adults and students are allowed in a site due to fire codes.
- During the course of a school year, we want to give as many parents as possible the opportunity to assist with field trip supervision.
- Parents participating in field trips are not permitted to bring siblings or other non-students on the trip with them. Parent chaperones need to be fully able to assist in student supervision. Caring for siblings on a trip could detract from a parent's ability to fulfill this supervision responsibility.

FIELD TRIPS OFTEN A REWARD FOR GOOD BEHAVIOR

Educational field trips are taken in connection with school related social, educational, cultural, athletic, or school music activities. Field trips may enrich the approved curriculum and/or course of study, but they are not required in order to complete the course.

Student behavioral expectations may be used as an incentive for field trips and a reward for positive behavior. As such, a student's behavior may be a factor in deciding if the student participates on a field trip, including completing school/teacher developed contracts, homework assignments, and student expectations set by school staff in compliance with the Education Code.

WE FINGERPRINT UNSUPERVISED VOLUNTEERS

To provide for the safety of students, River Delta requires volunteers who work unsupervised with students to be fingerprinted for a criminal background check. This is a small percent of the volunteers who are so critical to the operation of our schools.

Most volunteers help out under the direct supervision of a district employee, so they will not be affected. Those who volunteer in a classroom or school office, for example, do not need a background check. Volunteers typically affected by this policy include mentors at businesses and volunteer coaches and volunteers who chaperon on overnight trips.

The fingerprint check by the Department of Justice looks for the same thing employees are checked for — convictions for drug crimes, sexual crimes, or violent felonies. For more information, please contact your school's Principal.



EMERGENCY PARENTAL NOTIFICATIONS

In the unlikely event there is an emergency at school, your children's safety is our primary concern and our staff will work very hard to ensure their safety. All parents and guardians of affected students will be called as soon as possible after the safety of students have been assured, so **please make sure the school has your current emergency contact phone numbers.**

Parents/Guardians,

It is a child's right to a free public education regardless of immigration status or religious beliefs, including information on educational rights issued by the California Attorney General. Alternatively, such information may be provided through any other cost-effective means determined by the Superintendent or designee. (Educational Code 234.7)



ASSISTANCE TO HOMELESS CHILDREN

Children who are homeless are entitled to equal access to the same free, appropriate, public education provided to all children. Students who lack fixed, adequate, or regular housing because they live in a motel or shelter; live with friends or extended family; in a car, campground, or recreational vehicle are eligible for special assistance and services.

This includes help with enrollment; transferring school records; school supplies; hygiene items; assistance with transportation to and from their school of origin; uniforms; access to special programs, including preschool, remedial, and enrichment programs; and referrals to community resources that assist with food, shelter, and clothing. For assistance, please call Trisha Salomon, Education Services Dept. at (707) 374-1729.

Educational Rights

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2001, Title X, Part C of the No Child Left Behind Act provides educational rights for individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate night time residence; and applies to children and youths who are:

- Sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing or economic hardship
- Living in a motel, trailer park, campground due to lack of alternative options
- Staying in a car, substandard housing, or place not designed for sleeping
- Staying in a shelter or awaiting foster care placement

Children have the right to:

- Immediately enroll in school with or without the proper documentation or immunization record
- Remain in the school of origin (the school the child last attended) for the duration of homelessness
- Transportation to the school of origin
- Enroll without a permanent address or proof of residency

INTERPRETING SERVICES

Interpreting services for school-related issues can be provided for parents of English Language Learners. There are a limited number of those who can act as Spanish interpreters. Please call your school's secretary for assistance.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards and progress reports are delivered to parents and guardians in a secure document via Parent Square at the end of each grading period. Elementary report cards are standards based while middle and high school students receive letter grades. Parent teacher conferences are held in October however, parents may request a conference with a teacher at any time of the year.



ACCELERATED LEARNING/ GIFTED EDUCATION

The District offers accelerated/ gifted learning opportunities throughout the district. Students may be identified for Gifted and Talented Ed. (GATE) in grades 3-12. Other students may participate in accelerated instruction by demonstrating their willingness and ability to keep up with the requirements of the program. Parents must sign a contract that they understand the program and will work with their children. For questions concerning GATE, or more information on other programs, call your child's school or Education Services: 707-374-1729.

First 5 of Sacramento Family Resource Centers

The First 5 Family Resource Centers are located at Walnut Grove Elementary School and Bates Elementary School. Our First 5 program is here to empower families and students to achieve success in school, at home, and in the community. Our First 5 grant funded program provides Parent/Child Playgroups, the Home Visitor Program, Parent Education Classes, Literacy Classes for parents, Storytime, and more. These services are provided at our Sacramento County Schools: Bates, Walnut Grove, and Isleton. Developmental, vision, hearing, and dental screenings for children from 0-5 years old are also provided to Sacramento County residents through our First 5 Sacramento grant. Services such as assistance in completing forms, mental health referrals, emergency rent assistance, emergency food, links to community resources and services and more are provided in our center through our partners South County Services, Migrant Education, Woman Infant and Children (WIC), Unite Us, and California Human Development.

We are here to help!

For assistance and information about our programs, call First 5 in Walnut Grove at Walnut Grove Elementary (916) 776-2077 or in Courtland at Bates Elementary (916) 775-1771.

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

After School Education and Safety Programs (ASES) are offered at Bates Elementary, Isleton Elementary and Walnut Grove Elementary Schools. Additionally, we are now able to offer After-School program at D.H White elementary school as part of the board approved RDUUSD Expanded Learning Opportunities Program plan. All afterschool programs are intended to provide educational and recreational opportunities for students after school and are designed to help students with class work, homework and to provide structured recreational activities for students. For more information regarding after school programs and other after school support services, please contact your school secretary.

SAFETY TIPS FOR YOUR CHILDREN



Safetymatters

Nothing is more important to us than the safety of your children. We have many procedures in place to keep students safe while they are at school. If you do not take your child to school, a few precautionary steps can also increase your children's safety while traveling to and from school.

- ◆ Have your children go to school with a friend or another parent.
- ◆ Plan your children's school route with them so you will know where they should be in case they are late getting home.
- ◆ Instruct your children not to talk to or accept a ride from strangers.
- ◆ Allow your children to accept a ride only from a family friend who uses a secret password.
- ◆ Your children's route to and from school should include a "safe house" (an approved business or a friend's house) your children can go to in case of an emergency.
- ◆ Make sure your children call you or a guardian at a designated time to let you know they have arrived safely at home.

SAFETY IS A TOP PRIORITY

Safety is always a priority in the River Delta Unified School District. One way we ensure the safety of children is by maintaining the strict standards of behavior. Our *Discipline Guide* spells out expected consequences for violating those behavior standards. Below we have listed some important information regarding school safety.

Zero Tolerance policy -- In order to protect all students, no school in the River Delta School District will tolerate

- 1) Possessing, selling or furnishing a firearm.
- 2) Brandishing a knife at another person.
- 3) Unlawfully selling a controlled substance.
- 4) Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault or committing a sexual battery.
- 5) Possession of an explosive.

Any of these actions will result in the student being expelled from the school district and possible arrest. Teachers and administrators work hard to inform students about behaviors that are expected of them, and to enforce the policy.

Safety procedures -- The district has many programs to assist in keeping students safe. The district works closely with the City of Rio Vista Police, Sacramento and Yolo County Sheriff's Departments.

If you or your child hears something that concerns them, tell us so that we can investigate it. Parents may also contact their child's school principal to see if they may volunteer to be an adult presence at school.

Students are expected to leave campus within 20 minutes after school lets out unless they have a legitimate reason to remain on campus, such as involvement in an after-school activity or tutoring.

An Emergency Preparedness Plan has been developed and is reviewed each year by the safety committee and each school site.



VISIT THE DISTRICT'S WEBSITE FOR DIRECTIONS ON HOW TO LOGIN TO YOUR STUDENTS PORTAL

Aeries Portals for Teachers, Parents and Students – Easily access and share real-time information, increasing communication between your parents and teachers.

Connect Parents to Teachers

- *Parent Square through Aeries Portal*
- *Browser-based access anytime, anywhere, with any device*
- *Stay up-to-date with school events and assignments with the portal calendar*
- *Students and/or parents have the ability to request courses on-line*
- *Single, secure sign-in for parents or guardians with multiple students, regardless of school*
- *Multi-lingual support (English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese, Korean and Arabic)*
- *Student Profile provides a comprehensive view of students' progress*

Aeries Portals

Eagle Unified School District

Welcome

LOG IN

Ensure Student Success

- *Quick access to critical information, including real-time attendance, grades, test scores and more*
- *Real-time gradebook summary with visual trend analysis, as well as drill down capability to the assignment level*
- *Weekly progress report emails to stay informed on student progress, along with direct communication between teachers and parents*



TRANSPORTATION SERVICE FOR 2022-2023



As we begin to look forward to the 2022-2023 school year, River Delta Unified School District faces a school bus driver shortage like many other public-school districts around the State of California and nationwide. In 2012-2013, the transportation department had 12 school bus drivers. The district, at this time, will start the 2022-23 school year with 2 bus drivers.

California does *not* require transportation services for students to and from school. However, there are mandated classifications that requires districts to provide transportation services.

Starting this fall for the 2022-2023 school year, the transportation department will only provide transportation service to those students required or mandated by law.

The district will be contacting families of students who are eligible for transportation provided by the district.

The district continues to pursue many different options to recruit, train and retain qualified School Bus Drivers. The district will continue to communicate with families throughout the school year as circumstances change.

Please contact the Personnel Department if you or anyone you know is interested in becoming a school bus driver, our district offers free training and no experience is necessary. *Valid California Drivers License required.

A FEW HELPFUL TIPS FOR YOUR CHILDREN AT THE BUS STOP

- If something drops near the bus, ask the driver for help. NEVER stoop down or go under the bus to retrieve items.
- Destruction of property, playing in or running across the street, or other horseplay at a bus stop is dangerous and prohibited.
- Do not bring pets to a bus stop.
- Large school projects, large band instruments, scooters or skateboards cannot be transported on the bus unless contained in a backpack.
- Pre-approved documentation must be given to the bus operator in written form if a student gets off the bus at a stop other than the student's appropriate bus stop. The request must be signed by the parent or guardian and approved by the school administrator and/or his/her designee.

TEACH YOUR CHILD HOW TO GET HOME FROM THE BUS

Except for pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students, in order to help provide a timely service for all students on the bus, River Delta Unified buses drop students at their bus stop, even if an adult is not present to meet them. For pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students, the policy is to deliver those students "hand to hand." If no one is there to meet the student, the bus will take them back to the school. It is always a good practice to meet your child's bus, but children should know how to get home, or to day care, on their own for those times when parents may not be able to meet them.

If, at any time, a child is frightened or does not want to get off the bus at the designated stop, the driver will either radio dispatch to call the child's home and request assistance, or return the child to school and leave the child with office staff who will notify the parents that they must pick up their child.

Transportation & Determining Hazardous Conditions

In an effort to reduce the possibility of accidents during the inclement weather season, the Board of Trustees of the River Delta Unified School District adopted a Hazardous Condition Transportation Policy permitting transportation services to be canceled or delayed during the foggy and rainy season. Weather conditions will be monitored by the Transportation Manager and/or Supervisor. The decision to begin transportation or cancel transportation for the day will be made. This decision will then be reported to through Parent Square. (Education Code §35831.5; AR 3543).

SAFETY TIPS WHEN CROSSING THE STREET

RDUSD bus drivers cross all students across the street as they depart the bus. Your child's driver will ask, "Who crosses here?" at each stop. Students should be sure to follow the driver's instructions.

The bus driver should always be the first person off the bus. Once the driver is off the bus, students can depart from the bus and wait until the driver directs them across the street. Always walk between the bus and the driver when crossing the street. Once on the other side of the street, children should go directly home.

YOU CAN HELP US WITH TRAFFIC

By following the school's directions, parents and guardians can help provide a smooth traffic flow at our schools during the morning drop-off and afternoon pickup times. Please use appropriate pickup and drop-off areas, follow the directions of school staff, and follow traffic laws around schools.

Vehicles that are double-parked, stopped in crosswalks, or parked in restricted zones — such as those for loading and unloading school buses — create unsafe conditions for students, parents, and motorists. These conditions make it difficult for children and other motorists to see each other, which can lead to accidents and injuries. It is better to wait a few seconds for a more secure drop-off or pickup location than to stop where children need to dart across busy streets, or to hold up traffic while picking up or dropping off students in the street.

The traffic situations you experience at your child's school is also part of the day-to-day problem our school bus drivers deal with every day while charged with the safe travel of their riders. In addition to normal school traffic, bus drivers also encounter other hazardous parental behavior that can cause accidents. For example, please do not block the path of a school bus with your vehicle or drive alongside the bus trying to get the driver's attention.

Children can be safely picked up and dropped at schools and bus stops, but they need your help. Parents should always comply with speed limits, parking signs, and traffic directions. With your help, we can all travel in and around our schools safely.

WE EXPECT EVERY STUDENT TO MEET HIGH STANDARDS!

The District works hard to offer every student a quality education. The District's graduation requirements are progressive in nature. The requirements represent the minimum each student must take, whether or not the student plans to attend college. Students can prepare for college by taking certain classes in middle and high school. Be sure your child talks to the high school counselor as early as the end of their 6th grade year.

RDUSD Graduation Requirements

- ◆ 4 years of English
- ◆ 3 years of Math (including Algebra)
- ◆ 3 years of Science
- ◆ 3 1/2 years of Social Science
- ◆ 2 years of Physical Education
- ◆ 1 year of World Language or 1 year of Fine Arts
- ◆ 1 year of Ethnic Studies and Building Foundations for Success
- ◆ Additional electives

Students are encouraged to take the PSAT and SAT

The Pre-SAT and SAT are offered during the year at various locations in the area. Although students may take the PSAT prior to their Junior year, students can only qualify for National Merit Scholarships by taking the PSAT during their Junior year.

The University of California (UC) and the California State University (CSU) no longer require the SAT or ACT for admission. If your student chooses to take one of the exams these university systems can use the scores for class placement. Students applying to colleges outside of the UC/CSU system should check with each university's requirements.

Reach out to your student's academic counselor to get more information on testing requirements for specific schools and scholarships and for tips on preparing for the test.

BEGIN EARLY PREPARE STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE & CAREERS

Students can prepare for college or a university by taking certain classes in middle and high school. The high school course catalogue lists specific classes that are recommended for those planning to attend a UC or a CSU school. If your child is even thinking about going to college, encourage them to enroll in college-prep classes. This will open more options to them when they graduate. Please contact a high school counselor for course information. Per Education Code 66204 a copy of the list of courses certified as satisfying UC/CSU requirements is available from your high school counselor.

There is established a grant program for the purpose of awarding grants to cover the costs of Advanced Placement fees or International Baccalaureate exam fees, or both, for eligible economically disadvantaged high school students. Check with your high school counselor.

PLAN AHEAD FOR COLLEGE & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

The district has formed partnerships with California State University, Sacramento, and with the University of California, Davis, to increase the number of district graduates earning a degree from CSUS and UCD. Cosumnes River College has a guaranteed transfer program to UC and CSU schools. Per AB428 admission requirements for UC and CSU must be provided to you by your high school counselor.

Cosumnes River College offers classes periodically throughout the year to prepare students to be successful in college. Some general education/transfer courses are open to eligible high school juniors and seniors. Consult a college counselor at CRC (916-688-7316) and/or talk to your high schools' counselor.

FINANCIAL PLANNING & FINANCIAL AID

Parents should start saving for college when their child is in elementary school. The Average Tuition & Fee Ranked for Colleges in 2021-2022: \$10,338 for Public in-state; \$22,698 for Public out-of-state and \$38,185 for Private colleges

Information is available at each high school regarding financial assistance (scholarships, grants, loans, etc.) for post-secondary education. State funds are also available to cover the costs of Advanced Placement examination fees. Contact your counselor at the high schools for additional information.

A TEXTBOOK FOR EVERY CHILD

The District has worked hard to ensure that children have all the textbooks they need. If your child does not have a textbook in a class where one is needed, please call your school.



SCHOOL HANDBOOKS

Every school also produces its own school handbook for parents and students that includes student and school rules and procedures and policies, among other important information. Be sure to read these documents carefully!

CELL PHONES

Cell phones or any device for texting may only be used before 1st period, at lunch, and after the last period of the day, regardless of a student's schedule. These items should be turned off and should not to be seen or heard in classrooms at any time. Cameras and video cameras are not allowed at any time for personal use.

WE TEACH STUDENTS RESPECT AND CIVILITY

We believe everyone — students and district employees— should be treated with respect. Our Human Dignity/Civic Discourse Policy reinforces that belief.

There is a great deal of diversity in the families we serve, and we believe that our diversity is strength. We strive to ensure that everyone feels welcome in our schools. This policy highlights our emphasis on mutual respect.

The school district will not tolerate behavior by students, staff, or visitors which insults, degrades, or stereotypes any race, gender, disability, physical characteristics, ethnic group, sexual preference, age, national origin, or religion.

Appropriate consequences for offending the Human Dignity Policy are specified in the student code of conduct of each school or department. Staff members offending this policy will be disciplined in accordance with provisions of District policy and the appropriate employee master contract.

So that every student would feel safe and welcome in our schools:

- ◆ Students are to display mutual respect, and recognition of the rights and individuality of others;
- ◆ Students are to work together as a school community to establish common goals for the common good;
- ◆ Students are to strive to find supportive solutions to areas of conflict or concerns; and
- ◆ Students are to take action to contribute to a safe, peaceful, and healthy environment.

MINIMUM DAYS & PARENT CONFERENCE DAYS

The 11 scheduled minimum days
for 2022-2023

are: October 10, 11, 13 & 14;

December 15, 16;

March 16, 17; May 30 and June 1, 2.

School Accountability Report Cards (SARCS)

Detailed information about each school's academic performance, funding, special programs, and more is available in the *School Accountability Report Cards*. Copies to view available at your child's school and online at www.riverdelta.org.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The River Delta Unified School District recognizes that the role of the parent/guardian is paramount in developing civic values and ethical behavior in their children. The district is committed to providing a strong instructional program to support and assist parents in helping students develop the civic values and ethical behaviors that will allow them to become responsible citizens, family members, and workers. The district teaches civic values and ethics that focus on honesty, respect, morality (understanding and doing what is right, legally and ethically), and responsibility. These values were identified by parents as Common Core Civic Values that they wanted taught in school. Parents also supported the teaching of human dignity, empathy, justice, civility, courage and community (concern for the common good). These standards are part of everyday lessons appropriate for each grade. The district encourages community service by all of its students to learn the importance of giving back to their community, and every school is involved in community service projects.

According to national surveys, 95 percent of teenagers believe it is important to volunteer in their community, 75 percent want to give back to their community, and 60 percent said they did not volunteer because no one asked them. With our community service emphasis, we are asking!

NUTRITIOUS MEALS AVAILABLE

The Food Services Department is committed to improving the health and academic success of students. School breakfast and lunch is served daily at each school site and is analyzed to ensure that meals meet the nutritional needs of students and the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. For additional information about breakfast and lunch menus, Nutrition

Education, and the Food Services Department, please call them at (707) 374-1715.



Beginning in School Year 2022–23, California will become the first state to implement a statewide Universal Meals Program for school children. California's Universal Meals Program (Universal Meals) is designed to build on the foundations of the federal National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP).

SECONDARY PARENTAL CHOICES REGARDING FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION

The River Delta Unified School District has developed a program of instruction in Family Life and HIV/AIDS prevention in accordance with Education Code 51930-51939 and our school board policy 6142.1.

This course in **Family Life** Education will provide students with the information, decision making skills, and resources that encourage thoughtful and responsible behavior, as well as to reinforce the values of home and family. This course is designed to provide your son/daughter with an in-depth understanding of the many health issues facing today's teens.

The unit will cover a variety of topics including dating, relationships free from violence and coercion, the reproductive system anatomy and physiology, pregnancy and childbirth, abstinence, birth control, emergency contraception, sexually transmitted infections, local resources on legal rights and HIV/AIDS education. A variety of teaching techniques will be used including lecture, discussion, videotapes, and written materials.

Approximately 2 weeks before the unit is to be taught, the instructional materials will be available to be examined at the school's main office. Written notice will be sent out ahead of time so that you are aware of the date.

The State of California Department of Education requires that we notify you of the instruction and you are so notified. The law also provides that you may request in writing that your child not attend this portion of the health education class, but instead attend an alternate school activity on the days that family life matters are discussed. *If you do not want your student to participate in the comprehensive sexual health, HIV/AIDS prevention instructional program, please give a handwritten note to your student's PE teacher at least 2 weeks prior to the classes.*

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your student's teacher at: Clarksburg Middle School - (916) 744-1717 or Delta High School – (916) 744-1714, Riverview Middle School-(707) 374-2345 or Rio Vista High School-(707) 374-6336.

NOTICE TO PARENTS, ELIGIBLE STUDENTS AND GUARDIANS COMPLAINT RIGHTS

Education Code 35186 requires that the following notice be posted in each class- room:

1. There should be sufficient textbooks and instructional materials. For there to be sufficient textbooks and instructional materials, each student, including English learners, must have a textbook or instructional material, or both, to use in class and to take home.
2. School facilities must be clean, safe, and maintained in good repair. Good repair means that the facility is maintained in a manner that assures that it is clean, safe and functional as determined by the Office of Public-School Construction.
3. There should be no teacher vacancies or mis-assignments as defined in Education Code 35186(h)(2) and (3).

Mis-assignment means the placement of a certificated employee in a teaching or services position for which the employee does not hold a legally recognized certificate or credential or the placement of a certificated employee in a teaching or services position that the employee is not otherwise authorized by statute to hold. Teacher vacancy means a position to which a single designated certificated employee has not been assigned at the beginning of the year for an entire year or, if the position is for a one-semester course, a position to which a single designated certificated employee has not been assigned at the beginning of a semester for an entire semester.

4. To file a complaint regarding any of the above matters, complaint forms can be obtained at the principal's office or the district office, or can be downloaded from the school district's or California Department of Education's website. You may also download a copy of the California Department of Education Complaint form from the following website: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/eo/ce/wc/index.asp>
- If you have any questions, please contact: Your Principal, the Maintenance & Operations Department (707) 374-1708 or the Superintendent's Office (707-374-1711).

Reference District Board Policy available at <http://riverdelta.org> (or contact your school secretary)

BP 1312 Complaints Concerning the Schools
BP 1312.3 Uniform Complaint Procedures
BP 1312.4 Williams Act Compliance



CHILD CUSTODY ISSUES

Schools in the River Delta Unified School District follow Child Custody decisions made by the Courts. Site Principals cannot modify the Judge's ruling regarding the custody of a child. If an arrangement in a child custody case has changed, a parent or guardian must provide complete copy of legal documents to the school stating this.

PESTICIDE USE AND YOUR RIGHTS

The Healthy Schools Act of 2000 (as amended by Assembly Bill 2865, Chapter 865, Statutes of 2006) requires that all schools and child day care centers provide parents or guardians of children who are enrolled at the facility with annual written notification of expected pesticide use at schools and day care centers. Below is a list of pesticides that may be used during the school year. The notification will identify the active ingredient or ingredients in each pesticide product and will include the Department of Pesticide Regulation's School Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Web site (<http://www.schoolipm.info>) for further information on pesticides and their alternatives.

Parents or guardians may request prior notification of individual pesticide applications at the school or day care center by registering with their students' school site. Beginning September 1, 2020, people listed on this registry will be notified at least 72 hours before pesticides are applied. If you would like to be notified every time a pesticide is applied, then you may obtain a copy of the registration form at your local school site.

Some materials such as baits and non-toxic alternatives do not require notification. Information on all products approved for use is available at each school site.

If you have any questions, please contact John Preston, IPM Coordinator (707) 330-0383 or email to jpreston@rdsd.org. You can find more information regarding these pesticides and pesticide use reduction at the Department of Pesticide Regulation's School IPM Web site at <http://www.schoolipm.info>.

LIST OF APPROVED PESTICIDES THAT **MAY** BE USED IN THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR The first section is materials that may be applied by an outside Pest Control contractor.

MATERIAL ADD ULTRACIDE	ACTIVE INGREDIENT
CYNOFF POWER SPRAY INSECTICIDE	CYPERMETHRIN
BORDER INSECTICIDE	LAMDA-CYHAOTHRIN
DEMAND CS INSECTICIDE	LAMBDA-CYHALOTHRIN
ULTRACIDE	PYRIPROXIFEN, PYRETHRINS, PERMETHRINS
CY-KICK INSECTICIDE	CYFLUTHRIN
PT-565 PLUS XLO INSECTICIDE	OCTYLBICYCLOHEPTENE DICARBOXIMIDE
MASTER LINE INSECTICIDE	BIFENTHRIN 7.9
DRAGNET SFR TERMITICIDE/ INSECTICIDE	PERMETHRIN
PREMISE 75 TERMITICIDE/INSECTICIDE	IMIDACLOPRID
MAXTHOR SC INSECTICIDE	BIFENTHRIN
MERIT 75 WSP	IMIDACLOPRID
CY-KICK CS INSECTICIDE	CYFLUTHRIN
DITRAC RODENTICIDE	DIPHACINONE
TERMIDOR SC TERMITICIDE/INSECTICIDE	FIPRONIL
PHANTOM TERMITICIDE/INSECTICIDE	CHLORFENAPYR
RECRUIT IV TERMITICIDE	NOVIFLUMURON
BORACARE INSECTICIDE TETRAHYDRATE	DISODIUM OCTABORATE
WEED CONTROL	ACTIVE INGREDIENT
SUREGUARD	FLUMIOXAZIN
RANGER PRO 4	GLYPHOSATE
GARLON 4 ULTRA	TRICLOPYR
TREFLAN	TRIFLURALIN
SEDGEHAMMER	HALOSULFURON-METHYL
ORYZALIN PRO 4L	ORYZALIN
DIMENSION 2EW	DITHIOPYR
SPOTLIGHT	FLUROXYPYR
FUSILADE	FLUAZIFOP
GRASS GETTER	SETHOXYDIM
SPEEDZONE SOUTHERN – ACTIVATOR 90	CARFENTRAZONE-ETHYL-/2,4,D-/MECOPROP –P-/DICAMBA ALKYLPHENOL ETHOXYLATE, ALCOHOL ETHOXYLATE
GOPHER/SQUIRREL	ACTIVE INGREDIENT
THE GIANT DESTROYER	SULFUR
THE RODENATOR MACHINE	PROPANE/OXYGEN
GOPHER GETTER GOPHER BAIT	DIPHACINONE
OMEGA GOPHER GRAIN BAIT	STRYCHNINE
P.C.Q.SQUIRREL BAIT	DIPHACINONE



With Rights Come Responsibilities

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

California state law governs the basic operation of public schools, and the Legislature regularly passes new laws affecting the quality and availability of education, as well as laws mandating that local school districts undertake new responsibilities (Board Policy 5145.6).

These laws often require that the school district adequately inform parents and eligible students of the opportunities and protections to which they are entitled. River Delta Unified complies with this by making available to them -- at their school sites and on line -- the Parent & Student Handbook to parents, guardians, and students at the beginning of each school year and by issuing the same publication to new families as they enter the district during the year.

The following pages show summaries of state law provisions with which all parents should be familiar. In most cases, the laws have been summarized, and the precise code number has been provided should parents require more detailed information. "E. C." stands for "Education Code," which is the area of state law that affects education most directly.

Notification of Rights: School boards must notify parents and guardians and eligible students (over age 18) of their rights to service and programs offered by public schools. Parents and eligible students must sign a notification form and return it to school acknowledging they have been informed of their rights. The signature does not indicate that consent to participate in any particular program has either been given or withheld just that you have received it (E.C. 48981, 48982).

Parents' and "eligible students" (over age 18) rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):

- ◆ Parents and eligible student have the right to request information regarding professional qualifications of the child's teacher and paraprofessional.
- ◆ Parents and eligible students have the right to inspect and review their student's educational records.
- ◆ Parents and eligible students have the right to request the correction of school records they believe to be inaccurate or misleading.
- ◆ Parents and eligible students have the right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in their student's educational records, except to the extent the Act authorizes disclosure without consent.
- ◆ Parents and eligible students have the right to file a complaint with the Department of Education claiming a failure by the school district to comply with the provisions of the Act.
- ◆ Disciplinary records are forwarded to subsequent district upon enrollment and request.
- ◆ Military recruiters are given access to secondary school students and directory information unless a parent has opted out of providing this information.
- ◆ If the District discloses directory information from education records without consent, it must also notify the parents and eligible students of: 1) The types of information the district has designated directory information; and 2) The right to opt out of disclosure of directory information.

Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA):

A district must "directly" notify parents of students who are scheduled to participate in activities involving the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information, any non-emergency, invasive examination screening, and the administration of any survey containing one or more of the eight protected areas of information which are:

1. political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's family;
2. mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
3. sex behavior or attitudes;
4. illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
7. religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's family; or,
8. income (unless required to determine eligibility for a program).

PARENT'S RIGHTS BY LAW

Instructional Materials: All primary and supplemental instructional materials and assessments, including textbooks, teacher manuals, films, tapes, and software, will be compiled and stored by the classroom instructor and made available promptly for inspection by a parent in a reasonable time frame or in accordance with school district or county office policies or procedures. (Education Code §49091.10; 51101)

Observation: Upon written request, a parent has the right to observe instruction that involves his or her child or for the purpose of selecting a school in accordance with board policies on inter-district and intra-district transfers. Any observation will be done in accordance with policies established to ensure the safety of pupils and school personnel and to prevent undue interference with instruction or harassment of school personnel. (Education Code §49091.10(b); 51101)

Beliefs: A pupil may not be compelled to affirm or disavow any particular personally or privately held world view, religious doctrine or political opinion. No pupil shall be relieved of any obligation to complete regular classroom assignments. (Education Code §51513; AR5022)

Course of Study: The curriculum, including titles, descriptions, and instructional aims of every course offered by a public school, shall be compiled at least once annually in a prospectus. This prospectus is available for review upon request and for copying at a reasonable charge. (Education Code §49091.14; 49063; AR 5020, AR 5125) Also per EC 66204, a copy of the list of courses certified as satisfying UC/CSU admission requirements is available from your high school counselor.

Career Counseling/Course Selection: Any school personnel acting in a career counseling or course selection capacity to a pupil shall affirmatively explore with the pupil the possibility of careers, or courses leading to careers, that are nontraditional for that pupil's sex. The parents or legal guardian of the pupil shall be notified in a general manner at least once in the manner prescribed by Section 48980, in advance of career counseling and course selection commencing with course selection for grade 7 so that they may participate in the counseling sessions and decisions. (Education Code § 221.5; BP 6164.2) Per AB 428 parents and students must be given admission requirements to UC and CSU by the high school counselor.

Use of Animals in Instruction: A pupil, who has a moral objection to dissecting or otherwise harming or destroying animals as part of an instructional program, has a right to request an alternative educational program. (Education Code §32255-32255.6; BP/AR 5145.8) Service Animals are allowed in school.

Family Life and Sex Education (Instruction in AIDS Prevention and Human Reproductive Instruction): The parents of pupils in grades 7 through 12 are entitled to written notice prior to AIDS prevention instruction being provided. Following the distribution of this annual notice, 10 to 15 days' notice will be given when an outside organization or guest speaker that has not already been noticed is scheduled to present AIDS prevention instruction. Whenever any part of the instruction in health, family life education or sex education conflicts with religious training and beliefs or personal moral convictions of the parent or guardian, the student shall be excused from that part of the instruction upon written parental request. You will be given written notice and have the opportunity to prohibit your child's participation in any instruction in which human reproductive organs and their functions and processes are described, illustrated, or discussed. Materials to be used may be reviewed at reasonable times and places prior to instruction. Parents may obtain from the school, district, or county office, copies of Education Code §51938; AR6142.1).

Academic Expectations: A parent has the right to be informed of the academic expectations (and potential for failure and/or retention) of their child. (Education Code §48070.5; 49067; AR 5122; AR 5123)

Advanced Placement Exam Fees: There is hereby established a grant program for the purpose of awarding grants to cover the costs of advanced placement fees or International Baccalaureate examination fees, or both, for eligible economically disadvantaged high school pupils. (Education Code §52244, AR 6141.5)

Non-Discrimination: The Governing Board is committed to providing equal opportunity for all individuals in district programs and activities.

District programs, activities, and practices shall be free from unlawful discrimination, including discrimination against an individual or group based on 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; a perception of one or more of such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. (20USC1681-1688; 42USC2000d-7; 34CFR106.9; BP 0410)

School Accountability Report Cards: A copy of the school district's accountability report card may be obtained from the school or District Office upon request. (Education Code §35256; BP 0510) AB 1062 stats prior years SARC must be available to you by February 1 of the next year (i.e., the 2020-2021 SARC is to be available by February 2022).

Parent Meeting with Teacher and Principal: Upon reasonable notice, a parent has the right to meet with their child's teacher and principal. (Education Code §51101)

Parent Notification: A parent has the right to be notified concerning their child's classroom and standardized test performances, when their child has been identified as at risk of retention, and to be informed about school rules, attendance policies, dress codes, school visiting procedures and the person to contact should problems arise with their child. (Education Code §48070.5; 51101)

Review of Pupil Records & Notification of Privacy Rights of Pupils: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible student") certain rights with respect to the **student's education records.** (Education Code §49063; 49069; 20USC1232g; 34CFR99.7; BP/AR 5125; AR 5125.3) These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 30 days of the day the school receives a request for access. (In addition, parents of eligible students may receive a copy of information in the pupil's records at a reasonable cost per page.) Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal (or designee) will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate. Parents or eligible students may ask the school to amend a student's record that they believe is inaccurate. They should write the principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the Board of Trustees, a person or company with whom the school has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the school discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll although usually that other district will obtain a "request to release student records" form signed by the parent or eligible student.
4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the *School District* to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA are: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.; Washington, DC 20202-4605.

Release of Student Directory Information The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that the River Delta Unified School District, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, the district may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the district to the contrary in accordance with district procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the district to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications. For example: a playbill, showing your student's role in a drama production; the annual yearbook; honor roll or other recognition lists; graduation programs; sports activity sheets (such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members), college and university recruitment; and military recruiters. Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish year-books.

The federal **Every Student Succeeds Act requires school districts to release the names, addresses, and phone numbers of high school students to the United States military.** The parent/guardian or the eligible student can have the information withheld by sending a written request to their school to withhold directory information. (Education Code §49063, 49073; AR 5125.1)

ENGLISH LEARNER PROGRAMS:

a. **English Language Learner and Structured English Immersion Program:** Children in California public schools shall be taught English by being taught in English. In particular, this shall require that all children be placed in English language classrooms. Children who are English learners shall be educated through sheltered English immersion during a temporary transition period not normally intended to exceed one year. Local schools shall be permitted to place in the same classroom English learners of different ages but whose degree of English proficiency is similar. Local schools shall be encouraged to mix together in the same classroom English learners from different native-language groups but with the same degree of English fluency. Once English learners have acquired a good working knowledge of English, they shall be transferred to English language mainstream classrooms. For more information see pages 19a-d

b. **Notices to parents in language other than English:** Education Code Section 48985 states that when 15 percent or more of the pupils enrolled in a public school that provides instruction in kindergarten or any of grades 1 through 12 speak a single primary language other than English, as determined from the census data submitted to the Department of Education pursuant to Section 52164 in the preceding year, all notices, reports, statements, or records sent to the parent or guardian of any such pupil by the school or school district shall, in addition to being written in English, be written in such primary language, and may be responded to either in English or the primary language.

Student's Rights Regarding Outside Vendors' Surveys & Research:

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) affords parents and student who are 18 or emancipated minors ("eligible students") certain rights regarding the conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams (20USC1232h; AR 5022). These include the right to:

- * Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED)--
 1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
 2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
 3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
 4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
 5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
 6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
 7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or ministers;
 8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

* Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of--

1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.

* Inspect, upon request and before administration or use --

1. Protected information surveys of students;
2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

The River Delta Unified School District has policies regarding these rights. Parents and eligible students will be directly notified at least annually at the start of each school year of the specific or approximate dates of the following activities and provide an opportunity to opt a student out of participating in:

1. Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales or other distribution.
2. Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by ED.
3. Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents and eligible students who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW; Washington, D.C. 20202-4605.

PUPIL BEHAVIOR & DISCIPLINE

Sexual Harassment: The District does not discriminate on the basis of a person's actual or perceived ethnic group, religion, sex, gender or gender identity, color, race, ancestry, national origin, physical or mental disability, age or sexual orientation in any of its policies, practices, procedures, programs or activities. The District's Nondiscrimination Policy complies with the requirements of Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 1990, and other related state and federal laws. (Education Code §231.5; AR5145.7)

Title IX
Complaint Officer
445 Montezuma Street
Rio Vista, CA 94571 (707-374-1700
contactus@rdusd.org

Pupil Discipline Rules: A copy of the school's pupil discipline rules may be obtained by contacting the principal or his/her designee. The parent or guardian of a pupil who has been suspended by a teacher may be required to attend a portion of a school day in his or her child's class. This District forwards educational records including all discipline records, to other schools that have requested the records and in which the student seeks or intends to enroll (34CFR §§99.7 & 99.34 (a)(ii) (Education Code §35291; 48900.1; BP/AR 5144.1) Parents and eligible students who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with: **Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW; Washington, D.C. 20202-4605.**

Open Campus: A school district that has decided to permit pupils enrolled in a high school to leave the school grounds during the lunch period is not liable for the conduct or safety of any pupil during such times the pupil has left the school grounds. (Education Code §44808.5; BP 5112.5) RDUSD has a restricted Open Campus policy. Ask your high school principal. Elementary and middle schools have a closed campus policy.

Parent Liability and Responsibility: Parents are liable for all damages caused by the willful misconduct of their minor children which results in the death or injury to other students, school personnel or school property. (Education Code §48904; Civil Code §1714.1)

Internet Policy: The agreement regarding access by pupils to the Internet and on-line must be reviewed and signed by students, parents each year. (Education Code §48980; 51870.5)

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS FOR ENGLISH LEARNERS AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY ASSESSMENTS FOR CALIFORNIA (ELPAC)

River Delta Unified School District is committed to providing our English Learners with the most positively impactful educational experience possible. These students come to us with a wide range of rich experiences, skills, and strengths. Their potential is limitless. The RDUSD Master Plan for English Learners, which can be found at riverdelta.org under Programs/Departments: English Language Learners, clearly articulates a comprehensive vision for English learners' success and captures the hopes and aspirations of their parents, teacher, support staff, administrative staff, and community members.

To better serve the instructional needs of students who are not yet fluent English speakers, school districts are required to identify students' English proficiency levels. Parents and school staff work together to determine the languages that families and students speak at home using the Home Language Survey. Based on responses on the Home Language Survey, state law requires school districts to assess the English language proficiency of new enrollees who speak a language other than English using the computer-based Initial English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC). The computer based Initial ELPAC must be administered within the first 30 calendar days of enrollment for students newly entering school in TK/K, the state, or the country. Schools will notify parents/guardians of this requirement with a parent letter called the Initial Notification Letter. To measure student progress in learning English, all continuously enrolled English Learners will be administered the computer based Summative ELPAC every year in the spring until the reclassification criteria is met. To find more information about the computer based ELPAC, please contact the school principal. Additional information can be found at <http://www.elpac.org/>.

Exit (Reclassification Criteria)

The goal of the language acquisition program is for students to become proficient in English as rapidly as possible and to meet state academic achievement measures. This district's exit (reclassification) criteria are listed below. (20 U.S.C. Section 6312[e][3][A][vi])

Required Criteria California Education Code [EC] Section 313 (f)	LEA Criteria (Board Approved Reclassification Criteria)
English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPAC)	-Must score a Performance Level of 4 overall
Teacher Evaluation	-Grade K-6: ELA Performance Evaluation -Grades 6/7-12: At or above grade level and minimum of "C" in ELA on most recent report card.
Parental Opinion and Consultation	Parent input sought through in person meeting or phone conference with EL team.

Comparison of Performance in Basic Skills	<p>At least one of the following must be met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Grades 3-12: CAASPP Assessment of meets or exceeds standards in English Language Arts (ELA) -Grades 3-12: MAP Reading Assessment Projected Level 3 or 4 (Class Breakdown Report) -Grades K-12: MAP Reading Assessment "At or Above" district average in ELA, but not below yellow band (Student Profile Report)
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Graduation Rate for English Learners

(20 U.S.C. Section 6312[e][3][A][vi])

District graduation rate displayed on the Graduate Data report is available on the California Department of Education DataQuest Web page at <http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/>.

The approximate 4 year graduation rate for English Learners in RDUSD is 95%. (CDE Dataquest)

Choosing a Language Acquisition Program

Parents or guardians may choose a language acquisition program that best suits their child (EC Section 310). Language acquisition programs are educational programs designed to ensure English acquisition occurs as rapidly and effectively as possible. They provide instruction to English learners based on the state-adopted academic content standards, including English language development (ELD) standards (20 U.S.C. Section 6312[e][3][A][iii],[v]); EC Section 306[c]).

Language Acquisition Programs Offered

Schools are required to offer, at a minimum, a **Structured English Immersion (SEI)** program option (EC Section 305[a][2]). RDUSD offers the following language acquisition programs:

Academic Language and Literacy Program (ALL): All students identified as English learners will be placed in RDUSD’s Academic Language and Literacy (ALL) instructional model and will receive appropriate additional supports to meet their language development needs including integrated and designated English language development (ELD), before and after school supports as appropriate, primary language support when possible, and academic interventions. * (ALL) encompasses the program formerly known as ELM and SEI in RDUSD.

Dual-Language Immersion (DLI) Program: A language acquisition program also referred to as **Two-Way Immersion** that provides language learning and academic instruction for native speakers of English and native speakers of another language with the goals of high academic achievement, first and second language proficiency, and cross-cultural understanding. This program begins in Kindergarten and continues to

sixth grade. (This program is in the second year of implementation in at Bates Elementary School)

***How to Enroll Your Child in a Language Acquisition Program:**

All identified English Learners will be enrolled in the Academic Language and Literacy Program. (ALL) For any other program, please submit a verbal or written request to the office at your child's school.

***How to Request the Establishment of a New Program at a school:**

Parents or guardians may choose a language acquisition program that best suits their child. Schools in which the parents or guardians of 30 students or more per school or the parents or guardians of 20 students or more in any grade request a language acquisition program that is designed to provide language instruction shall be required to offer such a program to the extent possible (20 U.S.C. Section 6312[e][3][A][viii][III]); *EC* Section 310[a]). If interested in a different program from those listed above, please contact Trisha Salomon in the Educational Services Department, at (707) 374-1729 to ask about the process. You can also email her at tsalomon@rdusd.org for the new program request form. (New Program request forms are also located in the school offices).

Parents or guardians may provide input regarding language acquisition programs during the development of the Local Control and Accountability Plan (*EC* Section 52062).

The school remains obligated to take the affirmative steps required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the appropriate actions required by the Equal Education Opportunity Act of 1974 to provide EL students access to its educational programs (20 U.S.C. sections 1703[f], 6312[e][3][A][viii]).

Long-Term English Learner (LTEL)/ At Risk of Becoming a Long-Term English Learner (ARLTEL)

California Education Code 313.2 requires local educational agencies and charter schools to annually notify parents if their child is identified as a Long-Term English Learner (LTEL) or At Risk of Becoming a Long-Term English Learner (ARLTEL).

The State Seal of Biliteracy

The State Seal of Biliteracy (SSB) was established to recognize high school graduates who have attained a high level of proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing in one or more languages in addition to English. (*EC* Section 51460) For more information about the State

Seal of Bilingual Literacy, please reach out to the high school counselors or visit <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/el/er/sealofbilingualliteracy.asp> .

Notices to parents in language other than English: Education Code Section 48985 states that when 15 percent or more of the pupils enrolled in a public school that provides instruction in kindergarten or any of grades 1 through 12 speak a single primary language other than English, as determined from the census data submitted to the Department of Education pursuant to Section 52164 in the preceding year, all notices, reports, statements, or records sent to the parent or guardian of any such pupil by the school or school district shall, in addition to being written in English, be written in such primary language, and may be responded to either in English or the primary language.

Minimum Days and Staff Development Days: The calendar for the school year, which indicates the current schedule of any minimum day or pupil-free staff development day shall be available at the school. A parent will be notified during the school year of any additional minimum days and pupil-free staff development days. (Education Code §48980; BP6111)

Absence for Religious Exercises: Permissive absence may be granted for board-approved religious exercises or instruction. (Education Code §46014; BP/AR 5113)

Absences for Personal Reasons: A pupil may be excused from school for justifiable personal reasons, including but not limited to an appearance in court, observance of a holiday or ceremony of his or her religion, attendance at an employment conference, when the pupil's absence has been requested in writing by the parent or guardian and approved by the principal or a designated representative. A pupil absent from school under this section will be allowed to complete all assignments and tests missed during the absence which can be reasonably provided and, upon satisfactory completion within a reasonable period of time, will be given full credit therefor. The teacher of any class from which a pupil is absent will determine what tests and assignments the pupil will make up. The tests and assignments will be reasonably equivalent to those missed during the absence. (Education Code §48205; BP/AR 5113)

Excused Absences: No pupil will have his/her grade reduced or suffer a loss of academic credit on account of an excused absence when missed assignments and tests that can reasonably be provided are satisfactorily completed within a reasonable period of time. An excused absence is defined in Education Code §48205 as:

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

Unexcused Absence: Parents will be notified in a timely manner if their child is absent from school without permission. (Education Code §51101.4; AR 5148)

Inter/Intra District Attendance Transfer Agreements: A pupil may attend a school within the district other than the pupil's district of residence pursuant to an inter-district agreement. Parents also have the right to request a specific school within the district other than their resident school (such a request does not obligate the school to grant the request). (Education Code §51101) The school district has adopted a policy for inter-district and intra-district attendance. Contact the school for further information and forms. (Education Code §44660, 48209, et seq.) Under certain conditions, a pupil may attend schools of the district within which one or more the parents are employed. Contact the school district in which the parents are employed for further information. (Education Code §48204) (AR 5111.1, AR 5116.1, AR 5117)

Home/Hospital Instruction: Except for pupils receiving individual instruction provided pursuant to a school district or county office-sponsored program, a pupil with a temporary disability which makes attendance in the regular day classes or alternative education program in which the pupil is enrolled impossible or inadvisable shall receive individual instruction at home provided by the school district in which the pupil is deemed to reside. (Education Code § 48206.3; AR 6183)

Notwithstanding compulsory education requirements, a pupil with a temporary disability who is in a hospital or other residential health facility, excluding a state hospital, which is located outside of the school district in which the pupil's parent or guardian resides shall be deemed to have complied with the residency requirements for school attendance in the school district in which the hospital is located. It shall be the primary responsibility of the parent of a pupil with a temporary disability to notify the school district in which the pupil is deemed to reside of the pupil's presence in a qualifying hospital. (Education Code § 48207; 48208; AR 6183)

Alternative School (River Delta High/Elementary School: California state law authorizes all school districts to provide for alternative schools. Section 58500 of the Education Code defines alternative school as a school or separate class group within a school which is operated in a manner designed to:

1. Maximize the opportunity for students to develop the positive values of self-reliance, initiative, kindness, spontaneity, resourcefulness, courage, creativity, responsibility and joy.
2. Recognize that the best learning takes place when the student learns because of his desire to learn.
3. Maintain a learning situation maximizing student self-motivation and encouraging the student in his own time to follow his own interests. These interests may result wholly or in part from a presentation by his teachers or choices of learning projects.
4. Maximize the opportunity for teachers, parents and students to cooperatively develop the learning process and its subject matter. The opportunity shall be a continuous, permanent process.
5. Maximize the opportunity for students, teachers, and parents to continuously react to the changing world, including but not limited to the community in which the school is located.

In the event any parent, pupil, or teacher is interested in further information concerning alternative schools, the county superintendent of schools, the school district, and the principal's office have copies of the law available for your information. This law particularly authorizes interested persons to request the school district to establish alternative school programs in each district. Contact the school for more information (707) 374-1729 (Education Code §58501; BP 6181)

PUPIL HEALTH, SAFETY, MEDICAL TREATMENT & SPECIAL EDUCATION

Tobacco-Free Schools: In the best interests of students, employees and the general public, the Board, therefore, prohibits the use of tobacco products, real or electronic, at all times on district property and in district vehicles. This prohibition applies to all employees, students, visitors and other persons at any school or school-sponsored activity or athletic event. It applies to any meeting or class on any property owned, leased or rented by or from the district. (Health & Safety Code §104420) (Board Policies 3513.3 and 5131.62)

Drug and Alcohol-Free Schools: The Board believes that the maintenance of drug and alcohol-free schools and workplaces is essential to school and district operations. No employee or student shall unlawfully manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, use or be under the influence of any alcoholic beverage, drug or controlled substances as defined in the Controlled Substances act and Code of Regulations before, during or after school hours at school, on a school bus, or at school-related activities or functions. (Board Policy 4020)

Gun-Free Schools: If a student possesses, sells, or otherwise furnishes a firearm at school, on the bus, or at school activities off school grounds that student shall be expelled for one calendar year from the date the expulsion occurred (upon ordering the expulsion, the Board may set an earlier date on a case-by-case basis). In addition, any person who possesses a firearm in a place that the person knows, or reasonably should know, is a school zone shall be punished (by law)...(Gun Free School Zone Act of 1995, Penal Code 262.9 00626.009)

Immunization: A pupil may not be unconditionally admitted to school unless he/she has been fully immunized against diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, Hemophilus influenza type b, varicella (chickenpox) and hepatitis B, in the manner and with immunizing agents approved by the State Department of Public Health. **Under a new law known as SB 277, beginning January 1, 2016** exemptions based on personal beliefs, including religious beliefs, will no longer be an option for the vaccines that are currently required for entry into childcare or school in California. Most families will not be affected by the new law because their children have received all required vaccinations. Personal beliefs exemptions on file for a child already attending childcare or school will remain valid until the child reaches the next immunization checkpoint at kindergarten (including transitional kindergarten) or 7th grade.

For more information about school immunization requirements and resources, please visit the California Department of Public Health's website at www.shotsforschool.org, or contact your local health department or county office of education.

If an outbreak of a communicable disease occurs at a school, the non-immunized student will be excluded for his/her own safety until such time as directed by health officials or the school district. (Health and Safety Code §120325) (Education Code §48216; BP/AR 5141.31)

Physical Examinations: A child may be excluded from physical examination whenever the parents must file annually a written statement with the school that they will not consent to a physical examination of their child. Whenever there is good reason to believe the child is suffering from a recognized contagious or infectious disease, the child will be excluded from school attendance. (School children are examined for vision, hearing, and curvature of the spine at selected grade levels.) (Education Code § 49451).

State law required that for each child enrolled in the first grade, the parent must present within 90 days after entrance, a certificate, signed by a physician, verifying that the child has received a physical examination within the last 18 months. A parent may file with the school district a written objection or waiver stating the reasons why he or she was unable to obtain such services. (Health and Safety Code §124085; 124105) (BP 5141.3)

A pupil may not be tested for behavioral, mental, or emotional evaluation without the informed written consent of his or her parent. (Education Code §49091.12)

Administration of Prescribed Medication: Any student who must take prescribed medication at school and who desires assistance of school personnel must submit a written statement of instruction from the physician and a statement by the parent indicating their desire to have the school assist in administering the physician's instructions.

A parent is required to inform the school if a pupil is on a continuing medication regimen for a non-episodic condition, of the medication being taken, the current dosage, and the name of the supervising physician. With a parent's consent, the school nurse or other designated employees may communicate with the physician with regard to the possible effects of the drug on the child's physical, intellectual and social behavior, as well as possible behavioral signs and symptoms of adverse side effects, omission, or over dosage. (Education Code §49423; AR 5141.21)

Confidential Medical Services: Pupils enrolled in grades 7 through 12 may be excused from school for the purpose of obtaining confidential medical services without the consent of the pupil's parent. (Education Code §46010.1; BP 5113)

Pupil Insurance & Injury to your Child: The District takes appropriate steps to protect your child from injuries. Even so, accidents can and do happen while participating in the normal activities that take place on campus, on school trips and during extra-curricular activities and sports. Students participating in interscholastic sports are

required by State Law to have medical insurance. Your child's school does not provide medical insurance coverage for school accidents. This means that you are responsible for the medical bills if your child gets hurt during school activities. Student accident/health insurance plans are offered to help you pay those bills. If your child does have other health coverage, student insurance may also be used to help pay those charges not covered by your other insurance. If your child qualifies for Medicare, you must obtain from your school's office, a copy of the "Important Notice to Persons on Medicare" prior to applying for student insurance. The "Student Emergency and Health Information" and "Limited Power of Attorney" (for emergency care of an injured student) forms. (Education Code §49472; BP 5143)

Pupil Safety: A parent has the right to have a safe and supportive learning environment for their child. (Education Code §51101)

Psychological Testing/Evaluations: A parent has the right to receive information about psychological testing the school does involving their child and to deny permission to give the test.

Pupils with Exceptional Needs/Disabilities: Pupils with exceptional needs, as defined by Education Code §56026, have a right to a free and appropriate public education. If you believe your child is in need of special education services, contact your school principal or the Educational Services Office Special Education Dept. at (707) 374-1724. In accordance with federal and state laws, the school district will not discriminate against an individual with disabilities as far as involvement in programs and activities and in the use of facilities. If your child needs special accommodations, please contact the school or the Educational Services Office Special Education Dept. (707-374-1729) (Education Code §56301; BP 6164.4)

Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act (Idea): Requires a district to inform parents of the federal law requirement that a free and appropriate education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment (LRE) be offered to qualified pupils with disabilities aged 3 through 21 years; and early intervention services for "at-risk" infants and toddlers" under 3 years of age.

Health Screening Exam for Kindergartners: On and after July 1, 1976, each child eligible for services under this article shall, within 90 days after entrance into the first grade, provide a certificate approved by the department to the school where the child is to enroll documenting that within the prior 18 months the child has received the appropriate health screening and evaluation services specified in Section 124040. A waiver signed by the child's parents or guardian indicating that they do not want, or they are unable to obtain the health screening and evaluation services for their children shall be accepted by the school in lieu of the certificate. (Health & Safety Code §124085, §124100; BP 5141.32)

Oral Health Assessment Requirements:

A. A pupil, while enrolled in kindergarten in a public school, or while enrolled in first grade in a public school if the pupil was not previously enrolled in kindergarten in a public school, shall, no later than May 31 of the school year, present proof of having received an oral health assessment by a licensed dentist, or other licensed or registered dental health professional operating within his or her scope of practice, that was performed no earlier than 12 months prior to the date of the initial enrollment of the pupil.

B. The parent or legal guardian of a pupil may be excused from complying with subdivision (a) by indicating on the form described in subdivision (d) that the oral health assessment could not be completed because of one or more of the reasons 1. Unable to find a dental office that will take my child's insurance plan. 2. Cannot afford an oral health assessment for my child. 3. Do not wish my child to receive an oral health assessment. (Education Code §49452.8; AR 5141.32)

MISCELLANEOUS

Transportation & Determining Hazardous Conditions: To reduce the possibility of accidents during the inclement weather season, the Board of Trustees of the River Delta Unified School District adopted a hazardous condition transportation policy permitting transportation services to be canceled or delayed during the foggy and rainy season. A decision to delay bus transportation shall be reported to the families via Parent Square. Weather conditions will be monitored by the transportation manager and/or supervisor.

The decision to begin transportation or cancel transportation for the day will be made. This decision will then be reported to the families through Parent Square. (Education Code §35831.5; AR 3543).

Free or Reduced-Price Meals: Needy pupils are entitled to free or reduced price meals. (Education Code §49510, et seq.; BP 3553))

Personal Property: The schools, district or the county offices are not responsible for personal property. Students are discouraged from bringing non-instructional items to school.

Participation in Advisory Councils: A parent has the right to participate as a member of a school site council, a parental advisory council, or a site-based management leadership team in accordance with the rules governing parent membership of those organizations. (Education Code §51101)

Volunteering Time and Resources: Parents may volunteer their time and resources for the improvement of school facilities and programs under the supervision of district employees. A school plan is available to parents which describes opportunities to participate in professional development. (Education Code §51101; 44670.5)

Program Improvement: The Board of Trustees recognizes its responsibility to protect the public's interest in schools and keep the district focused on learning and achievement for all students. Whenever any district school performs below the statewide average on indicators of student achievement and is participating in the state's Immediate Intervention/Underperforming Schools Program (II/USP), the Board shall provide additional assistance to the school in order to improve student performance. The Board shall closely monitor student performance in each participating school. The Superintendent or designee shall provide the Board with regular reports on the status and results of improvement efforts. (20USC6316; AR 0520.2, AR 0520.3)

Pesticide Use on School Sites: Schools are required to notify parents, guardians and school employees about pesticides used at their schools. The annual notification letter will be sent to staff and parents the first month of school from Facilities Department (7079) 374-1708 (Education Code §17612; AR 3514.2).

Asbestos Management Plan: The school district has a current management plan for asbestos containing materials for all district schools. The plan is available for inspection at the office during normal business hours. Please call the Director of Facilities (916-417-3408 or 707-374-1708). (40CFR763.93; AR 3514)

Uniform Complaint Procedure: Federal law requires the school district and county office to adopt and notify parents and guardians of the District's complaint procedures for state and federal educational programs, including the opportunity to appeal to the state department. The Act requires the school district to investigate and seek to resolve complaints at the local level and to follow uniform complaint procedures pursuant to state regulations when addressing complaints alleging unlawful discrimination for failure to comply with the law in adult basic education, consolidated categorical aid programs, migrant education, vocational education, child care and development programs, child nutrition programs and special education programs. The Board has adopted a complaint procedure for programs and services covered by this Act. A copy of the Uniform Complaint Procedure is available at all schools and offices and may be obtained from the District Office (707-374-1700 and <http://riverdelta.org>). (5CCR4622; BP/AR 1312-1312.4)

Sex Offender Information: In order to protect students while they are traveling to and from school, attending school or at a school-related activity, the Board of Trustees believes it is important that the District respond appropriately when a law enforcement agency contacts the District about registered sex offenders who may reside or work within District boundaries. This District will work closely with law enforcement to coordinate the receipt of information. If and when law enforcement notifies the District of the residency or employment of a sex offender within District boundaries, the District will immediately notify all appropriate staff. If an identified sex offender is seen on or nearby school grounds or around any student, staff will immediately contact the appropriate District official. A staff member may also immediately inform local law enforcement about the presence of the sex offender. If the District believes that parents/guardians should also be notified of the presence of either a "high risk" or "serious" sex offender in the community, the District will contact local law enforcement and ask that agency to conduct a broader notification. It is law enforcement's responsibility to assess the relative danger of an offender and to notify the public upon determination of a risk. Only if local law enforcement refuses to conduct such a notification, and only after consultation with District legal counsel, may the District initiate any notification to parents/guardians about the presence of a sex offender. You, as a parent/ guardian, have the right to contact your local law enforcement agency for sex offender information. The 900 Sex Offender Identification Line and Megan's Law CD-ROM are additional tools to protect you and your family. For more information about how to use them, contact your local law enforcement agency, or write: **California Department of Justice; P. O. Box 944255; Sacramento, CA 94244-2550 or view the Attorney General's Home Page at <http://www.caag.state.ca.us>**

Mental Health Services for Students

Student mental health services are available by contacting the school site's principal or counselor, who will contact the appropriate staff member or support service organization to refer the student for mental health services. [E.C. 49428]

RDUSD GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

(4/12/22)

The following chart indicates the types of disciplinary action that may apply to each type of misbehavior infraction. In each instance, a corrective action is stated. **The administrator shall, however, determine whether a specific infraction warrants the corrective action described on the chart.** Corrective action taken by the administrator shall take place after progressive discipline interventions by the teacher fail to bring about proper conduct. These corrective measures are intended to assist in maintaining consistent student discipline.

Arson

Any offense 5 days suspension, notification of law enforcement agencies, possible recommendation for expulsion.

Bio-Hazardous Materials / Bodily Waste

Any offense 5 days suspension

Bullying/Cyber Bullying - No student or group of students shall, through physical, written, verbal, or other means, harass, sexually harass, threaten, intimidate, cyberbully, cause bodily injury to, or commit hate violence against any other student or school personnel.

Cyberbullying includes the transmission of harassing communications, direct threats, or other harmful texts, sounds, or images on the Internet, social media, or other technologies using a telephone, computer, or any wireless communication device. Cyberbullying also includes breaking into another person's electronic account and assuming that person's identity in order to damage that person's reputation.

Any offense 1 to 5 days suspension, and possible file for expulsion or alternative means of correction.

Cell Phones or Other Electronic Devices: Cell phones or any device for texting may only be used before 1st period, at lunch, and after 7th period, regardless of a student's schedule. These items should be turned off and should not be seen or heard in classrooms at any time. Cameras and video cameras are not allowed at any time for personal use. iPods or any other MP3 players, or music devices, are allowed during lunch, passing periods, before and after school. If they are used without permission, devices will be confiscated by staff and/or administrators. Neither staff nor administration will investigate the loss of these items. Refusing to turn over a cell phone when requested to do so by a staff member will be treated as an act of defiance.

1st offense Parent May be required to meet with an administrator to pick up the device and detention may be assigned.

2nd offense Parent will be required to meet with an administrator to pick up the device and detention may be assigned.

3rd offense Parent will be required to meet with an administrator to pick up the device, detention may be assigned.

Conduct / Inappropriate Behavior On Campus: Any behavior that disrupts the educational process, including inappropriate displays of affection. Students are expected to adhere to all school rules while anywhere on campus, including classrooms, library and cafeteria. Students are expected to behave in a positive and respectful manner at all times.

1st offense Teacher-initiated consequences, may include contacting parent.

2nd offense Student referred for discipline to administrator, teacher will contact with parent.

3rd offense Parent, teacher, student, and administrator conference. Student may enter into a behavior contract.

Defiance of School Authority / Disruption of School Activities

1st offense Detention, or alternative means of correction, contact with parent

2nd offense Parent, teacher, student, and administrator conference. Student may enter into a behavior contract.

3rd offense 1 to 5 days suspension, after school detention and/or alternative means of correction

Dress / Appearance-Appropriate Clothing

The following guidelines shall be in effect for all school-related activities. School administration reserves the right to amend this policy at any time. Please refer to RDUSD Board Policy for further information.

Clothes must be neat, clean, and appropriate for school, according to the guidelines below. No items shall be worn to school which are distracting to the learning environment, revealing, obscene, vulgar, related to tobacco, drugs or alcohol, or related to a group or gang which may provoke others to acts of violence or cause others to be intimidated by fear of violence, as determined by school administrators.

- a. No gang related or affiliated attire.
- b. Shirts must touch/reach waist of pants.
- c. No sexually suggestive attire (including playboy items) or extremely brief attire.
- d. Shoes must be worn at all times. No open toed shoes or flip flops allowed in elementary schools.
- e. No clothing, jewelry and other accessories (such as spikes and chains), which present a safety hazard.
- f. Ankle monitors must be kept covered and out of sight.

Violations of these rules may result in a student having to change clothing or to be sent home to change, contact made with parents, and/or

possible suspension for repeat violations.

1st offense	Change of clothing and parent notification
2nd offense	Detention, requirement to stay in office until changed, and parent notification
3rd offense	1 day suspension for defiance

Failure to Serve Detention

Any offense Double detention hours, assign lunch detention, or alternative means of correction.

Fire Alarms / Setting False Alarms

Any offense 1-3 days suspension and notification of law enforcement, or alternative means of correction. If the fire department charges the school with a fine for the false alarm, this fee will be passed on to the student and/or the student's parents.

Forgery

Any offense Alternative means of correction and parent notification

Gambling

Any offense Alternative means of correction and parent notification

Gang or Tagging Related Behavior: signing, clothing, tagging (includes displaying tagging on personal property)

1st offense	1 to 3 days suspension, confiscation of items and notification of parent. Confiscated items may not be returned. Documentation of gang-related activity with local law enforcement or alternative means of correction
2nd offense	3 to 5 days suspension for defiance and parent/ guardian notification, or alternative means of correction
3rd offense	5 days suspension and possible file for expulsion. Exclusion from all school activities for the remainder of the school year, or alternative means of correction.

Harassment / Hazing: Includes but is not limited to the filming and/or recording of any student behavior for purposes of harassment (Board Policy 5131.2(a)).

Any offense 1 to 5 days suspension, and possible file for expulsion or alternate means of correction.

Hate Crimes / Racial or Religious Slurs: 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. Including but is not limited to the filming and/or recording of any student behavior for purposes of harassment (Board Policy 5131.2(a)).

Any offense 3 to 5 days suspension, and possible file for expulsion.
Elimination from being a member or participant of any extra-curricular academic or athletic program, club or school-related event for the remaining of the school year
Public statement of apology to the victim and school community
Alternative means of correction/Restorative justice assignment

Illegal Substances: Drugs, Alcohol, Drug Paraphernalia

All RDUSD campuses are Drug-Free Zones. Penalties for any offender will be doubled by law enforcement agencies. All students are expected to adhere to school policy and make good decisions if confronted with situations where drugs or alcohol are present. Students may be subject to disciplinary action if present where drugs and or alcohol are in possession or use during school or any school activity.

Use / Possession

1st offense	5 days suspension, possible notification of law enforcement agencies and possible recommendation for expulsion. Any felony possession will constitute immediate recommendation for expulsion. Alternative means of correction. Loss of extra-curricular eligibility for the season.
2nd offense	5 days suspension, recommendation for expulsion, and possible notification of law enforcement agencies. Restriction from participation in all extra-curricular activities for the remainder of the school year.

Sales / Possession for Sale / Furnishing

1st offense 5 days suspension, recommendation for expulsion and notification of law enforcement agencies.

Internet, Misuse of: Internet Agreements are available in the back to school packet. All students are expected to be responsible and ethical users of school computers, as defined in the Internet Agreement. Students who lose their Internet access and are enrolled in a computer class requiring daily use of computers and the Internet will be dis-enrolled from that class and receive a W-F.

- 1st Offense Alternative means of correction
- 2nd Offense Possible suspension and/or loss of Internet Access for the rest of the school year through school computers

Leaving Campus Without a Pass, or Privilege

- 1st offense Detention and/or alternative means of correction
- 2nd offense Detention and/or alternative means of correction and parent notification
- 3rd offense Detention and/or alternative means of correction and parent notification

Laser Pointers

Possession and use of laser pointers without specific permission from a teacher is strictly prohibited per Penal Code: 417.27

- 1st offense Detention, confiscation of items, or alternative means of correction confiscated items may not be returned
- 2nd offense 1-3 days suspension, confiscation of items (confiscated items may not be returned), or alternative means of correction
- 3rd offense 3-5 days suspension, confiscation of items (confiscated items may not be returned), or alternative means of correction

Racial or Religious Slurs / Habitual Profanity or Obscene Language / Verbal Abuse / Insubordination / Vulgarity / Obscene Acts: The use of profanity and/or obscene language is not conducive to a safe and secure learning environment. Students are expected to refrain from the use of profanity while on the school campus, just as they would be expected to when reporting for employment.

- 1st offense 1 to 5 days suspension and/or alternative means of correction
- 2nd offense 3 to 5 days suspension, parent conference
- 3rd offense 5 days off campus suspension, possible recommendation for expulsion

SCHOOL RECORDS

Falsification of Records and /or Official Documents:

- Altering documents affecting academic records
- Forging signatures of authorization
- Falsifying information on an official academic document, grade report, letter of permission, letter of application, letter of recommendation, petition, drop/add form, ID card, or any other official school document

Unauthorized Access or Attempt to Access Computerized Academic or Administrative Records or Systems:

- Altering computer records
- Modifying computer programs or systems
- Releasing or dispensing information gained via unauthorized access, or interfering with the use or availability of computer systems or information

1st offense Student receives a zero on the assignment, if applicable
Teacher notifies student, parent, and administrator. Student may receive a grade of "F" for the current quarter
Student is ineligible for California Scholastic Federation (CSF) for the semester of occurrence

2nd offense (in any class)
Teacher notifies student, parent and administrator
Student is dropped from the class
Student receives a grade of "F" for the semester
5 Day Suspension
Student is ineligible for California Scholastic Federation (CSF) for the semester of occurrence
Suspension and cause may be reported to colleges in the school report
Possible recommendation for expulsion and notification of Law Enforcement

Sexual Harassment

For the purpose of student discipline, sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome and/or offensive sexual behavior. It includes visual, verbal, or physical behaviors that make a student feel uncomfortable.

Types of Illegal Conduct

Visual

- unwelcome sexual flirtations or propositions
- passing suggestive or obscene letters, notes, or invitations
- displaying sexual drawings or pictures

Types of Illegal Conduct - Cont.

- mooning or flashing

- making obscene gestures
- giving sexually suggestive looks or leers
- any of the above transmitted electronically, including but not limited to phone, voicemail, email, text messages and social networking

Verbal

- making requests for sexual favors
- making or threatening reprisals after a negative response to sexual favors
- sexist or sexual jokes
- telling graphic commentaries about an individual's body
- saying sexually degrading terms used to describe an individual, including but not limited to words like: fag, gay, queer, homo, ho, pimp
- making comments about a person's sex life
- holding overly personal conversation
- making noises such as "wolf whistles"
- refusing to take "no" for an answer

Physical

- touching
- grabbing
- rubbing
- physically blocking a person's movement
- assault
- rape

What To Do When / If It Happens

- Respond to the conduct immediately in a way that clearly communicates the behavior is NOT wanted.
- Immediately report the incident to a staff member; tell what, when and where it happened

Consequences

Penalties for engaging in prohibited conduct will range from counseling to expulsion, depending on the student's previous discipline record and the severity of the offense. A student found to have committed or attempted to commit a criminal sexual assault or battery will be referred for expulsion and to the police.

STUDENT CONFLICTS

What to Do to Avoid a Fight

Let your administrator know if you are feeling unsafe, threatened, or harassed. These feelings may interfere with your ability to concentrate on your schoolwork, so it is important that the problem be addressed quickly.

Avoid listening to and spreading gossip. The only thing that comes from gossip is hurt feelings and anger. Adopt the attitude, "If I did not hear it with my own ears, it is not worth being hurt or angry about it."

Don't confront another student when angry. The other person may react defensively, unsure of what you might do. Ask for help from a teacher or staff member, if you are not able to forget about or ignore what the other student is doing that makes you angry.

Make an appointment with your counselor or administrator. He/she can give you additional suggestions, meet with the other student, or arrange a meeting for the students involved in order to solve the problem in a safe and non-confrontational manner.

Definitions and Consequences Associated with Fighting

Breaking Up or Preventing a Fight is characterized by seeking help from the nearest adult; encouraging the students to walk away; surrounding a friend and moving him/her away from the argument.

Defending One's Self is characterized by putting hands up to block or prevent a hit; putting hands out to keep the other student at a distance; repeating over and over the desire to NOT fight; calling for help; turning away; walking away.

Threatening / Initiating Fights may be treated the same as fighting. The following behaviors communicate a willingness to fight: remaining engaged in an argument; stepping towards the other student; clenching fists; throwing down items being held, i.e. backpack, books, etc.; and removing outer garments, such as a jacket; threats via text message, posts on social networking sites or any electronic means.

Threatening School Employees or Property - Threats of any school employee or their property, including via the Internet, will be referred to law enforcement, alternative means of corrections, and may result in a 5 day suspension and possible recommendation for expulsion.

Fighting is defined as mutual combat, contributing to or perpetuating the fight.

- 1st offense 1-5 days suspension
- 2nd offense 5 days suspension/contact with law enforcement/possible recommendation for expulsion
- 3rd offense 5 days suspension/contact with law enforcement/recommendation for expulsion

Causing Serious Injury

- 1st offense 5 days suspension, possible recommendation for expulsion, possible notification of law enforcement agencies.

Jumping In is joining in on another student’s fight or contributing to / or escalating the fight.

- 1st offense 1-5 days suspension, possible recommendation for expulsion

Running to or Being Present to Watch a Fight escalates the potential of a fight occurring and the seriousness of the fight.

- 1st offense 1 day suspension or alternative means of correction and parent notification
- 2nd offense 3 days suspension
- 3rd offense 5 days suspension

Social Networking Sites/Electronic Communication

Any posts on a social networking site or electronic communication that come to the attention of school staff and are deemed as bullying, threatening, harassing or hazing, and cause the campus to be an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment for another student will be disciplined according to the procedures spelled out in this handbook for cyber bullying.

Substitute Teacher, Misbehavior with

Students are expected to behave respectfully to all substitutes in order that learning may continue in the teacher’s absence. A referral from a substitute teacher will be considered as defiance of school authority and disruption of school activities. Discipline will be at the discretion of administration.

Theft / Extortion /Burglary (includes possession of stolen property)

- Any offense 1-5 days suspension/possible recommendation for expulsion and possible notification of law enforcement agencies or alternative means of correction.

Tobacco, Use / Possession

River Delta Unified School District is a non-smoking/no tobacco use district. All tobacco products will be confiscated. All forms of tobacco paraphernalia including e-cigarettes or other vapor-emitting devices with or without nicotine content are prohibited on campus and at any school event.

- 1st offense Alternative means of correction and parent notification
- 2nd offense 1-3 day suspension
- 3rd offense 3-5 days suspension

Vandalism / Tagging / Graffiti to School or Private Property on Campus

- 1st offense 1 to 5 days suspension, possible notification to law enforcement and or alternate means of correction.

Weapons / Explosives / Dangerous Objects, Use / Possession

- 1st offense 5 days suspension, possible recommendation for expulsion and possible notification of law enforcement agencies

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Statement of Philosophy

The primary goal of any educational institution should be to enhance the learning environment and to promote the pursuit of intellectual excellence. River Delta Unified School District is committed to reinforcing the values of our democratic society, teaching citizenship and providing an environment conducive to ethical behavior. We strive to maintain a climate in which honesty, courtesy, consideration, integrity and a concern for others are highly valued.

Academic dishonesty is an assault upon the basic integrity and meaning of an educational institution. Cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities are serious acts, which erode an institution’s educational role and deny the value of education not only for the perpetrators, but also for the entire community. It is expected that students will understand and subscribe to the idea of academic integrity and will bear individual responsibility for their work. Materials (written or otherwise) submitted to fulfill academic requirements must represent a student’s own efforts. In turn students will gain new information and insights, and increase their capacity to think, reason and

solve problems.

The fundamental purpose of this policy is to emphasize that any act of academic dishonesty attempted by any student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Consequences for any form of academic dishonesty are severe. The teacher's professional judgment will determine whether an act of academic dishonesty has occurred. Students are reminded not to give the instructor cause to consider their actions in violation of this policy.

The following list delineates a variety of methods of cheating.

LEVEL 1 - Cheating & Plagiarism

Cheating: Cheating is the unauthorized use of study guides or another person's work, research, information in any academic exercise.

Cheating includes but is not limited to:

- Letting someone else see one's own or another's paper during an examination, test or quiz.
- Looking at someone else's paper during an examination, test or quiz.
- Using unauthorized notes of any kind during an examination, test or quiz.
- Talking, texting with another student or using any unauthorized electronic device during an examination, test or quiz,
- Tampering with an examination after it has been corrected, then returning it for more credit than deserved.
- Allowing others to do the research and writing of an assigned paper.
- Copying work that was assigned to be done independently, or allowing someone else to copy one's own or another's work.
- Giving test information to other students in other periods of the same course.
- Fabricating or altering laboratory data.
- Unauthorized collaborating on an academic assignment.
- Erasing a student's name on an assignment, replacing it with one's own name and turning it in as one's own work.

In some courses, teachers may announce that it is allowed for students to work together. In such cases, all students should write up their work independently of one another, unless the teacher has given explicit approval to a common write-up. Students should always write on their paper the names of the other students with whom they have collaborated.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is academic theft. It refers to the use of another's ideas or words without proper attribution or credit. An author's work is his/her property and should be respected by documentation. Credit must be given:

- For every direct quotation.
- When a work is paraphrased or summarized in whole or in part in your own words.
- For information which is not common knowledge, i.e. it appears in several sources about the subject.
- Digital images, sounds and film clips.

Collusion: Any student who knowingly or intentionally helps another student to perform any of the above acts of cheating or plagiarism, for which the primary objective is academic dishonesty, is subject to discipline for academic dishonesty. There is NO distinction between those who cheat and plagiarize and those who willingly allow it to occur.

Disciplinary Procedures for Cheating and Plagiarism

1st	Occurrence	Student receives a zero on the assignment Teacher notifies student, parent and administrator Student is counseled to find acceptable ways to meet course obligations
2nd	Occurrence in any class	Student receives a zero on the assignment Teacher notifies student, parent and administrator Student may receive 75% of the points earned for that quarter as his/her final quarter grade Student is ineligible for California Scholastic Federation (CSF) for the semester of occurrence Student is counseled to find acceptable ways to meet course obligations
3rd	Occurrence in any class	Student receives a zero on the assignment Teacher notifies student, parent and administrator Student may receive 50% of the points earned for that quarter as his/her final quarter grade Student is ineligible for California Scholastic Federation (CSF) for the semester of occurrence Student is counseled to find acceptable ways to meet course obligations

LEVEL 2 - Obtaining an Unfair Advantage:

- Stealing, reproducing, circulating or otherwise gaining access to exam, test or quiz materials prior to the time authorized by the instructor.
- Stealing, destroying, defacing or concealing library materials with the purpose of depriving others of their use.
- Retaining, possessing, using or circulating previously given assessment materials, when those materials clearly indicate that they are to be returned to the instructor at the conclusion of the assessment.
- Intentionally obstructing or interfering with another student's academic work, or otherwise undertaking activity with the purpose of creating or obtaining an unfair academic advantage over other students' academic work.
- Turning in a complete essay, presentation or creative work written or created by another person.

Collusion: Any student who knowingly or intentionally helps another student to perform any of the above acts or obtaining an unfair advantage for which the primary objective is academic dishonesty is subject to discipline for academic dishonesty. There is NO distinction between those who cheat and plagiarize and those who willingly allow it to occur.

Disciplinary Procedures for Obtaining an Unfair Advantage

1st	Occurrence	Student receives a zero on the assignment Teacher notifies student, parent and administrator Student may receive 50% of the points earned for that quarter as his/her final quarter grade Student is ineligible for California Scholastic Federation (CSF) for the semester of occurrence
2nd	Occurrence in any class	Teacher notifies student, parent and administrator Student is dropped from the class Student may receive a grade of "F" for the semester Student is ineligible for California Scholastic Federation (CSF) for the semester of occurrence

A student who commits a Level 2 offense and violates this policy again in the same class will receive a W-F for the semester and be assigned either to study hall or the Academic Support Center for the remainder of the semester.

Teacher Responsibilities:

- Make the school policy and your classroom policy known to all students. Be specific about your expectations for tests, papers and homework.
- Remind students of the policy and the consequences associated with it prior to giving any assessment by reading the following script:

"The Academic Integrity Policy is intended to establish high standards of honesty and ethical behavior among our students. It applies to every homework assignment, project, quiz and test you take – including this one. Any act of academic dishonesty, including cheating, plagiarism, obtaining an unfair advantage or collusion, is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Keep in mind the severe school-wide consequences that are in place. Be sure your backpacks, purses, etc. are away from your desks, and your desktops are clear of all things except those things for which I have given you permission."

- Be fair to all students: test on test days; prepare students for and give notice of tests; be available to students before work is due.
- Secure the test environment by expecting that all backpacks, purses, etc. should be moved away from desks.
- Provide constant supervision during testing periods. Actively proctor your test activity.
- Deal with students privately. Protect the student's right to confidentiality at all times.
- Keep all assessments in a secure location in which students cannot gain access.

Student Responsibilities:

- Manage your time, so you have adequate time to study for any tests or quizzes.
- Take responsibility to find out what material will be covered on the test or quiz.
- During a test or quiz, make sure your paper cannot be seen by anyone else. Keep your eyes on your own paper or straight ahead. Do not talk. Ask your teacher, not your neighbor, questions of clarification.
- After a test or quiz, do not discuss questions with other students until ALL students have taken it.
- Do not copy other's homework. Do not work with other students on assignments unless the teacher gives instructions to do so or unless the teacher tells the entire class to work together.
- Do not copy or paraphrase others without a footnote.
- In fairness to all, students are urged to make the teacher aware if cheating is taking place, including the kind of cheating and the methods being used.

Parent Responsibilities

- Reinforce the values of honesty and integrity.

- Reduce the pressure for “success at any cost.” Give your child support even when his or her best effort does not earn an “A”.
- Be aware of homework. Help your child protect study time. Try to provide a good study environment with a place to work that is free from distractions. Be sensitive to your child’s study time frame.
- If you have questions about your child’s work, please contact your child’s teachers

Adapted from:

University of California Santa Barbara

The Academic Dishonesty Question: A Guide to an Answer through Education, Prevention, Adjudication, and Obligation

Copies of this document are available, free of charge, in the Office of the Dean of Students

<http://hep.ucsb.edu/people/hnn/conduct/disq.html>

The University of Pennsylvania

Resources, Policy and Procedure Handbook

<http://www.vpul.upenn.edu/osl/acadint.html>

Policies - Academic Honesty

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GROUNDS FOR SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION

A pupil shall not be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion unless the superintendent of the school district or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has:

ARTICLE 1. Suspension or Expulsion [48900 - 48927]

(Article 1 repealed and added by Stats. 1983, Ch. 498, Sec. 91.)

48900.

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

- (a) (1) Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person.
- (2) Willfully used force or violence upon the person of another, except in self-defense.
- (b) Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished a firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object, unless, in the case of possession of an object of this type, the pupil had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, which is concurred in by the principal or the designee of the principal.
- (c) Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, or otherwise furnished, or been under the influence of, a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind.
- (d) Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind, and either sold, delivered, or otherwise furnished to a person another liquid, substance, or material and represented the liquid, substance, or material as a controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant.
- (e) Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.
- (f) Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property.
- (g) Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property.
- (h) Possessed or used tobacco, or products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets, and betel. However, this section does not prohibit the use or possession by a pupil of the pupil’s own prescription products.
- (i) Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.
- (j) Unlawfully possessed or unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell drug paraphernalia, as defined in Section 11014.5 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (k) (1) Disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties.
- (2) Except as provided in Section 48910, a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 3, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts enumerated in paragraph (1), and those acts shall not constitute grounds for a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to be recommended for expulsion. This paragraph is inoperative on July 1, 2020.
- (3) Except as provided in Section 48910, commencing July 1, 2020, a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 5, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts specified in paragraph (1), and those acts shall not constitute grounds for a pupil enrolled in

kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to be recommended for expulsion.

- (4) Except as provided in Section 48910, commencing July 1, 2020, a pupil enrolled in any of grades 6 to 8, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts specified in paragraph (1). This paragraph is inoperative on July 1, 2025.
- (l) Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.
- (m) Possessed an imitation firearm. As used in this section, "imitation firearm" means a replica of a firearm that is so substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm.
- (n) Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault as defined in Section 261, 266c, 286, 287, 288, or 289 of, or former Section 288a of, the Penal Code or committed a sexual battery as defined in Section 243.4 of the Penal Code.
- (o) Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a pupil who is a complaining witness or a witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for purposes of either preventing that pupil from being a witness or retaliating against that pupil for being a witness, or both.
- (p) Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma.
- (q) Engaged in, or attempted to engage in, hazing. For purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" means a method of initiation or preinitiation into a pupil organization or body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution, that is likely to cause serious bodily injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to a former, current, or prospective pupil. For purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" does not include athletic events or school-sanctioned events.
- (r) Engaged in an act of bullying. For purposes of this subdivision, the following terms have the following meanings:
- (1) "Bullying" means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, and including one or more acts committed by a pupil or group of pupils as defined in Section 48900.2, 48900.3, or 48900.4, directed toward one or more pupils that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:
- (A) Placing a reasonable pupil or pupils in fear of harm to that pupil's or those pupils' person or property.
- (B) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience a substantially detrimental effect on the pupil's physical or mental health.
- (C) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with the pupil's academic performance.
- (D) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with the pupil's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.
- (2) (A) "Electronic act" means the creation or transmission originated on or off the schoolsite, by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager, of a communication, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
- (i) A message, text, sound, video, or image.
- (ii) A post on a social network internet website, including, but not limited to:
- (I) Posting to or creating a burn page. "Burn page" means an internet website created for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1).
- (II) Creating a credible impersonation of another actual pupil for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1). "Credible impersonation" means to knowingly and without consent impersonate a pupil for the purpose of bullying the pupil and such that another pupil would reasonably believe, or has reasonably believed, that the pupil was or is the pupil who was impersonated.
- (III) Creating a false profile for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1). "False profile" means a profile of a fictitious pupil or a profile using the likeness or attributes of an actual pupil other than the pupil who created the false profile.
- (iii) (I) An act of cyber sexual bullying.
- (II) For purposes of this clause, "cyber sexual bullying" means the dissemination of, or the solicitation or incitement to disseminate, a photograph or other visual recording by a pupil to another pupil or to school personnel by means of an electronic act that has or can be reasonably predicted to have one or more of the effects described in subparagraphs (A) to (D), inclusive, of paragraph (1). A photograph or other visual recording, as described in this subclause, shall include the depiction of a nude, semi-nude, or sexually explicit photograph or other visual recording of a minor where the minor is identifiable from the photograph, visual recording, or other electronic act.
- (III) For purposes of this clause, "cyber sexual bullying" does not include a depiction, portrayal, or image that has any serious literary, artistic, educational, political, or scientific value or that involves athletic events or school-sanctioned activities.
- (B) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) and subparagraph (A), an electronic act shall not constitute pervasive conduct solely on the basis that it has been transmitted on the internet or is currently posted on the internet.
- (3) "Reasonable pupil" means a pupil, including, but not limited to, a pupil with exceptional needs, who exercises average care, skill, and judgment in conduct for a person of that age, or for a person of that age with the pupil's exceptional needs.
- (s) A pupil shall not be suspended or expelled for any of the acts enumerated in this section unless the act is related to a school activity or school attendance occurring within a school under the jurisdiction of the superintendent of the school district or principal or occurring within any other school district. A pupil may be suspended or expelled for acts that are enumerated in this section and related to a school activity or school attendance that occur at any time, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
- (1) While on school grounds.
- (2) While going to or coming from school.
- (3) During the lunch period whether on or off the campus.
- (4) During, or while going to or coming from, a school-sponsored activity.

(t) A pupil who aids or abets, as defined in Section 31 of the Penal Code, the infliction or attempted infliction of physical injury to another person may be subject to suspension, but not expulsion, pursuant to this section, except that a pupil who has been adjudged by a juvenile court to have committed, as an aider and abettor, a crime of physical violence in which the victim suffered great bodily injury or serious bodily injury shall be subject to discipline pursuant to subdivision (a).

(u) As used in this section, "school property" includes, but is not limited to, electronic files and databases.

(v) For a pupil subject to discipline under this section, a superintendent of the school district or principal is encouraged to provide alternatives to suspension or expulsion, using a research-based framework with strategies that improve behavioral and academic outcomes, that are age appropriate and designed to address and correct the pupil's specific misbehavior as specified in Section 48900.5.

(w) (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that alternatives to suspension or expulsion be imposed against a pupil who is truant, tardy, or otherwise absent from school activities.

(2) It is further the intent of the Legislature that the Multi-Tiered System of Supports, which includes restorative justice practices, trauma-informed practices, social and emotional learning, and schoolwide positive behavior interventions and support, may be used to help pupils gain critical social and emotional skills, receive support to help transform trauma-related responses, understand the impact of their actions, and develop meaningful methods for repairing harm to the school community.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 279, Sec. 2. (SB 419) Effective January 1, 2020.)

48900.1.

(a) The governing board of each school district may adopt a policy authorizing teachers to require the parent or guardian of a pupil who has been suspended by a teacher pursuant to Section 48910 for reasons specified in subdivision (i) or (k) of Section 48900, to attend a portion of a schoolday in the classroom of his or her child or ward. The policy shall take into account reasonable factors that may prevent compliance with a notice to attend. The attendance of the parent or guardian shall be limited to the class from which the pupil was suspended.

(b) The policy shall be adopted pursuant to the procedures set forth in Sections 35291 and 35291.5. Parents and guardians shall be notified of this policy prior to its implementation. A teacher shall apply any policy adopted pursuant to this section uniformly to all pupils within the classroom.

The adopted policy shall include the procedures that the district will follow to accomplish the following:

(1) Ensure that parents or guardians who attend school for the purposes of this section meet with the school administrator or his or her designee after completing the classroom visitation and before leaving the schoolsite.

(2) Contact parents or guardians who do not respond to the request to attend school pursuant to this section.

(c) If a teacher imposes the procedure pursuant to subdivision (a), the principal shall send a written notice to the parent or guardian stating that attendance by the parent or guardian is pursuant to law. This section shall apply only to a parent or guardian who is actually living with the pupil.

(d) A parent or guardian who has received a written notice pursuant to subdivision (c) shall attend class as specified in the written notice. The notice may specify that the attendance of the parent or guardian be on the day the pupil is scheduled to return to class, or within a reasonable period of time thereafter, as established by the policy of the board adopted pursuant to subdivision (a).

(Amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 895, Sec. 9. Effective January 1, 2005.)

48900.2.

In addition to the reasons specified in Section 48900, a pupil may be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion if the superintendent or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has committed sexual harassment as defined in Section 212.5.

For the purposes of this chapter, the conduct described in Section 212.5 must be considered by a reasonable person of the same gender as the victim to be sufficiently severe or pervasive to have a negative impact upon the individual's academic performance or to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. This section shall not apply to pupils enrolled in kindergarten and grades 1 to 3, inclusive.

(Added by Stats. 1992, Ch. 909, Sec. 2. Effective January 1, 1993.)

48900.3.

In addition to the reasons set forth in Sections 48900 and 48900.2, a pupil in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive, may be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion if the superintendent or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has caused, attempted to cause, threatened to cause, or participated in an act of, hate violence, as defined in subdivision (e) of Section 233.

(Amended by Stats. 1999, Ch. 646, Sec. 25. Effective January 1, 2000.)

48900.4.

In addition to the grounds specified in Sections 48900 and 48900.2, a pupil enrolled in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive, may be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion if the superintendent or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has intentionally engaged in harassment, threats, or intimidation, directed against school district personnel or

pupils, 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 either school personnel or pupils by creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment.

(Amended by Stats. 2002, Ch. 643, Sec. 2. Effective January 1, 2003.)

48900.5.

(a) Suspension, including supervised suspension as described in Section 48911.1, shall be imposed only when other means of correction fail to bring about proper conduct. A school district may document the other means of correction used and place that documentation in the pupil's record, which may be accessed pursuant to Section 49069.7. However, a pupil, including an individual with exceptional needs, as defined in Section 56026, may be suspended, subject to Section 1415 of Title 20 of the United States Code, for any of the reasons enumerated in Section 48900 upon a first offense, if the principal or superintendent of schools determines that the pupil violated subdivision (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) of Section 48900 or that the pupil's presence causes a danger to persons.

(b) Other means of correction include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) A conference between school personnel, the pupil's parent or guardian, and the pupil.

(2) Referrals to the school counselor, psychologist, social worker, child welfare attendance personnel, or other school support service personnel for case management and counseling.

(3) Study teams, guidance teams, resource panel teams, or other intervention-related teams that assess the behavior, and develop and implement individualized plans to address the behavior in partnership with the pupil and the pupil's parents.

(4) Referral for a comprehensive psychosocial or psychoeducational assessment, including for purposes of creating an individualized education program, or a plan adopted pursuant to Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Sec. 794(a)).

(5) Enrollment in a program for teaching prosocial behavior or anger management.

(6) Participation in a restorative justice program.

(7) A positive behavior support approach with tiered interventions that occur during the schoolday on campus.

(8) After school programs that address specific behavioral issues or expose pupils to positive activities and behaviors, including, but not limited to, those operated in collaboration with local parent and community groups.

(9) Any of the alternatives described in Section 48900.6.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 497, Sec. 61. (AB 991) Effective January 1, 2020.)

48900.6.

As part of or instead of disciplinary action prescribed by this article, the principal of a school, the principal's designee, the superintendent of schools, or the governing board may require a pupil to perform community service on school grounds or, with written permission of the parent or guardian of the pupil, off school grounds, during the pupil's nonschool hours. For the purposes of this section, "community service" may include, but is not limited to, work performed in the community or on school grounds in the areas of outdoor beautification, community or campus betterment, and teacher, peer, or youth assistance programs. This section does not apply if a pupil has been suspended, pending expulsion, pursuant to Section 48915. However, this section applies if the recommended expulsion is not implemented or is, itself, suspended by stipulation or other administrative action.

(Amended (as amended by Stats. 1995, Ch. 972) by Stats. 2000, Ch. 225, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 2001.)

48900.7.

(a) In addition to the reasons specified in Sections 48900, 48900.2, 48900.3, and 48900.4, a pupil may be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion if the superintendent or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has made terroristic threats against school officials or school property, or both.

(b) For the purposes of this section, "terroristic threat" shall include any statement, whether written or oral, by a person who willfully threatens to commit a crime which will result in death, great bodily injury to another person, or property damage in excess of one thousand dollars (\$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, which, on its face and under the circumstances in which it is made, is so unequivocal, unconditional, immediate, and specific as to convey to the person threatened, a gravity of purpose and an immediate prospect of execution of the threat, and thereby causes that person reasonably to be in sustained fear for his or her own safety or for his or her immediate family's safety, or for the protection of school district property, or the personal property of the person threatened or his or her immediate family.

(Added by Stats. 1997, Ch. 405, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 1998.)

48900.8.

For purposes of notification to parents, and for the reporting of expulsion or suspension offenses to the department, each school district shall specifically identify, by offense committed, in all appropriate official records of a pupil each suspension or expulsion of that pupil for the commission of any of the offenses set forth in Section 48900, 48900.2, 48900.3, 48900.4, 48900.7, or 48915.

(Amended by Stats. 2005, Ch. 677, Sec. 33. Effective October 7, 2005.)

48900.9.

(a) The superintendent of a school district, the principal of a school, or the principal's designee may refer a victim of, witness to, or other pupil affected by, an act of bullying, as defined in paragraph (1) of subdivision (r) of Section 48900, committed on or after January 1, 2015, to the school counselor, school psychologist, social worker, child welfare attendance personnel, school nurse, or other school support service personnel for case management, counseling, and participation in a restorative justice program, as appropriate.

(b) A pupil who has engaged in an act of bullying, as defined in paragraph (1) of subdivision (r) of Section 48900, may also be referred to the school counselor, school psychologist, social worker, child welfare attendance personnel, or other school support service personnel for case management and counseling, or for participation in a restorative justice program, pursuant to Section 48900.5.

(Amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 303, Sec. 104. (AB 731) Effective January 1, 2016.)

48901.

(a) No school shall permit the smoking or use of a tobacco product by pupils of the school while the pupils are on campus, or while attending school-sponsored activities or while under the supervision and control of school district employees.

(b) The governing board of any school district maintaining a high school shall take all steps it deems practical to discourage high school students from smoking.

(c) For purposes of this section, "smoking" has the same meaning as in subdivision (c) of Section 22950.5 of the Business and Professions Code.

(d) For purposes of this section, "tobacco product" means a product or device as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 22950.5 of the Business and Professions Code.

(Amended by Stats. 2016, 2nd Ex. Sess., Ch. 7, Sec. 9. (SB 5 2x) Effective June 9, 2016.)

48901.1.

Notwithstanding Section 47610 or any other law, commencing July 1, 2020, the following provisions apply to charter schools:

(a) A pupil enrolled in a charter school in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 5, inclusive, shall not be suspended on the basis of having disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties, and those acts shall not constitute grounds for a pupil enrolled in a charter school in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to be recommended for expulsion.

(b) A pupil enrolled in a charter school in any of grades 6 to 8, inclusive, shall not be suspended on the basis of having disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties. This subdivision is inoperative on July 1, 2025.

(Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 279, Sec. 3. (SB 419) Effective January 1, 2020.)

48901.5.

(a) The governing board of each school district, or its designee, may regulate the possession or use of any electronic signaling device that operates through the transmission or receipt of radio waves, including, but not limited to, paging and signaling equipment, by pupils of the school district while the pupils are on campus, while attending school-sponsored activities, or while under the supervision and control of school district employees.

(b) No pupil shall be prohibited from possessing or using an electronic signaling device that is determined by a licensed physician and surgeon to be essential for the health of the pupil and use of which is limited to purposes related to the health of the pupil.

(Amended by Stats. 2002, Ch. 253, Sec. 2. Effective January 1, 2003.)

48901.7.

(a) The governing body of a school district, a county office of education, or a charter school may adopt a policy to limit or prohibit the use by its pupils of smartphones while the pupils are at a schoolsite or while the pupils are under the supervision and control of an employee or employees of that school district, county office of education, or charter school.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a pupil shall not be prohibited from possessing or using a smartphone under any of the following circumstances:

(1) In the case of an emergency, or in response to a perceived threat of danger.

(2) When a teacher or administrator of the school district, county office of education, or charter school grants permission to a pupil to possess or use a smartphone, subject to any reasonable limitation imposed by that teacher or administrator.

(3) When a licensed physician and surgeon determines that the possession or use of a smartphone is necessary for the health or well-being of the pupil.

(4) When the possession or use of a smartphone is required in a pupil's individualized education program.

(Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 42, Sec. 2. (AB 272) Effective January 1, 2020.)

48902.

(a) The principal of a school or the principal's designee shall, before the suspension or expulsion of any pupil, notify the appropriate law enforcement authorities of the county or city in which the school is situated, of any acts of the pupil that may violate Section 245 of the Penal Code.

- (b) The principal of a school or the principal's designee shall, within one schoolday after suspension or expulsion of any pupil, notify, by telephone or any other appropriate method chosen by the school, the appropriate law enforcement authorities of the county or the school district in which the school is situated of any acts of the pupil that may violate subdivision (c) or (d) of Section 48900.
- (c) Notwithstanding subdivision (b), the principal of a school or the principal's designee shall notify the appropriate law enforcement authorities of the county or city in which the school is located of any acts of a pupil that may involve the possession or sale of narcotics or of a controlled substance or a violation of Section 626.9 or 626.10 of the Penal Code. The principal of a school or the principal's designee shall report any act specified in paragraph (1) or (5) of subdivision (c) of Section 48915 committed by a pupil or nonpupil on a schoolsite to the city police or county sheriff with jurisdiction over the school and the school security department or the school police department, as applicable.
- (d) A principal, the principal's designee, or any other person reporting a known or suspected act described in subdivision (a) or (b) is not civilly or criminally liable as a result of making any report authorized by this article unless it can be proven that a false report was made and that the person knew the report was false or the report was made with reckless disregard for the truth or falsity of the report.
- (e) The principal of a school or the principal's designee reporting a criminal act committed by a schoolage individual with exceptional needs, as defined in Section 56026, shall ensure that copies of the special education and disciplinary records of the pupil are transmitted, as described in Section 1415(k)(6) of Title 20 of the United States Code, for consideration by the appropriate authorities to whom he or she reports the criminal act. Any copies of the pupil's special education and disciplinary records may be transmitted only to the extent permissible under the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232g et seq.).

(Amended by Stats. 2013, Ch. 76, Sec. 41. (AB 383) Effective January 1, 2014.)

48903.

- (a) Except as provided in subdivision (g) of Section 48911 and in Section 48912, the total number of days for which a pupil may be suspended from school shall not exceed 20 schooldays in any school year, unless for purposes of adjustment, a pupil enrolls in or is transferred to another regular school, an opportunity school or class, or a continuation education school or class, in which case the total number of schooldays for which the pupil may be suspended shall not exceed 30 days in any school year.
- (b) For the purposes of this section, a school district may count suspensions that occur while a pupil is enrolled in another school district toward the maximum number of days for which a pupil may be suspended in any school year.

(Amended by Stats. 1998, Ch. 527, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 1999.)

48904.

- (a) (1) Notwithstanding Section 1714.1 of the Civil Code, the parent or guardian of any minor whose willful misconduct results in injury or death to any pupil or any person employed by, or performing volunteer services for, a school district or private school or who willfully cuts, defaces, or otherwise injures in any way any property, real or personal, belonging to a school district or private school, or personal property of any school employee, shall be liable for all damages so caused by the minor. The liability of the parent or guardian shall not exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), adjusted annually for inflation. The parent or guardian shall be liable also for the amount of any reward not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), adjusted annually for inflation, paid pursuant to Section 53069.5 of the Government Code. The parent or guardian of a minor shall be liable to a school district or private school for all property belonging to the school district or private school loaned to the minor and not returned upon demand of an employee of the school district or private school authorized to make the demand.
- (2) The Superintendent annually shall compute an adjustment of the liability limits prescribed by this subdivision to reflect the percentage change in the average annual value of the Implicit Price Deflator for State and Local Government Purchases of Goods and Services for the United States, as published by the United States Department of Commerce for the 12-month period ending in the prior fiscal year. The annual adjustment shall be rounded to the nearest one hundred dollars (\$100).
- (b) (1) Any school district or private school whose real or personal property has been willfully cut, defaced, or otherwise injured, or whose property is loaned to a pupil and willfully not returned upon demand of an employee of the school district or private school authorized to make the demand may, after affording the pupil his or her due process rights, withhold the grades, diploma, and transcripts of the pupil responsible for the damage until the pupil or the pupil's parent or guardian has paid for the damages thereto, as provided in subdivision (a).
- (2) The school district or private school shall notify the parent or guardian of the pupil in writing of the pupil's alleged misconduct before withholding the pupil's grades, diploma, or transcripts pursuant to this subdivision. When the minor and parent are unable to pay for the damages, or to return the property, the school district or private school shall provide a program of voluntary work for the minor in lieu of the payment of monetary damages. Upon completion of the voluntary work, the grades, diploma, and transcripts of the pupil shall be released.
- (3) The governing board of each school district or governing body of each private school shall establish rules and regulations governing procedures for the implementation of this subdivision. The procedures shall conform to, but are not necessarily limited to, those procedures established in this code for the expulsion of pupils.

(Amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 589, Sec. 10. (AB 2662) Effective January 1, 2013.)

48904.3.

- (a) Upon receiving notice that a school district has withheld the grades, diploma, or transcripts of any pupil pursuant to Section 48904, any school district to which the pupil has transferred shall likewise withhold the grades, diploma, or transcripts of the pupil as authorized by that section, until the time that it receives notice, from the district that initiated the decision to withhold, that the decision has been rescinded under the terms of that section.
 - (b) Any school district that has decided to withhold a pupil's grades, diploma, or transcripts pursuant to Section 48904 shall, upon receiving notice that the pupil has transferred to any school district in this state, notify the parent or guardian of the pupil in writing that the decision to withhold will be enforced as specified in subdivision (a).
 - (c) For purposes of this section and Section 48904, "school district" is defined to include any county superintendent of schools.
 - (d) This section and Section 48904 shall also apply to the state special schools, as described in subdivision (a) of Section 48927.
- (Amended by Stats. 2002, Ch. 492, Sec. 2. Effective January 1, 2003.)
48905.

An employee of a school district whose person or property is injured or damaged by the willful misconduct of a pupil who attends school in such district, when the employee or the employee's property is (1) located on property owned by the district, (2) being transported to or from an activity sponsored by the district or a school within the district, (3) present at an activity sponsored by such district or school, or (4) otherwise injured or damaged in retaliation for acts lawfully undertaken by the employee in execution of the employee's duties, may request the school district to pursue legal action against the pupil who caused the injury or damage, or the pupil's parent or guardian pursuant to Section 48904.

(Repealed and added by Stats. 1983, Ch. 498, Sec. 91. Effective July 28, 1983.)
48906.

When a principal or other school official releases a minor pupil to a peace officer for the purpose of removing the minor from the school premises, the school official shall take immediate steps to notify the parent, guardian, or responsible relative of the minor regarding the release of the minor to the officer, and regarding the place to which the minor is reportedly being taken, except when a minor has been taken into custody as a victim of suspected child abuse, as defined in Section 11165.6 of the Penal Code, or pursuant to Section 305 of the Welfare and Institutions Code. In those cases, the school official shall provide the peace officer with the address and telephone number of the minor's parent or guardian. The peace officer shall take immediate steps to notify the parent, guardian, or responsible relative of the minor that the minor is in custody and the place where he or she is being held. If the officer has a reasonable belief that the minor would be endangered by a disclosure of the place where the minor is being held, or that the disclosure would cause the custody of the minor to be disturbed, the officer may refuse to disclose the place where the minor is being held for a period not to exceed 24 hours. The officer shall, however, inform the parent, guardian, or responsible relative whether the child requires and is receiving medical or other treatment. The juvenile court shall review any decision not to disclose the place where the minor is being held at a subsequent detention hearing.

(Amended by Stats. 2005, Ch. 279, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 2006.)
48907.

- (a) Pupils of the public schools, including charter schools, shall have the right to exercise freedom of speech and of the press including, but not limited to, the use of bulletin boards, the distribution of printed materials or petitions, the wearing of buttons, badges, and other insignia, and the right of expression in official publications, whether or not the publications or other means of expression are supported financially by the school or by use of school facilities, except that expression shall be prohibited which is obscene, libelous, or slanderous. Also prohibited shall be material that so incites pupils as to create a clear and present danger of the commission of unlawful acts on school premises or the violation of lawful school regulations, or the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school.
- (b) The governing board or body of each school district or charter school and each county board of education shall adopt rules and regulations in the form of a written publications code, which shall include reasonable provisions for the time, place, and manner of conducting such activities within its respective jurisdiction.
- (c) Pupil editors of official school publications shall be responsible for assigning and editing the news, editorial, and feature content of their publications subject to the limitations of this section. However, it shall be the responsibility of a journalism adviser or advisers of pupil publications within each school to supervise the production of the pupil staff, to maintain professional standards of English and journalism, and to maintain the provisions of this section.
- (d) There shall be no prior restraint of material prepared for official school publications except insofar as it violates this section. School officials shall have the burden of showing justification without undue delay prior to a limitation of pupil expression under this section.
- (e) "Official school publications" refers to material produced by pupils in the journalism, newspaper, yearbook, or writing classes and distributed to the student body either free or for a fee.
- (f) This section does not prohibit or prevent the governing board or body of a school district or charter school from adopting otherwise valid rules and regulations relating to oral communication by pupils upon the premises of each school.
- (g) An employee shall not be dismissed, suspended, disciplined, reassigned, transferred, or otherwise retaliated against solely for acting to protect a pupil engaged in the conduct authorized under this section, or refusing to infringe upon conduct that is protected by

this section, the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, or Section 2 of Article I of the California Constitution.
(Amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 142, Sec. 2. (SB 438) Effective January 1, 2011.)

48908.

All pupils shall comply with the regulations, pursue the required course of study, and submit to the authority of the teachers of the schools.
(Repealed and added by Stats. 1983, Ch. 498, Sec. 91. Effective July 28, 1983.)

48909.

When a petition is requested in juvenile court or a complaint is filed in any court alleging that a minor of compulsory school attendance age or any pupil currently enrolled in a public school in a grade to and including grade 12 is a person who (a) has used, sold, or possessed narcotics or other hallucinogenic drugs or substances; (b) has inhaled or breathed the fumes of, or ingested any poison classified as such in Section 4160 of the Business and Professions Code; or (c) has committed felonious assault, homicide, or rape the district attorney may, within 48 hours, provide written notice to the superintendent of the school district of attendance, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 827 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, and to the pupil's parent or guardian.

(Amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 1202, Sec. 1.)

48910.

- (a) A teacher may suspend any pupil from class, for any of the acts enumerated in Section 48900, for the day of the suspension and the day following. The teacher shall immediately report the suspension to the principal of the school and send the pupil to the principal or the designee of the principal for appropriate action. If that action requires the continued presence of the pupil at the school site, the pupil shall be under appropriate supervision, as defined in policies and related regulations adopted by the governing board of the school district. As soon as possible, the teacher shall ask the parent or guardian of the pupil to attend a parent-teacher conference regarding the suspension. If practicable, a school counselor or a school psychologist may attend the conference. A school administrator shall attend the conference if the teacher or the parent or guardian so requests. The pupil shall not be returned to the class from which he or she was suspended, during the period of the suspension, without the concurrence of the teacher of the class and the principal.
- (b) A pupil suspended from a class shall not be placed in another regular class during the period of suspension. However, if the pupil is assigned to more than one class per day this subdivision shall apply only to other regular classes scheduled at the same time as the class from which the pupil was suspended.
- (c) A teacher may also refer a pupil, for any of the acts enumerated in Section 48900, to the principal or the designee of the principal for consideration of a suspension from the school.

(Amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 895, Sec. 10. Effective January 1, 2005.)

48911.

- (a) The principal of the school, the principal's designee, or the district superintendent of schools may suspend a pupil from the school for any of the reasons enumerated in Section 48900, and pursuant to Section 48900.5, for no more than five consecutive schooldays.
- (b) Suspension by the principal, the principal's designee, or the district superintendent of schools shall be preceded by an informal conference conducted by the principal, the principal's designee, or the district superintendent of schools between the pupil and, whenever practicable, the teacher, supervisor, or school employee who referred the pupil to the principal, the principal's designee, or the district superintendent of schools. At the conference, the pupil shall be informed of the reason for the disciplinary action, including the other means of correction that were attempted before the suspension as required under Section 48900.5, and the evidence against him or her, and shall be given the opportunity to present his or her version and evidence in his or her defense.
- (c) A principal, the principal's designee, or the district superintendent of schools may suspend a pupil without affording the pupil an opportunity for a conference only if the principal, the principal's designee, or the district superintendent of schools determines that an emergency situation exists. "Emergency situation," as used in this article, means a situation determined by the principal, the principal's designee, or the district superintendent of schools to constitute a clear and present danger to the life, safety, or health of pupils or school personnel. If a pupil is suspended without a conference before suspension, both the parent and the pupil shall be notified of the pupil's right to a conference and the pupil's right to return to school for the purpose of a conference. The conference shall be held within two schooldays, unless the pupil waives this right or is physically unable to attend for any reason, including, but not limited to, incarceration or hospitalization. The conference shall then be held as soon as the pupil is physically able to return to school for the conference.
- (d) At the time of suspension, a school employee shall make a reasonable effort to contact the pupil's parent or guardian in person or by telephone. If a pupil is suspended from school, the parent or guardian shall be notified in writing of the suspension.
- (e) A school employee shall report the suspension of the pupil, including the cause for the suspension, to the governing board of the school district or to the district superintendent of schools in accordance with the regulations of the governing board of the school district.
- (f) (1) The parent or guardian of a pupil shall respond without delay to a request from school officials to attend a conference regarding his or her child's behavior.
(2) No penalties shall be imposed on a pupil for failure of the pupil's parent or guardian to attend a conference with school officials.

Reinstatement of the suspended pupil shall not be contingent upon attendance by the pupil's parent or guardian at the conference.

(g) In a case where expulsion from a school or suspension for the balance of the semester from continuation school is being processed by the governing board of the school district, the district superintendent of schools or other person designated by the district superintendent of schools in writing may extend the suspension until the governing board of the school district has rendered a decision in the action. However, an extension may be granted only if the district superintendent of schools or the district superintendent's designee has determined, following a meeting in which the pupil and the pupil's parent or guardian are invited to participate, that the presence of the pupil at the school or in an alternative school placement would cause a danger to persons or property or a threat of disrupting the instructional process. If the pupil is a foster child, as defined in Section 48853.5, the district superintendent of schools or the district superintendent's designee, including, but not limited to, the educational liaison for the school district, shall also invite the pupil's attorney and an appropriate representative of the county child welfare agency to participate in the meeting. If the pupil or the pupil's parent or guardian has requested a meeting to challenge the original suspension pursuant to Section 48914, the purpose of the meeting shall be to decide upon the extension of the suspension order under this section and may be held in conjunction with the initial meeting on the merits of the suspension.

(h) (1) For purposes of this section, a "principal's designee" is one or more administrators at the schoolsite specifically designated by the principal, in writing, to assist with disciplinary procedures.

(2) In the event that there is not an administrator in addition to the principal at the schoolsite, a certificated person at the schoolsite may be specifically designated by the principal, in writing, as a "principal's designee," to assist with disciplinary procedures. The principal may designate only one person at a time as the principal's primary designee for the school year.

(3) An additional person meeting the requirements of this subdivision may be designated by the principal, in writing, to act for purposes of this article when both the principal and the principal's primary designee are absent from the schoolsite. The name of the person, and the names of any person or persons designated as "principal's designee," shall be on file in the principal's office.

(i) This section is not an exception to, nor does it place any limitation on, Section 48903.

(Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 445, Sec. 1. (AB 667) Effective January 1, 2018.)

48911.1.

(a) A pupil suspended from a school for any of the reasons enumerated in Sections 48900 and 48900.2 may be assigned, by the principal or the principal's designee, to a supervised suspension classroom for the entire period of suspension if the pupil poses no imminent danger or threat to the campus, pupils, or staff, or if an action to expel the pupil has not been initiated.

(b) Pupils assigned to a supervised suspension classroom shall be separated from other pupils at the schoolsite for the period of suspension in a separate classroom, building, or site for pupils under suspension.

(c) School districts may continue to claim apportionments for each pupil assigned to and attending a supervised suspension classroom provided as follows:

(1) The supervised suspension classroom is staffed as otherwise provided by law.

(2) Each pupil has access to appropriate counseling services.

(3) The supervised suspension classroom promotes completion of schoolwork and tests missed by the pupil during the suspension.

(4) Each pupil is responsible for contacting his or her teacher or teachers to receive assignments to be completed while the pupil is assigned to the supervised suspension classroom. The teacher shall provide all assignments and tests that the pupil will miss while suspended. If no classroom work is assigned, the person supervising the suspension classroom shall assign schoolwork.

(d) At the time a pupil is assigned to a supervised suspension classroom, a school employee shall notify, in person or by telephone, the pupil's parent or guardian. Whenever a pupil is assigned to a supervised suspension classroom for longer than one class period, a school employee shall notify, in writing, the pupil's parent or guardian.

(e) This section does not place any limitation on a school district's ability to transfer a pupil to an opportunity school or class or a continuation education school or class.

(f) Apportionments claimed by a school district for pupils assigned to supervised suspension shall be used specifically to mitigate the cost of implementing this section.

(Added by Stats. 1994, Ch. 1016, Sec. 2. Effective January 1, 1995.)

48911.2.

(a) If the number of pupils suspended from school during the prior school year exceeded 30 percent of the school's enrollment, the school should consider doing at least one of the following:

(1) Implement the supervised suspension program described in Section 48911.1.

(2) Implement an alternative to the school's off-campus suspension program, which involves a progressive discipline approach that occurs during the schoolday on campus, using any of the following activities:

(A) Conferences between the school staff, parents, and pupils.

(B) Referral to the school counselor, psychologist, child welfare attendance personnel, or other school support service staff.

(C) Detention.

(D) Study teams, guidance teams, resource panel teams, or other assessment-related teams.

(b) At the end of the academic year, the school may report to the district superintendent in charge of school support services, or other comparable administrator if that position does not exist, on the rate of reduction in the school's off-campus suspensions and the plan or activities used to comply with subdivision (a).

(c) It is the intent of the Legislature to encourage schools that choose to implement this section to examine alternatives to off-campus suspensions that lead to resolution of pupil misconduct without sending pupils off campus. Schools that use this section should not be precluded from suspending pupils to an off-campus site.

(Added by Stats. 1994, Ch. 1016, Sec. 3. Effective January 1, 1995.)

48911.5.

The site principal of a contracting nonpublic, nonsectarian school providing services to individuals with exceptional needs under Sections 56365 and 56366, shall have the same duties and responsibilities with respect to the suspension of pupils with previously identified exceptional needs prescribed for the suspension of pupils under Section 48911.

(Added by Stats. 1985, Ch. 907, Sec. 3. Effective September 23, 1985.)

48912.

(a) The governing board may suspend a pupil from school for any of the acts enumerated in Section 48900 for any number of schooldays within the limits prescribed by Section 48903.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 35145 of this code and Section 54950 of the Government Code, the governing board of a school district shall, unless a request has been made to the contrary, hold closed sessions if the board is considering the suspension of, disciplinary action against, or any other action against, except expulsion, any pupil, if a public hearing upon that question would lead to the giving out of information concerning a school pupil which would be in violation of Article 5 (commencing with Section 49073) of Chapter 6.5.

(c) Before calling a closed session to consider these matters, the governing board shall, in writing, by registered or certified mail or by personal service, notify the pupil and the pupil's parent or guardian, or the pupil if the pupil is an adult, of the intent of the governing board to call and hold a closed session. Unless the pupil or the pupil's parent or guardian shall, in writing, within 48 hours after receipt of the written notice of the board's intention, request that the hearing be held as a public meeting, the hearing to consider these matters shall be conducted by the governing board in closed session. In the event that a written request is served upon the clerk or secretary of the governing board, the meeting shall be public, except that any discussion at that meeting which may be in conflict with the right to privacy of any pupil other than the pupil requesting the public meeting, shall be in closed session.

(Amended by Stats. 1992, Ch. 1360, Sec. 4. Effective January 1, 1993.)

48912.5.

The governing board of a school district may suspend a pupil enrolled in a continuation school or class for a period not longer than the remainder of the semester if any of the acts enumerated in Section 48900 occurred. The suspension shall meet the requirements of Section 48915.

(Added by Stats. 1983, Ch. 498, Sec. 91. Effective July 28, 1983.)

48913.

The teacher of any class from which a pupil is suspended may require the suspended pupil to complete any assignments and tests missed during the suspension.

(Repealed and added by Stats. 1983, Ch. 498, Sec. 91. Effective July 28, 1983.)

48913.5.

(a) Upon the request of a parent, a legal guardian or other person holding the right to make educational decisions for the pupil, or the affected pupil, a teacher shall provide to a pupil in any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, who has been suspended from school for two or more schooldays the homework that the pupil would otherwise have been assigned.

(b) If a homework assignment that is requested pursuant to subdivision (a) and turned into the teacher by the pupil either upon the pupil's return to school from suspension or within the timeframe originally prescribed by the teacher, whichever is later, is not graded before the end of the academic term, that assignment shall not be included in the calculation of the pupil's overall grade in the class.

(Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 779, Sec. 3. (AB 982) Effective January 1, 2020.)

48914.

Each school district is authorized to establish a policy that permits school officials to conduct a meeting with the parent or guardian of a suspended pupil to discuss the causes, the duration, the school policy involved, and other matters pertinent to the suspension.

(Amended by Stats. 1987, Ch. 134, Sec. 6. Effective July 7, 1987.)

48915.

(a) (1) Except as provided in subdivisions (c) and (e), the principal or the superintendent of schools shall recommend the expulsion of a pupil for any of the following acts committed at school or at a school activity off school grounds, unless the principal or superintendent determines that expulsion should not be recommended under the circumstances or that an alternative means of correction would address the conduct:

(A) Causing serious physical injury to another person, except in self-defense.

(B) Possession of any knife or other dangerous object of no reasonable use to the pupil.

(C) Unlawful possession of any controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, except for either of the following:

(i) The first offense for the possession of not more than one avoirdupois ounce of marijuana, other than concentrated cannabis.

(ii) The possession of over-the-counter medication for use by the pupil for medical purposes or medication prescribed for the pupil by a physician.

(D) Robbery or extortion.

(E) Assault or battery, as defined in Sections 240 and 242 of the Penal Code, upon any school employee.

(2) If the principal or the superintendent of schools makes a determination as described in paragraph (1), he or she is encouraged to do so as quickly as possible to ensure that the pupil does not lose instructional time.

(b) Upon recommendation by the principal or the superintendent of schools, or by a hearing officer or administrative panel appointed pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 48918, the governing board of a school district may order a pupil expelled upon finding that the pupil committed an act listed in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) or in subdivision (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) of Section 48900. A decision to expel a pupil for any of those acts shall be based on a finding of one or both of the following:

(1) Other means of correction are not feasible or have repeatedly failed to bring about proper conduct.

(2) Due to the nature of the act, the presence of the pupil causes a continuing danger to the physical safety of the pupil or others.

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

(1) Possessing, selling, or otherwise furnishing a firearm. This subdivision does not apply to an act of possessing a firearm if the pupil had obtained prior written permission to possess the firearm from a certificated school employee, which is concurred in by the principal or the designee of the principal. This subdivision applies to an act of possessing a firearm only if the possession is verified by an employee of a school district. The act of possessing an imitation firearm, as defined in subdivision (m) of Section 48900, is not an offense for which suspension or expulsion is mandatory pursuant to this subdivision and subdivision (d), but it is an offense for which suspension, or expulsion pursuant to subdivision (e), may be imposed.

(2) Brandishing a knife at another person.

(3) Unlawfully selling a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code.

(4) Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 48900 or committing a sexual battery as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 48900.

(5) Possession of an explosive.

(d) The governing board of a school district shall order a pupil expelled upon finding that the pupil committed an act listed in subdivision (c), and shall refer that pupil to a program of study that meets all of the following conditions:

(1) Is appropriately prepared to accommodate pupils who exhibit discipline problems.

(2) Is not provided at a comprehensive middle, junior, or senior high school, or at any elementary school.

(3) Is not housed at the schoolsite attended by the pupil at the time of suspension.

(e) Upon recommendation by the principal or the superintendent of schools, or by a hearing officer or administrative panel appointed pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 48918, the governing board of a school district may order a pupil expelled upon finding that the pupil, at school or at a school activity off of school grounds violated subdivision (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), or (m) of Section 48900, or Section 48900.2, 48900.3, or 48900.4, and either of the following:

(1) That other means of correction are not feasible or have repeatedly failed to bring about proper conduct.

(2) That due to the nature of the violation, the presence of the pupil causes a continuing danger to the physical safety of the pupil or others.

(f) The governing board of a school district shall refer a pupil who has been expelled pursuant to subdivision (b) or (e) to a program of study that meets all of the conditions specified in subdivision (d). Notwithstanding this subdivision, with respect to a pupil expelled pursuant to subdivision (e), if the county superintendent of schools certifies that an alternative program of study is not available at a site away from a comprehensive middle, junior, or senior high school, or an elementary school, and that the only option for placement is at another comprehensive middle, junior, or senior high school, or another elementary school, the pupil may be referred to a program of study that is provided at a comprehensive middle, junior, or senior high school, or at an elementary school.

(g) As used in this section, "knife" means any dirk, dagger, or other weapon with a fixed, sharpened blade fitted primarily for stabbing, a weapon with a blade fitted primarily for stabbing, a weapon with a blade longer than 3 1/2 inches, a folding knife with a blade that locks into place, or a razor with an unguarded blade.

(h) As used in this section, the term "explosive" means "destructive device" as described in Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

(Amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 431, Sec. 3. (AB 2537) Effective January 1, 2013.)
48915.01.

If the governing board of a school district has established a community day school pursuant to Section 48661 on the same site as a comprehensive

middle, junior, or senior high school, or at any elementary school, the governing board does not have to meet the condition in paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Section 48915 when the board, pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section 48915, refers a pupil to a program of study and that program of study is at the community day school. All the other conditions of subdivision (d) of Section 48915 are applicable to the referral as required by subdivision (f) of Section 48915.

(Added by Stats. 1996, Ch. 937, Sec. 3. Effective September 26, 1996.)

48915.1.

- (a) If the governing board of a school district receives a request from an individual who has been expelled from another school district for an act other than those described in subdivision (a) or (c) of Section 48915, for enrollment in a school maintained by the school district, the board shall hold a hearing to determine whether that individual poses a continuing danger either to the pupils or employees of the school district. The hearing and notice shall be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations governing procedures for the expulsion of pupils as described in Section 48918. A school district may request information from another school district regarding a recommendation for expulsion or the expulsion of an applicant for enrollment. The school district receiving the request shall respond to the request with all deliberate speed but shall respond no later than five working days from the date of the receipt of the request.
- (b) If a pupil has been expelled from his or her previous school for an act other than those listed in subdivision (a) or (c) of Section 48915, the parent, guardian, or pupil, if the pupil is emancipated or otherwise legally of age, shall, upon enrollment, inform the receiving school district of his or her status with the previous school district. If this information is not provided to the school district and the school district later determines the pupil was expelled from the previous school, the lack of compliance shall be recorded and discussed in the hearing required pursuant to subdivision (a).
- (c) The governing board of a school district may make a determination to deny enrollment to an individual who has been expelled from another school district for an act other than those described in subdivision (a) or (c) of Section 48915, for the remainder of the expulsion period after a determination has been made, pursuant to a hearing, that the individual poses a potential danger to either the pupils or employees of the school district.
- (d) The governing board of a school district, when making its determination whether to enroll an individual who has been expelled from another school district for these acts, may consider the following options:
 - (1) Deny enrollment.
 - (2) Permit enrollment.
 - (3) Permit conditional enrollment in a regular school program or another educational program.
- (e) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the governing board of a school district, after a determination has been made, pursuant to a hearing, that an individual expelled from another school district for an act other than those described in subdivision (a) or (c) of Section 48915 does not pose a danger to either the pupils or employees of the school district, shall permit the individual to enroll in a school in the school district during the term of the expulsion, provided that he or she, subsequent to the expulsion, either has established legal residence in the school district, pursuant to Section 48200, or has enrolled in the school pursuant to an interdistrict agreement executed between the affected school districts pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 46600).

(Amended by Stats. 1996, Ch. 937, Sec. 4. Effective September 26, 1996.)

48915.2.

- (a) A pupil expelled from school for any of the offenses listed in subdivision (a) or (c) of Section 48915, shall not be permitted to enroll in any other school or school district during the period of expulsion unless it is a county community school pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 1981, or a juvenile court school, as described in Section 48645.1, or a community day school pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 48660) of Chapter 4 of Part 27.
- (b) After a determination has been made, pursuant to a hearing under Section 48918, that an individual expelled from another school district for any act described in subdivision (a) or (c) of Section 48915 does not pose a danger to either the pupils or employees of the school district, the governing board of a school district may permit the individual to enroll in the school district after the term of expulsion, subject to one of the following conditions:
 - (1) He or she has established legal residence in the school district, pursuant to Section 48200.
 - (2) He or she is enrolled in the school pursuant to an interdistrict agreement executed between the affected school districts pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 46600) of Part 26.

(Amended by Stats. 1995, Ch. 974, Sec. 3. Effective January 1, 1996. Operative July 1, 1996, by Sec. 9 of Ch. 974, which was amended by Stats. 1996, Ch. 937.)

48915.5.

- (a) An individual with exceptional needs, as defined in Section 56026, may be suspended or expelled from school in accordance with Section 1415(k) of Title 20 of the United States Code, the discipline provisions contained in Sections 300.530 to 300.537, inclusive, of Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations, and other provisions of this part that do not conflict with federal law and regulations.
- (b) A free appropriate public education for individuals with exceptional needs suspended or expelled from school shall be in accordance with Section 1412(a)(1) of Title 20 of the United States Code and Section 300.530(d) of Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

- (c) If an individual with exceptional needs is excluded from schoolbus transportation, the pupil is entitled to be provided with an alternative form of transportation at no cost to the pupil or parent or guardian provided that transportation is specified in the pupil's individualized education program.
- (d) If the individual with exceptional needs is a foster child, as defined in Section 48853.5, and the local educational agency has proposed a change of placement due to an act for which a decision to recommend expulsion is at the discretion of the principal or the district superintendent of schools, the attorney for the individual with exceptional needs and an appropriate representative of the county child welfare agency shall be invited to participate in the individualized education program team meeting that makes a manifestation determination pursuant to Section 1415(k) of Title 20 of the United States Code. The invitation may be made using the most cost-effective method possible, which may include, but is not limited to, electronic mail or a telephone call.
- (e) If the individual with exceptional needs is a homeless child or youth, as defined in Section 11434a(2) of Title 42 of the United States Code, and the local educational agency has proposed a change of placement due to an act for which a decision to recommend expulsion is at the discretion of the principal or the district superintendent of schools, the local educational agency liaison for homeless children and youth designated pursuant to Section 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii) of Title 42 of the United States Code shall be invited to participate in the individualized education program team meeting that makes a manifestation determination pursuant to Section 1415(k) of Title 20 of the United States Code. The invitation may be made using the most cost-effective method possible, which may include, but is not limited to, electronic mail or a telephone call.

(Amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 767, Sec. 1. (AB 1806) Effective January 1, 2015.)

48916.

- (a) An expulsion order shall remain in effect until the governing board, in the manner prescribed in this article, orders the readmission of a pupil. At the time an expulsion of a pupil is ordered for an act other than those described in subdivision (c) of Section 48915, the governing board shall set a date, not later than the last day of the semester following the semester in which the expulsion occurred, when the pupil shall be reviewed for readmission to a school maintained by the district or to the school the pupil last attended. If an expulsion is ordered during summer session or the intersession period of a year-round program the governing board shall set a date, not later than the last day of the semester following the summer session or intersession period in which the expulsion occurred, when the pupil shall be reviewed for readmission to a school maintained by the district or to the school the pupil last attended. For a pupil who has been expelled pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 48915, the governing board shall set a date of one year from the date the expulsion occurred, when the pupil shall be reviewed for readmission to a school maintained by the district, except that the governing board may set an earlier date for readmission on a case-by-case basis.
- (b) The governing board shall recommend a plan of rehabilitation for the pupil at the time of the expulsion order, which may include, but not be limited to, periodic review as well as assessment at the time of review for readmission. The plan may also include recommendations for improved academic performance, tutoring, special education assessments, job training, counseling, employment, community service, or other rehabilitative programs.
- (c) The governing board of each school district shall adopt rules and regulations establishing a procedure for the filing and processing of requests for readmission and the process for the required review of all expelled pupils for readmission. Upon completion of the readmission process, the governing board shall readmit the pupil, unless the governing board makes a finding that the pupil has not met the conditions of the rehabilitation plan or continues to pose a danger to campus safety or to other pupils or employees of the school district. A description of the procedure shall be made available to the pupil and the pupil's parent or guardian at the time the expulsion order is entered.
- (d) If the governing board denies the readmission of an expelled pupil pursuant to subdivision (c), the governing board shall make a determination either to continue the placement of the pupil in the alternative educational program initially selected for the pupil during the period of the expulsion order or to place the pupil in another program that may include, but need not be limited to, serving expelled pupils, including placement in a county community school.
- (e) The governing board shall provide written notice to the expelled pupil and the pupil's parent or guardian describing the reasons for denying the pupil readmittance into the regular school district program. The written notice shall also include the determination of the educational program for the expelled pupil pursuant to subdivision (d). The expelled pupil shall enroll in that educational program unless the parent or guardian of the pupil elects to enroll the pupil in another school district.

(Amended by Stats. 2003, Ch. 552, Sec. 22. Effective January 1, 2004.)

48916.1.

- (a) At the time an expulsion of a pupil is ordered, the governing board of the school district shall ensure that an educational program is provided to the pupil who is subject to the expulsion order for the period of the expulsion. Except for pupils expelled pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 48915, the governing board of a school district is required to implement the provisions of this section only to the extent funds are appropriated for this purpose in the annual Budget Act or other legislation, or both.
- (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any educational program provided pursuant to subdivision (a) may be operated by the school district, the county superintendent of schools, or a consortium of districts or in joint agreement with the county superintendent of schools.
- (c) Any educational program provided pursuant to subdivision (b) may not be situated within or on the grounds of the school from which the

pupil was expelled.

(d) If the pupil who is subject to the expulsion order was expelled from any of kindergarten or grades 1 to 6, inclusive, the educational program provided pursuant to subdivision (b) may not be combined or merged with educational programs offered to pupils in any of grades 7 to 12, inclusive. The district or county program is the only program required to be provided to expelled pupils as determined by the governing board of the school district. This subdivision, as it relates to the separation of pupils by grade levels, does not apply to community day schools offering instruction in any of kindergarten and grades 1 to 8, inclusive, and established in accordance with Section 48660.

(e) (1) Each school district shall maintain the following data:

(A) The number of pupils recommended for expulsion.

(B) The grounds for each recommended expulsion.

(C) Whether the pupil was subsequently expelled.

(D) Whether the expulsion order was suspended.

(E) The type of referral made after the expulsion.

(F) The disposition of the pupil after the end of the period of expulsion.

(2) The Superintendent may require a school district to report this data as part of the coordinated compliance review. If a school district does not report outcome data as required by this subdivision, the Superintendent may not apportion any further money to the school district pursuant to Section 48664 until the school district is in compliance with this subdivision. Before withholding the apportionment of funds to a school district pursuant to this subdivision, the Superintendent shall give written notice to the governing board of the school district that the school district has failed to report the data required by paragraph (1) and that the school district has 30 calendar days from the date of the written notice of noncompliance to report the requested data and thereby avoid the withholding of the apportionment of funds.

(f) If the county superintendent of schools is unable for any reason to serve the expelled pupils of a school district within the county, the governing board of that school district may enter into an agreement with a county superintendent of schools in another county to provide education services for the district's expelled pupils.

(Amended by Stats. 2005, Ch. 69, Sec. 3. Effective January 1, 2006.)

48916.5.

The governing board may require a pupil who is expelled from school for reasons relating to controlled substances, as defined in Sections 11054 to 11058, inclusive, of the Health and Safety Code, or alcohol, prior to returning to school to enroll in a county-supported drug rehabilitation program. No pupil shall be required to enroll in a rehabilitation program pursuant to this section without the consent of his or her parent or guardian.

(Added by Stats. 1988, Ch. 50, Sec. 1.)

48917.

(a) The governing board, upon voting to expel a pupil, may suspend the enforcement of the expulsion order for a period of not more than one calendar year and may, as a condition of the suspension of enforcement, assign the pupil to a school, class, or program that is deemed appropriate for the rehabilitation of the pupil. The rehabilitation program to which the pupil is assigned may provide for the involvement of the pupil's parent or guardian in his or her child's education in ways that are specified in the rehabilitation program. A parent or guardian's refusal to participate in the rehabilitation program shall not be considered in the governing board's determination as to whether the pupil has satisfactorily completed the rehabilitation program.

(b) The governing board shall apply the criteria for suspending the enforcement of the expulsion order equally to all pupils, including individuals with exceptional needs as defined in Section 56026.

(c) During the period of the suspension of the expulsion order, the pupil is deemed to be on probationary status.

(d) The governing board may revoke the suspension of an expulsion order under this section if the pupil commits any of the acts enumerated in Section 48900 or violates any of the district's rules and regulations governing pupil conduct. When the governing board revokes the suspension of an expulsion order, a pupil may be expelled under the terms of the original expulsion order.

(e) Upon satisfactory completion of the rehabilitation assignment of a pupil, the governing board shall reinstate the pupil in a school of the district and may also order the expungement of any or all records of the expulsion proceedings.

(f) A decision of the governing board to suspend an expulsion order does not affect the time period and requirements for the filing of an appeal of the expulsion order with the county board of education required under Section 48919. Any appeal shall be filed within 30 days of the original vote of the governing board.

(Amended by Stats. 1995, Ch. 95, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 1996.)

48918.

The governing board of each school district shall establish rules and regulations governing procedures for the expulsion of pupils. These procedures shall include, but are not necessarily limited to, all of the following:

(a) (1) The pupil shall be entitled to a hearing to determine whether the pupil should be expelled. An expulsion hearing shall be held within 30 schooldays after the date the principal or the superintendent of schools determines that the pupil has committed any of the acts

enumerated in Section 48900, unless the pupil requests, in writing, that the hearing be postponed. The adopted rules and regulations shall specify that the pupil is entitled to at least one postponement of an expulsion hearing, for a period of not more than 30 calendar days. Any additional postponement may be granted at the discretion of the governing board of the school district.

- (2) Within 10 schooldays after the conclusion of the hearing, the governing board of the school district shall decide whether to expel the pupil, unless the pupil requests in writing that the decision be postponed. If the hearing is held by a hearing officer or an administrative panel, or if the governing board of the school district does not meet on a weekly basis, the governing board of the school district shall decide whether to expel the pupil within 40 schooldays after the date of the pupil's removal from his or her school of attendance for the incident for which the recommendation for expulsion is made by the principal or the superintendent of schools, unless the pupil requests in writing that the decision be postponed.
- (3) If compliance by the governing board of the school district with the time requirements for the conducting of an expulsion hearing under this subdivision is impracticable during the regular school year, the superintendent of schools or the superintendent's designee may, for good cause, extend the time period for the holding of the expulsion hearing for an additional five schooldays. If compliance by the governing board of the school district with the time requirements for the conducting of an expulsion hearing under this subdivision is impractical due to a summer recess of governing board meetings of more than two weeks, the days during the recess period shall not be counted as schooldays in meeting the time requirements. The days not counted as schooldays in meeting the time requirements for an expulsion hearing because of a summer recess of governing board meetings shall not exceed 20 schooldays, as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 48925, and unless the pupil requests in writing that the expulsion hearing be postponed, the hearing shall be held not later than 20 calendar days before the first day of school for the school year. Reasons for the extension of the time for the hearing shall be included as a part of the record at the time the expulsion hearing is conducted. Upon the commencement of the hearing, all matters shall be pursued and conducted with reasonable diligence and shall be concluded without any unnecessary delay.
- (b) Written notice of the hearing shall be forwarded to the pupil at least 10 calendar days before the date of the hearing. The notice shall include all of the following:
 - (1) The date and place of the hearing.
 - (2) A statement of the specific facts and charges upon which the proposed expulsion is based.
 - (3) A copy of the disciplinary rules of the school district that relate to the alleged violation.
 - (4) A notice of the parent, guardian, or pupil's obligation pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 48915.1.
 - (5) Notice of the opportunity for the pupil or the pupil's parent or guardian to appear in person or to be represented by legal counsel or by a nonattorney adviser, to inspect and obtain copies of all documents to be used at the hearing, to confront and question all witnesses who testify at the hearing, to question all other evidence presented, and to present oral and documentary evidence on the pupil's behalf, including witnesses. In a hearing in which a pupil is alleged to have committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault as specified in subdivision (n) of Section 48900 or to have committed a sexual battery as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 48900, a complaining witness shall be given five days' notice before being called to testify, and 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 or her testimony. Before a complaining witness testifies, support persons shall be admonished that the hearing is confidential. This subdivision shall not preclude the person presiding over an expulsion hearing from removing a support person whom the presiding person finds is disrupting the hearing. If one or both of the support persons is also a witness, the provisions of Section 868.5 of the Penal Code shall be followed for the hearing. This section does not require a pupil or the pupil's parent or guardian to be represented by legal counsel or by a nonattorney adviser at the hearing.
- (A) For purposes of this section, "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.
- (B) For purposes of this section, "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 pupil or pupil's parent or guardian to provide assistance at the hearing.
- (c) (1) Notwithstanding Section 35145, the governing board of the school district shall conduct a hearing to consider the expulsion of a pupil in a session closed to the public, unless the pupil requests, in writing, at least five days before the date of the hearing, that the hearing be conducted at a public meeting. Regardless of whether the expulsion hearing is conducted in a closed or public session, the governing board of the school district may meet in closed session for the purpose of deliberating and determining whether the pupil should be expelled.
- (2) If the governing board of the school district or the hearing officer or administrative panel appointed under subdivision (d) to conduct the hearing admits any other person to a closed deliberation session, the parent or guardian of the pupil, the pupil, and the counsel of the pupil also shall be allowed to attend the closed deliberations.
- (3) If the hearing is to be conducted at a public meeting, and there is a charge of committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 48900 or to commit a sexual battery as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 48900, a complaining witness shall have the right to have his or her testimony heard in a session closed to the public when testifying at a public meeting would threaten serious psychological harm to the complaining witness and there are no alternative procedures to avoid the threatened harm, including, but not limited to, videotaped deposition or contemporaneous examination in another place communicated to the hearing room by means of closed-circuit television.

- (d) Instead of conducting an expulsion hearing itself, the governing board of the school district may contract with the county hearing officer, or with the Office of Administrative Hearings pursuant to Chapter 14 (commencing with Section 27720) of Part 3 of Division 2 of Title 3 of the Government Code and Section 35207 of this code, for a hearing officer to conduct the hearing. The governing board of the school district may also appoint an impartial administrative panel of three or more certificated persons, none of whom is a member of the governing board of the school district or employed on the staff of the school in which the pupil is enrolled. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with all of the procedures established under this section.
- (e) Within three schooldays after the hearing, the hearing officer or administrative panel shall determine whether to recommend the expulsion of the pupil to the governing board of the school district. If the hearing officer or administrative panel decides not to recommend expulsion, the expulsion proceedings shall be terminated and the pupil immediately shall be reinstated and permitted to return to the classroom instructional program from which the expulsion referral was made, unless the parent, guardian, or responsible adult of the pupil requests another school placement in writing. Before the placement decision is made by the parent, guardian, or responsible adult, the superintendent of schools or the superintendent's designee shall consult with school district personnel, including the pupil's teachers, and the parent, guardian, or responsible adult regarding any other school placement options for the pupil in addition to the option to return to his or her classroom instructional program from which the expulsion referral was made. If the hearing officer or administrative panel finds that the pupil committed any of the acts specified in subdivision (c) of Section 48915, but does not recommend expulsion, the pupil shall be immediately reinstated and may be referred to his or her prior school or another comprehensive school, or, pursuant to the procedures set forth in Section 48432.5, a continuation school of the school district. The decision not to recommend expulsion shall be final.
- (f) (1) If the hearing officer or administrative panel recommends expulsion, findings of fact in support of the recommendation shall be prepared and submitted to the governing board of the school district. All findings of fact and recommendations shall be based solely on the evidence adduced at the hearing. If the governing board of the school district accepts the recommendation calling for expulsion, acceptance shall be based either upon a review of the findings of fact and recommendations submitted by the hearing officer or panel or upon the results of any supplementary hearing conducted pursuant to this section that the governing board of the school district may order.
- (2) The decision of the governing board of the school district to expel a pupil shall be based upon substantial evidence relevant to the charges adduced at the expulsion hearing or hearings. Except as provided in this section, no evidence to expel shall be based solely upon hearsay evidence. The governing board of the school district or the hearing officer or administrative panel may, upon a finding that good cause exists, determine that the disclosure of either the identity of a witness or the testimony of that witness at the hearing, or both, would subject the witness to an unreasonable risk of psychological or physical harm. Upon this determination, the testimony of the witness may be presented at the hearing in the form of sworn declarations that shall be examined only by the governing board of the school district or the hearing officer or administrative panel. Copies of these sworn declarations, edited to delete the name and identity of the witness, shall be made available to the pupil.
- (g) A record of the hearing shall be made. The record may be maintained by any means, including electronic recording, so long as a reasonably accurate and complete written transcription of the proceedings can be made.
- (h) (1) Technical rules of evidence shall not apply to the hearing, but relevant evidence may be admitted and given probative effect only if it is the kind of evidence upon which reasonable persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of serious affairs. A decision of the governing board of the school district to expel shall be supported by substantial evidence showing that the pupil committed any of the acts enumerated in Section 48900.
- (2) In hearings that include an allegation of committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 48900 or to commit a sexual battery as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 48900, evidence of specific instances, of a complaining witness' prior sexual conduct is to be presumed inadmissible and shall not be heard absent a determination by the person conducting the hearing that extraordinary circumstances exist requiring the evidence be heard. Before the person conducting the hearing makes the determination on whether extraordinary circumstances exist requiring that specific instances of a complaining witness' prior sexual conduct be heard, the complaining witness shall be provided notice and an opportunity to present opposition to the introduction of the evidence. In the hearing on the admissibility of the 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 the complaining witness is not admissible for any purpose.
- (i) (1) Before the hearing has commenced, the governing board of the school district may issue subpoenas at the request of either the superintendent of schools or the superintendent's designee or the pupil, for the personal appearance of percipient witnesses at the hearing. After the hearing has commenced, the governing board of the school district or the hearing officer or administrative panel may, upon request of either the county superintendent of schools or the superintendent's designee or the pupil, issue subpoenas. All subpoenas shall be issued in accordance with Sections 1985, 1985.1, and 1985.2 of the Code of Civil Procedure. Enforcement of subpoenas shall be done in accordance with Section 11455.20 of the Government Code.
- (2) Any objection raised by the superintendent of schools or the superintendent's designee or the pupil to the issuance of subpoenas may be considered by the governing board of the school district in closed session, or in open session, if so requested by the pupil before the meeting. Any decision by the governing board of the school district in response to an objection to the issuance of subpoenas shall be final and binding.
- (3) If the governing board of the school district, hearing officer, or administrative panel determines, in accordance with subdivision (f), that a

percipient witness would be subject to an 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 provided for in subdivision (f).

(4) Service of process shall be extended to all parts of the state and shall be served in accordance with Section 1987 of the Code of Civil Procedure. All witnesses appearing pursuant to subpoena, other than the parties or officers or employees of the state or any political subdivision of the state, shall receive fees, and all witnesses appearing pursuant to subpoena, except the parties, shall receive mileage in the same amount and under the same circumstances as prescribed for witnesses in civil actions in a superior court. Fees and mileage shall be paid by the party at whose request the witness is subpoenaed.

(j) Whether an expulsion hearing is conducted by the governing board of the school district or before a hearing officer or administrative panel, final action to expel a pupil shall be taken only by the governing board of the school district in a public session. Written notice of any decision to expel or to suspend the enforcement of an expulsion order during a period of probation shall be sent by the superintendent of schools or his or her designee to the pupil or the pupil's parent or guardian and shall be accompanied by all of the following:

(1) Notice of the right to appeal the expulsion to the county board of education.

(2) Notice of the education alternative placement to be provided to the pupil during the time of expulsion.

(3) Notice of the obligation of the parent, guardian, or pupil under subdivision (b) of Section 48915.1, upon the pupil's enrollment in a new school district, to inform that school district of the pupil's expulsion.

(k) (1) The governing board of the school district shall maintain a record of each expulsion, including the cause for the expulsion. Records of expulsions shall be nonprivileged, disclosable public records.

(2) The expulsion order and the causes for the expulsion shall be recorded in the pupil's mandatory interim record and shall be forwarded to any school in which the pupil subsequently enrolls upon receipt of a request from the admitting school for the pupil's school records.

(Amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 837, Sec. 5. (SB 1111) Effective January 1, 2015.)

48918.1.

(a) (1) If the decision to recommend expulsion is a discretionary act and the pupil is a foster child, as defined in Section 48853.5, the governing board of the school district shall provide notice of the expulsion hearing to the pupil's attorney and an appropriate representative of the county child welfare agency at least 10 calendar days before the date of the hearing. The notice may be made using the most cost-effective method possible, which may include, but is not limited to, electronic mail or a telephone call.

(2) If a recommendation of expulsion is required and the pupil is a foster child, as defined in Section 48853.5, the governing board of the school district may provide notice of the expulsion hearing to the pupil's attorney and an appropriate representative of the county child welfare agency at least 10 calendar days before the date of the hearing. The notice may be made using the most cost-effective method possible, which may include, but is not limited to, electronic mail or a telephone call.

(b) (1) If the decision to recommend expulsion is a discretionary act and the pupil is a homeless child or youth, as defined in Section 11434a(2) of Title 42 of the United States Code, the governing board of the school district shall provide notice of the expulsion hearing to the local educational agency liaison for homeless children and youth designated pursuant to Section 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii) of Title 42 of the United States Code at least 10 calendar days before the date of the hearing. The notice may be made using the most cost-effective method possible, which may include, but is not limited to, electronic mail or a telephone call.

(2) If a recommendation of expulsion is required and the pupil is a homeless child or youth, as defined in Section 11434a(2) of Title 42 of the United States Code, the governing board of the school district may provide notice of the expulsion hearing to the local educational agency liaison for homeless children and youth designated pursuant to Section 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii) of Title 42 of the United States Code at least 10 calendar days before the date of the hearing. The notice may be made using the most cost-effective method possible, which may include, but is not limited to, electronic mail or a telephone call.

(Amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 767, Sec. 2. (AB 1806) Effective January 1, 2015.)

48918.5.

In expulsion hearings involving allegations brought pursuant to subdivision (n) of Section 48900, the governing board of each school district shall establish rules and regulations governing procedures. The procedures shall include, but are not limited to, all of the following:

(a) At the time that the expulsion hearing is recommended, the complaining witness shall be provided with a copy of the applicable disciplinary rules and advised of his or her right to: (1) receive five days' notice of the complaining witness's scheduled testimony at the hearing, (2) have up to two adult support persons of his or her choosing, present in the hearing at the time he or she testifies; and (3) to have the hearing closed during the time they testify pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 48918.

(b) An expulsion hearing may be postponed for one schoolday in order to accommodate the special physical, mental, or emotional needs of a pupil who is the complaining witness where the allegations arise under subdivision (n) of Section 48900.

(c) The district shall provide a nonthreatening environment for a complaining witness in order to better enable them to speak freely and accurately of the experiences that are the subject of the expulsion hearing, and to prevent discouragement of complaints. Each school district shall provide a room separate from the hearing room for the use of the complaining witness prior to and during breaks in testimony. In 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 or she may leave the hearing room. The person

conducting the hearing may arrange the seating within the hearing room of those present in order to facilitate a less intimidating environment for the complaining witness. The person conducting the hearing may limit the time for taking the testimony of a complaining witness to the hours he or she is normally in school, if there is no good cause to take the testimony during other hours. The person conducting the hearing may permit one of the complaining witness's support persons to accompany him or her to the witness stand.

(d) Whenever any allegation is made of conduct violative of subdivision (n) of Section 48900, complaining witnesses and accused pupils are to be advised immediately to refrain from personal or telephonic contact with each other during the pendency of any expulsion process.

(Added by Stats. 1996, Ch. 915, Sec. 6. Effective January 1, 1997.)

48918.6.

In addition to any other immunity that may exist, any testimony provided by a pupil witness in an expulsion hearing conducted pursuant to this article is expressly deemed to be a communication protected by subdivision (b) of Section 47 of the Civil Code.

(Added by Stats. 2002, Ch. 136, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 2003.)

48919.

If a pupil is expelled from school, the pupil or the pupil's parent or guardian may, within 30 days following the decision of the governing board to expel, file an appeal to the county board of education which shall hold a hearing thereon and render its decision.

The county board of education, or in a class 1 or class 2 county a hearing officer or impartial administrative panel, shall hold the hearing within 20 schooldays following the filing of a formal request under this section. If the county board of education hears the appeal without a hearing conducted pursuant to Section 48919.5, then the board shall render a decision within three schooldays of the hearing conducted pursuant to Section 48920, unless the pupil requests a postponement.

The period within which an appeal is to be filed shall be determined from the date a governing board votes to expel even if enforcement of the expulsion action is suspended and the pupil is placed on probation pursuant to Section 48917. A pupil who fails to appeal the original action of the board within the prescribed time may not subsequently appeal a decision of the board to revoke probation and impose the original order of expulsion.

The county board of education shall adopt rules and regulations establishing procedures for expulsion appeals conducted under this section. If the county board of education in a class 1 or class 2 county elects to use the procedures in Section 48919.5, then the board shall adopt rules and regulations establishing procedures for expulsion appeals conducted under Section 48919.5. The adopted rules and regulations shall include, but need not be limited to, the requirements for filing a notice of appeal, the setting of a hearing date, the furnishing of notice to the pupil and the governing board regarding the appeal, the furnishing of a copy of the expulsion hearing record to the county board of education, procedures for the conduct of the hearing, and the preservation of the record of the appeal.

The pupil shall submit a written request for a copy of the written transcripts and supporting documents from the school district simultaneously with the filing of the notice of appeal with the county board of education. The school district shall provide the pupil with the transcriptions, supporting documents, and records within 10 schooldays following the pupil's written request. Upon receipt of the records, the pupil shall immediately file suitable copies of these records with the county board of education.

(Amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 147, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 2001.)

48919.5.

(a) A county board of education in a class 1 or class 2 county may have a hearing officer pursuant to Chapter 14 (commencing with Section 27720) of Part 3 of Title 3 of the Government Code, or an impartial administrative panel of three or more certificated persons appointed by the county board of education, hear appeals filed pursuant to Section 48919. The members of the impartial administrative panel shall not be members of the governing board of the school district nor employees of the school district, from which the pupil filing the appeal was expelled. Neither the hearing officer, nor any member of the administrative panel, hearing a pupil's appeal shall have been the hearing officer or a member of the administrative panel that conducted the pupil's expulsion hearing.

(b) A hearing conducted pursuant to this section shall not issue a final order of the county board. The hearing officer or impartial administrative panel shall prepare a recommended decision, including any findings or conclusions required for that decision, and shall submit that recommendation and the record to the county board of education within three schooldays of hearing the appeal.

(c) Sections 48919, 48920, 48921, 48922, 48923, and 48925 are applicable to a hearing conducted pursuant to this section.

(d) Within 10 schooldays of receiving the recommended decision and record from the hearing officer or the impartial administrative panel, the county board of education shall review the recommended decision and record and render a final order of the board.

(e) For purposes of this article, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) "Countywide ADA" means the aggregate number of annual units of regular average daily attendance for the fiscal year in all school districts within the county.

(2) "Class 1 county" means a county with 1994/95 countywide ADA of more than 500,000.

(3) "Class 2 county" means a county with 1994/95 countywide ADA of at least 180,000 but less than 500,000.

(Added by Stats. 1997, Ch. 417, Sec. 3. Effective January 1, 1998.)

48920.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 54950 of the Government Code and Section 35145 of this code, the county board of education shall hear an appeal of an expulsion order in closed session, unless the pupil requests, in writing, at least five days prior to the date of the hearing, that the hearing be conducted in a public meeting. Upon the timely submission of a request for a public meeting, the county board of education shall be required to honor the request. Whether the hearing is conducted in closed or public session, the county board may meet in closed session for the purpose of deliberations. If the county board admits any representative of the pupil or the school district, the board shall, at the same time, admit representatives from the opposing party.

(Repealed and added by Stats. 1983, Ch. 498, Sec. 91. Effective July 28, 1983.)

48921.

The county board of education shall determine the appeal from a pupil expulsion upon the record of the hearing before the district governing board, together with such applicable documentation or regulations as may be ordered. No evidence other than that contained in the record of the proceedings of the school board may be heard unless a de novo proceeding is granted as provided in Section 48923.

It shall be the responsibility of the pupil to submit a written transcription for review by the county board. The cost of the transcript shall be borne by the pupil except in either of the following situations:

- (1) Where the pupil's parent or guardian certifies to the school district that he or she cannot reasonably afford the cost of the transcript because of limited income or exceptional necessary expenses, or both.
- (2) In a case in which the county board reverses the decision of the local governing board, the county board shall require that the local board reimburse the pupil for the cost of such transcription.

(Repealed and added by Stats. 1983, Ch. 498, Sec. 91. Effective July 28, 1983.)

48922.

(a) The review by the county board of education of the decision of the governing board shall be limited to the following questions:

- (1) Whether the governing board acted without or in excess of its jurisdiction.
 - (2) Whether there was a fair hearing before the governing board.
 - (3) Whether there was a prejudicial abuse of discretion in the hearing.
 - (4) Whether there is relevant and material evidence which, in the exercise of reasonable diligence, could not have been produced or which was improperly excluded at the hearing before the governing board.
- (b) As used in this section, a proceeding without or in excess of jurisdiction includes, but is not limited to, a situation where an expulsion hearing is not commenced within the time periods prescribed by this article, a situation where an expulsion order is not based upon the acts enumerated in Section 48900, or a situation involving acts not related to school activity or attendance.

(c) For purposes of this section, an abuse of discretion is established in any of the following situations:

- (1) If school officials have not met the procedural requirements of this article.
- (2) If the decision to expel a pupil is not supported by the findings prescribed by Section 48915.
- (3) If the findings are not supported by the evidence.

A county board of education may not reverse the decision of a governing board to expel a pupil based upon a finding of an abuse of discretion unless the county board of education also determines that the abuse of discretion was prejudicial.

(Repealed and added by Stats. 1983, Ch. 498, Sec. 91. Effective July 28, 1983.)

48923.

The decision of the county board shall be limited as follows:

- (a) If the county board finds that relevant and material evidence exists which, in the exercise of reasonable diligence, could not have been produced or which was improperly excluded at the hearing before the governing board, it may do either of the following:
 - (1) Remand the matter to the governing board for reconsideration and may in addition order the pupil reinstated pending the reconsideration.
 - (2) Grant a hearing de novo upon reasonable notice thereof to the pupil and to the governing board. The hearing shall be conducted in conformance with the rules and regulations adopted by the county board under Section 48919.
- (b) If the county board determines that the decision of the governing board is not supported by the findings required to be made by Section 48915, but evidence supporting the required findings exists in the record of the proceedings, the county board shall remand the matter to the governing board for adoption of the required findings. This remand for the adoption and inclusion of the required findings shall not result in an additional hearing pursuant to Section 48918, except that final action to expel the pupil based on the revised findings of fact shall meet all requirements of subdivisions (j) and (k) of Section 48918.
- (c) In all other cases, the county board shall enter an order either affirming or reversing the decision of the governing board. In any case in which the county board enters a decision reversing the local board, the county board may direct the local board to expunge the record of the pupil and the records of the district of any references to the expulsion action and the expulsion shall be deemed not to have occurred.

(Amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 147, Sec. 2. Effective January 1, 2001.)

48924.

The decision of the county board of education shall be final and binding upon the pupil and upon the governing board of the school district. The pupil and the governing board shall be notified of the final order of the county board, in writing, either by personal service or by certified mail. The order shall become final when rendered.

(Added by Stats. 1983, Ch. 498, Sec. 91. Effective July 28, 1983.)

48925.

As used in this article:

- (a) "Day" means a calendar day unless otherwise specifically provided.
- (b) "Expulsion" means removal of a pupil from (1) the immediate supervision and control, or (2) the general supervision, of school personnel, as those terms are used in Section 46300.
- (c) "School day" means a day upon which the schools of the district are in session or weekdays during the summer recess.
- (d) "Suspension" means removal of a pupil from ongoing instruction for adjustment purposes. However, "suspension" does not mean any of the following:
 - (1) Reassignment to another education program or class at the same school where the pupil will receive continuing instruction for the length of day prescribed by the governing board for pupils of the same grade level.
 - (2) Referral to a certificated employee designated by the principal to advise pupils.
 - (3) Removal from the class, but without reassignment to another class or program, for the remainder of the class period without sending the pupil to the principal or the principal's designee as provided in Section 48910. Removal from a particular class shall not occur more than once every five schooldays.
- (e) "Pupil" includes a pupil's parent or guardian or legal counsel.

(Added by Stats. 1983, Ch. 498, Sec. 91. Effective July 28, 1983.)

48926.

Each county superintendent of schools in counties that operate community schools pursuant to Section 1980, in conjunction with superintendents of the school districts within the county, shall develop a plan for providing education services to all expelled pupils in that county. The plan shall be adopted by the governing board of each school district within the county and by the county board of education.

The plan shall enumerate existing educational alternatives for expelled pupils, identify gaps in educational services to expelled pupils, and strategies for filling those service gaps. The plan shall also identify alternative placements for pupils who are expelled and placed in district community day school programs, but who fail to meet the terms and conditions of their rehabilitation plan or who pose a danger to other district pupils, as determined by the governing board.

Each county superintendent of schools, in conjunction with the superintendents of the school districts, shall submit to the Superintendent of Public Instruction the county plan for providing educational services to all expelled pupils in the county no later than June 30, 1997, and shall submit a triennial update to the plan to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, including the outcome data pursuant to Section 48916.1, on June 30th thereafter.

(Added by Stats. 1995, Ch. 974, Sec. 8. Effective January 1, 1996. Operative July 1, 1996, by Sec. 9 of Ch. 974, which was amended by Stats. 1996, Ch. 937.)

48927.

- (a) This chapter shall also apply to pupils attending the California School for the Blind and the two California Schools for the Deaf, which shall be referred to as the "state special schools."
- (b) Because the state special schools have a governance structure different from that of school districts, for the purposes of this section the following definitions shall apply:
 - (1) "Superintendent" means the appropriate principal of the state special school in which the pupil is enrolled, or the principal's designee, for purposes of Sections 48900, 48900.2, 48900.3, 48900.4, 48900.5, 48900.7, and 48911, and subdivisions (a) and (j) of Section 48918.
 - (2) "Governing board of each school district," "governing board of any school district," or "each governing board of a school district" means the Superintendent of Public Instruction or his or her designee for purposes of subdivision (a) of Section 48900.1, subdivision (b) of Section 48901, subdivision (b) of Section 48901.5, Section 48907, Section 48910, the first paragraph of Section 48918, and the first paragraph of Section 48918.5.
 - (3) "Governing board" means the Superintendent of the State Special School in which the pupil is enrolled for purposes of Section 48912, subdivision (d) of Section 48915, Section 48915.5, Section 48916, Section 48917, subdivisions (a), (c), (d), (f), (h), (i), (j), and (k) of Section 48918, and Sections 48921, 48922, 48923, and 48924.
 - (4) "Governing board" means the governing board of the district of residence of the expelled pupil for purposes of subdivision (f) of Section 48915 and Section 48916.1. In the case of an adult pupil expelled from a state special school, "governing board" means the governing board of the school district that referred the pupil to the state special school for purposes of the code section cited in

this paragraph.

- (5) "Superintendent of schools or the governing board" means the appropriate principal of the state special school in which the pupil is enrolled, or the principal's designee, for the purposes of Section 48900.6.
- (6) "School district" or "district" means the state special school in which the pupil is enrolled for purposes of Section 48900.8, subdivision (b) of Section 48903, Section 48905, Section 48909, Section 48914, paragraph (1) of subdivision (e) of Section 48916.1, subdivision (c) of Section 48918.5, Section 48919, Section 48920, and Section 48921.
- (7) "County board of education" or "county board" means the Superintendent of Public Instruction or his or her designee for purposes of Sections 48920, 48921, 48922, 48923, and 48924.
- (8) "Local educational agency" includes a state special school for purposes of Section 48902 and Section 48915.5.
- (9) "A change in placement" for purposes of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 48915.5 means a referral by the state special school to the pupil's school district of residence for placement in an appropriate interim alternative educational setting.
- (10) "Individualized education program team" means the individualized education program team of the pupil's school district of residence with appropriate representation from the state special school in which the pupil is enrolled for purposes of subdivision (a) of Section 48915.5.2.
- (11) "Individualized education program team" means the individualized education program team of the state special school in which the pupil is enrolled with appropriate representation from the pupil's school district of residence for purposes of subdivisions (b), (c), and (d) of Section 48915.5.3.
- (c) Subdivision (b) of this section shall be deemed to provide the same due process procedural protections to pupils in the state special schools as afforded to pupils in the public school districts of the state.
- (Amended by Stats. 2003, Ch. 62, Sec. 56.5. Effective January 1, 2004.)

BOARD MUST FIND CONDITIONS TO EXPEL

- §48915(a) Except as provided in subdivisions (c) and (e), the principal or the superintendent of schools shall recommend the expulsion of a pupil for any of the following acts committed at school or at a school activity off school grounds, unless the principal or superintendent determines that expulsion should not be recommended under the circumstances or that an alternative means of correction would address the conduct:
- (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 pupil.
 - (3) Unlawful possession of any controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, except for either of the following:
 - (i) The first offense for the possession of not more than one avoirdupois ounce of marijuana, other than concentrated cannabis.
 - (ii) The possession of over-the-counter medication for use by the pupil for medical purposes or medication prescribed for the pupil by a physician.
 - (4) Robbery or extortion.
 - (5) Assault or battery, as defined in Sections 240 and 242 of the Penal Code, upon any school employee. If the principal or the superintendent of schools makes a determination as described in paragraph (1), he or she is encouraged to do so as quickly as possible to ensure that the pupil does not lose instructional time.
- §48915(b) Upon recommendation by the principal or the superintendent of schools, or by a hearing officer or administrative panel appointed pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 48918, the governing board of a school district may order a pupil expelled upon finding that the pupil committed an act listed in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) or in subdivision (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) of Section 48900. A decision to expel a pupil for any of those acts shall be based on a finding of one or both of the following:
- (1) Other means of correction are not feasible or have repeatedly failed to bring about proper conduct.
 - (2) Due to the nature of the act, the presence of the pupil causes a continuing danger to the physical safety of the pupil or others.
- §48915(c) The principal or superintendent of schools shall immediately suspend, pursuant to Section 48911, and shall recommend expulsion of a pupil that he or she determines has committed any of the following acts at school or at a school activity off school grounds:
- (1) Possessing, selling, or otherwise furnishing a firearm. This subdivision does not apply to an act of possessing a firearm if the pupil had obtained prior written permission to possess the firearm from a certificated school employee, which is concurred in by the principal or the designee of the principal. This subdivision applies to an act of possessing a firearm only if the possession is verified by an employee of a school district. The act of possessing an imitation firearm, as defined in subdivision (m) of Section 48900, is not an offense for which suspension or expulsion is mandatory pursuant to this subdivision and subdivision (d), but it is an offense for which suspension, or expulsion pursuant to subdivision may be imposed.
 - (2) Brandishing a knife at another person.
 - (3) Unlawfully selling a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of

Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code.

(4) Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 48900 or committing a sexual battery as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 48900.

(5) Possession of an explosive.

§48915(d) The governing board of a school district shall order a pupil expelled upon finding that the pupil committed an act listed in subdivision (c), and shall refer that pupil to a program of study that meets all of the following conditions:

(1) Is appropriately prepared to accommodate pupils who exhibit discipline problems.

(2) Is not provided at a comprehensive middle, junior, or senior high school, or at any elementary school.

(3) Is not housed at the school site attended by the pupil at the time of suspension.

§48915(e) Upon recommendation by the principal or the superintendent of schools, or by a hearing officer or administrative panel appointed pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 48918, the governing board of a school district may order a pupil expelled upon finding that the pupil, at school or at a school activity off of school grounds violated subdivision (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), or (m) of Section 48900, or Section 48900.2, 48900.3, or 48900.4, and either of the following:

(1) That other means of correction are not feasible or have repeatedly failed to bring about proper conduct.

(2) That due to the nature of the violation, the presence of the pupil causes a continuing danger to the physical safety of the pupil or others.

§48915(f) The governing board of a school district shall refer a pupil who has been expelled pursuant to subdivision (b) or (e) to a program of study that meets all of the conditions specified in subdivision (d). Notwithstanding this subdivision, with respect to a pupil expelled pursuant to subdivision (e), if the county superintendent of schools certifies that an alternative program of study is not available at a site away from a comprehensive middle, junior, or senior high school, or an elementary school, and that the only option for placement is at another comprehensive middle, junior, or senior high school, or another elementary school, the pupil may be referred to a program of study that is provided at a comprehensive middle, junior, or senior high school, or at an elementary school.

§48915(g) As used in this section, "knife" means any dirk, dagger, or other weapon with a fixed, sharpened blade fitted primarily for stabbing, a weapon with a blade fitted primarily for stabbing, a weapon with a blade longer than 3 1/2 inches, a folding knife with a blade that locks into place, or a razor with an unguarded blade.

§48915(h) As used in this section, the term "explosive" means "destructive device" as described in Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

BOARD MUST EXPEL

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

(1) Possessing, selling, or otherwise furnishing a firearm. This subdivision does not apply to an act of possessing a firearm if the pupil had obtained prior written permission to possess the firearm from a certificated school employee, which is concurred in by the principal or the designee of the principal. This subdivision applies to an act of possessing a firearm only if the possession is verified by an employee of a school district.

(2) Brandishing a knife at another person.

(3) Unlawfully selling a controlled substance.

(4) Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault as defined in subdivision (n) of §48900 or committing a sexual battery as defined in subdivision (n) of §48900.

(5) Possession of an explosive.

§48916(a) At the time an expulsion of a pupil is ordered for an act other than those described in subdivision (c) of §48915, the governing board shall set a date, not later than the last day of the semester following the semester in which the expulsion occurred, when the pupil shall be reviewed for readmission to a school maintained by the district or to the school the pupil last attended. For a pupil who has been expelled pursuant to subdivision (c) of §48915, the governing board shall set a date of one year from the date the expulsion occurred, when the pupil shall be reviewed for readmission to a school maintained by the district, except that the governing board may set an earlier date for readmission on a case-by-case basis.

EXPULSION PROCESS

The student shall be entitled to a due process hearing to determine whether a recommendation for expulsion should be made to the Board of Trustees. An Administrative Hearing Panel shall convene within 30 school days of the date the superintendent, principal or the principal's designee determines that the student has committed any of the acts enumerated in Education Code Section 48900, 48900.2, 48900.3, 48900.4, 48915 and/or 48916. The adopted rules and regulations shall require that the student shall be entitled to at least one postponement. Thereafter, any additional postponement may be granted at the discretion of the Board of Trustees.

The superintendent, or the superintendent's designee, in writing may extend the suspension until such time as the Board of Trustees renders a decision in the action. However, an extension may be granted only if the superintendent, or the superintendent's designee, has determined, following a meeting in which the student and the student's parent/guardian are invited to participate, that the presence of the student at the school or in an alternative school placement would cause a danger to persons or property or a threat of disrupting the instructional process. Written notice of the hearing shall be forwarded to the student and the parent/guardian at least ten calendar days prior to the date of the hearing. A parent may waive this ten-day requirement. The notice shall include: the date and place of the hearing; a statement of the specific

facts and charges upon which the proposed expulsion is based; a copy of the disciplinary rules of the district which relate to the alleged violation; and the opportunity for the student and the student's parent/guardian to appear in person, or employ and be represented by counsel, to inspect and obtain copies of all documents to be used at the hearing, confront and question all witnesses who testify at the hearing, to question all other evidence presented, and to present oral and documentary evidence on the student's behalf, including witnesses.

An administrative panel shall conduct a hearing to consider the recommendation of a student in a session closed to the public. Within three school days following the hearing, the administrative panel shall determine whether to recommend the expulsion of the student to the Board of Trustees. This recommendation will be forwarded to the student and parent/guardian.

The Board of Trustees shall conduct a hearing in private, unless the student requests in writing at least five days prior to the date of the hearing that the hearing be conducted at a public meeting. Regardless of whether the expulsion hearing is conducted in a closed or public session, the Board of Trustees may meet in closed session for the purpose of deliberating and determining if the student should be expelled. If the student and the student's parent/guardian are not in agreement with the recommendations, or wish to make other comments, they will be given an opportunity to do so.

A decision of the Board of Trustees whether or not to expel a student shall be made within ten school days following the conclusion of the hearing.

An appeal of the Board of Trustees may be made to the Board of Education of Sacramento, Office of Superintendent of Schools. Such an appeal must be presented to the County Superintendent of Education within thirty (30) days following the Board of Trustees' decision.

A student may be transferred to another district school if he/she is convicted of a violent felony, as defined in Penal Code 667.5(c), or a misdemeanor listed in Penal Code 29805 and is enrolled at the same school as the victim of the crime for which he/she was convicted. (Education Code 48929)

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The Governing Board expects district employees to maintain the highest ethical standards, behave professionally, follow district policies and regulations, abide by state and federal laws, and exercise good judgment when interacting with students and other members of the school community. Employees shall engage in conduct that enhances the integrity of the district, advances the goals of the district's educational programs, and contributes to a positive school climate.

The Board encourages district employees to accept as guiding principles the professional standards and codes of ethics adopted by educational or professional associations to which they may belong.

Each employee is expected to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to fulfill his/her responsibilities and to contribute to the learning and achievement of district students.

Inappropriate Conduct - Inappropriate employee conduct includes, but is not limited to:

- *Engaging in any conduct that endangers students, staff, or others, including, but not limited to, physical violence, threats of violence, or possession of a firearm or other weapon
- *Engaging in harassing or discriminatory behavior towards students, parents/guardians, staff, or community members, or failing or refusing to intervene when an act of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying against a student is observed
- *Physically abusing, sexually abusing, neglecting, or otherwise willfully harming or injuring a child
- *Engaging in inappropriate socialization or fraternization with a student or soliciting, encouraging, or maintaining an inappropriate written, verbal, or physical relationship with a student
- *Possessing or viewing any pornography on school grounds, or possessing or viewing child pornography or other imagery portraying children in a sexualized manner at any time
- *Using profane, obscene, or abusive language against students, parents/guardians, staff, or community members
- *Willfully disrupting district or school operations by loud or unreasonable noise or other action
- *Using tobacco, alcohol, or an illegal or unauthorized substance, or possessing or distributing any controlled substance, while in the workplace, on district property, or at a school-sponsored activity
- *Being dishonest with students, parents/guardians, staff, or members of the public, including, but not limited to, falsifying information in employment records or other school records
- *Divulging confidential information about students, district employees, or district operations to persons or entities not authorized to receive the information
- *Using district equipment or other district resources for the employee's own commercial purposes or for political activities
- *Using district equipment or communications devices for personal purposes while on duty, except in an emergency, during scheduled work breaks, or for personal necessity
- *Employees shall be notified that computer files and all electronic communications, including, but not limited to, email and voice mail, are not private. To ensure proper use, the Superintendent or designee may monitor employee usage of district technological resources at any time without the employee's consent.
- *Causing damage to or engaging in theft of property belonging to students, staff, or the district
- *Wearing inappropriate attire

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

The Board of Trustees recognizes that the district is primarily responsible for complying with applicable state and federal laws and regulations governing educational programs. The district shall investigate complaints alleging failure to comply with such laws and/or alleging discrimination and shall seek to resolve those complaints in accordance with the District's uniform complaint procedures. (5 CCR 4620)

The district shall follow uniform complaint procedures when addressing complaints alleging unlawful discrimination against any protected group as identified under Education Code 200 and 220 and Government Code 11135, including actual or perceived sex, sexual orientation, gender, ethnic group identification, race, ancestry, national origin, religion, color, or mental or physical disability, or age, or on the basis of a person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics in any district program or activity that receives or benefits from state financial assistance. (5 CCR 4610)

Uniform complaint procedures shall also be used when addressing complaints alleging failure to comply with state and/or federal laws in adult education programs, consolidated categorical aid programs, migrant education, career technical and technical education and career technical and technical training programs, childcare and development programs, child nutrition programs, and special education programs. (5 CCR 4610)

Complaints related to sufficiency of textbooks or instructional materials, emergency or urgent facilities conditions that pose a threat to the health or safety of students or staff, and teacher vacancies and misassignments shall be investigated pursuant to the district's Williams uniform complaint procedure (AR 1312.4).

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

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

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

The Board recognizes that a neutral mediator can often suggest a compromise that is agreeable to all parties in a dispute. In accordance with uniform

complaint procedures, whenever all parties to a complaint agree to try resolving their problem through mediation, the Superintendent or designee shall initiate that process. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the results are Compliance Officers

The Board of Trustees designates the following compliance officer(s) to receive and investigate complaints and to ensure district compliance with law: Superintendent, Chief Business Officer, Chief Educational Services Officer and/or Director of Maintenance.

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

Notifications

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

The Superintendent or designee shall make available copies of the district's uniform complaint procedures free of charge. (5 CCR 4622)

The notice shall:

1. Identify the person(s), position(s), or unit(s) responsible for receiving complaints
2. Advise the complainant of any civil law remedies that may be available to him/her under state or federal discrimination laws, if applicable

3. Advise the complainant of the appeal process pursuant to Education Code 262.3, including the complainant's right to take a complaint directly to the California Department of Education (CDE) or to pursue remedies before civil courts or other public agencies
4. Include statements that:
 - a. The district is primarily responsible for compliance with state and federal laws and regulations
 - b. The complaint review shall be completed within 60 calendar days from the date of receipt of the complaint unless the complainant agrees in writing to an extension of the timeline
 - c. An unlawful discrimination complaint must be filed not later than six months from the date the alleged discrimination occurs, or six months from the date the complainant first obtains knowledge of the facts of the alleged discrimination
 - d. The complainant has a right to appeal the district's decision to the CDE by filing a written appeal within 15 days of receiving the district's decision
 - e. The appeal to the CDE must include a copy of the complaint filed with the district and a copy of the district's decision

Procedures

The following procedures shall be used to address all complaints which allege that the district has violated federal or state laws or regulations governing educational programs.

Compliance

Officers shall maintain a record of each complaint and subsequent related actions, including all information required for compliance with 5 CCR 4631 and 4633. All parties involved in allegations shall be notified when a complaint is filed, when a complaint meeting or hearing is scheduled, and when a decision or ruling is made.

Step 1: Filing of Complaint

Any individual, public agency or organization may file a written complaint of alleged noncompliance by the district. (5 CCR 4630)

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

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

If a complainant is unable to put a complaint in writing due to conditions such as a disability or illiteracy, district staff shall assist him/her in the filing of the complaint. (5 CCR 4600)

Step 2: Mediation

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

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

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

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

Step 3: Investigation of Complaint

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

The complainant and/or his/her representative shall have an opportunity to present the complaint and evidence or information leading to evidence to support the allegations in the complaint. (5 CCR 4631)

A complainant's refusal to provide the district's investigator with documents or other evidence related to the allegations in the complaint, or his/her failure or refusal to cooperate in the investigation or his/her 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. (5 CCR 4631)

The district's refusal to provide the investigator with access to records and/or other information related to the allegation in the complaint, or its failure or refusal to cooperate in the investigation or its engagement in any other obstruction of the investigation, may result in a finding, based on evidence collected, that a violation has occurred and may result in the imposition of a remedy in favor of the complainant. (5 CCR 4631)

Step 4: Response

Unless extended by written agreement with the complainant, the compliance officer shall prepare and send to the complainant a written report of the district's investigation and decision, as described in Step #5 below, within 60 days of the district's receipt of the complaint. (5 CCR 4631)

Step 5: Final Written Decision

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

The district's decision shall be written in English and in the language of the complainant whenever feasible or as required by law. The decision shall include:

1. The findings of fact based on the evidence gathered (5 CCR 4631)
2. The conclusion(s) of law (5 CCR 4631)
3. Disposition of the complaint (5 CCR 4631)
4. Rationale for such disposition (5 CCR 4631)
5. Corrective actions, if any are warranted (5 CCR 4631)
6. Notice of the complainant's right to appeal the district's decision within 15 days to the CDE and procedures to be followed for initiating such an appeal (5 CCR 4631)
7. For discrimination complaints, notice that the complainant must wait until 60 days have elapsed from the filing of an appeal with the CDE before pursuing civil law remedies (Education Code 262.3) If an employee is disciplined as a result of the complaint, the decision shall simply state that effective action was taken and that the employee was informed of district expectations. The report shall not give any further information as to the nature of the disciplinary action.

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

Appeals to the California Department of Education

If dissatisfied with the district's decision, the complainant may appeal in writing to the CDE within 15 days of receiving the district's decision. When appealing to the CDE, the complainant must specify the basis for the appeal of the decision and whether the facts are incorrect and/or the law has been misapplied. The appeal shall be accompanied by a copy of the locally filed complaint and a copy of the district's decision. (5 CCR 4632)

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

1. A copy of the original complaint
2. A copy of the 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 complaint procedures
7. Other relevant information requested by the CDE

Civil Law Remedies

A complainant may pursue available civil law remedies outside of the district's complaint procedures. Complainants may seek assistance from mediation centers or public/private interest attorneys.

Civil law remedies that may be imposed by a court include, but are not limited to, injunctions and restraining orders.

For discrimination complaints, however, a complainant must wait until 60 days have elapsed from the filing of an appeal with the CDE before pursuing civil law remedies. The moratorium does not apply to injunctive relief and is applicable only if the district has appropriately, and in a timely manner, apprised the complainant of his/her right to file a complaint in accordance with 5 CCR 4622.

PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS

Pregnant or parenting students, regardless of their marital status, have the right to attend their current school or any district school, and to participate in any program or activity for which they would otherwise qualify in an environment free from discrimination or harassment. Enrollment in any school or program specifically designed for pregnant or parenting students must be completely voluntary on the part of the student. Classes, programs, and materials offered to pregnant and parenting students must be equal to those offered to other students and students must be provided access to those classes needed to complete their course of study. Pregnant and parenting students have a right to full participation in school classes, programs, and activities and it is the school's responsibility to make reasonable accommodations to keep pregnant students safe on campus and facilitate their continued participation. Such accommodations may include, but are not limited to: additional time for use of facilities and class changes, and providing independent study activities during absences due to pregnancy related illness or recovery at the request of the student/family.

Pregnant and parenting students with excused absences, such as pregnancy-related illnesses, medical care of related conditions due to the illness, or the medical appointment of a child for whom students are the custodial parents, shall be treated like all other students with excused absences. Students with excused absences shall be allowed to complete all assignments and tests missed, or a reasonable equivalent of the work missed during the absence, and shall be given full credit upon satisfactory completion of that work in a reasonable time period.

Student Parent Lactation Accommodations

The District is required to provide reasonable accommodations to a lactating student on a school campus to address breastfeeding needs. (EC 222) A student may not be penalized academically because of the reasonable accommodations provided during the school day.

“KNOW YOUR EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS”:

IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT FROM THE CALIFORNIA ATTORNEY GENERAL

Your Child has the Right to a Free Public Education

- All children in the United States have a Constitutional right to equal access to free public education, regardless of immigration status and regardless of the immigration status of the students' parents or guardians.
- In California:
 - All children have the right to a free public education.
 - All children ages 6 to 18 years must be enrolled in school.
 - All students and staff have the right to attend safe, secure, and peaceful schools.
 - All students have a right to be in a public-school learning environment free from discrimination, harassment, bullying, violence, and intimidation.
 - All students have equal opportunity to participate in any program or activity offered by the school, and cannot be discriminated against based on their race, nationality, gender, religion, or immigration status, among other characteristics.

Information Required for School Enrollment

- When enrolling a child, schools must accept a variety of documents from the student's parent or guardian to demonstrate proof of child's age or residency.
- You never have to provide information about citizenship/immigration status to have your child enrolled in school. Also, you never have to provide a Social Security number to have your child enrolled in school.

Confidentiality of Personal Information

- Federal and state laws protect student education records and personal information. These laws generally require that schools get written consent from parents or guardians before releasing student information, unless the release of information is for educational purposes, is already public, or is in response to a court order or subpoena.
- Some schools collect and provide publicly basic student “directory information.” If they do, then each year, your child's school district must provide parents/guardians with written notice of the school's directory information policy, and let you know of your option to refuse release of your child's information in the directory.

Family Safety Plans if You Are Detained or Deported

- You have the option to provide your child's school with emergency contact information, including the information of secondary contacts, to identify a trusted adult guardian who can care for your child in the event you are detained or deported.
- You have the option to complete a Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit or a Petition for Appointment of Temporary Guardian of the Person, which may enable a trusted adult the authority to make educational and medical decisions for your child.⁵⁵

Right to File a Complaint

- Your child has the right to report a hate crime or file a complaint to the school district if he or she is discriminated against, harassed, intimidated, or bullied on the basis of his or her actual or perceived nationality, ethnicity, or immigration status.

'CONTRABAND' DETECTION K-9'S ON OUR CAMPUS

The RDUSD Board of Trustees has elected to provide another resource in helping to ensure safe schools. The School District has contracted with Kontraband Interdiction and Detection Services, (K.I.D.S., Inc.), to bring specially trained non-aggressive canines onto our school campus to deter contraband substances from being brought onto our site(s). Though the main purpose of this program is to **deter** students from bringing illegal substances to school, it also serves as the least intrusive means of keeping our students and staff safe by locating and removing contraband to include the potential of weapons from our campus.

K.I.D.S. INC. K-9s ARE TRAINED TO DETECT THE ODOR OF THE FOLLOWING SUBSTANCES:

- *ILLICIT DRUG ODORS:** marijuana, cocaine, methamphetamine, heroin, and opium
- *ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES:** wine, beer, whiskey, etc. (open or closed containers)
- *GUNPOWDER BASED ITEMS:** ammunition, guns and fireworks
- *PRESCRIPTION MEDS:** Canines are NOT trained to detect OTC or RX meds. However, they may react to some RX pain meds that have common opiates.
- *RESIDUAL ODOR:** Any one of the above was previously present. The substance does **NOT** have to be present for the canine to detect the odor if the substance was previously present or 'spilled' on the item.

During random campus visits, the dogs will sniff the air around lockers, gym areas, restrooms, vehicles, vacated classrooms and school grounds for potential contraband items. When a vacated classroom is checked, students will be asked to exit the classroom for 5 to 8 minutes while school personnel accompany the canine team. With an administrator, or teacher present, the canine team will sniff the interior of the room including the air around any belongings left behind. This includes backpacks, purses, etc. **(AT NO TIME DOES A SEARCH UNDER THE 4TH AMENDMENT TAKE PLACE IN THE STUDENTS ABSENCE)**. K.I.D.S. Inc. policy precludes the use of their K-9s to sniff any student, employee, visitor or anyone else while on district property, or at any district event. All of K.I.D.S. Inc. canines are friendly, non-aggressive and passive trained, sit on odor they are trained to detect.

K.I.D.S. Inc. is registered by the U.S. Department of the Justice Drug Enforcement Agency, and all other federal and state regulatory agencies required by law.

Tdap Booster Shot Required for all 7th Graders

As you may know, Whooping Cough (Pertussis) became a widespread illness in California. Across the state many citizens became sick with Whooping Cough and students have had to miss school due to this illness. In the spring of 2011, to help protect your children and others from Whooping Cough, a California law was passed which now requires students to be vaccinated against Whooping Cough.

Starting in the 2022-2023 school year, all incoming 7th graders are required to meet immunization requirements for whooping cough (pertussis), as well as chickenpox, before they can attend classes. These requirements can be met through proof of 2 doses of the chickenpox vaccine and 1 dose of the whooping cough vaccine (known as Tdap).

By law, students who do not show proof of receiving a Tdap booster shot after the age of 7 and two doses of Varicella will not be able to enter 7th grade, until proof is provided to the school. Please schedule an appointment immediately with your regular doctor. These shots may also be available at your child's medical office, clinic or pharmacy. Then bring proof of immunizations to your child's school as soon as possible.

For more information, go to www.shotsforschool.org.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Angela Patin, RN at apatin@rdusd.org or leave a message at (916) 417-0352

Amanda Burch at aburch@rdusd.org or leave a message at (707) 770-9343




HEALTH CARE FOR ALL FAMILIES

A PROJECT OF THE CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP

Enroll. Get Care. Renew.

Health Coverage All Year Long

 The COVID-19 pandemic has made it clear that the health of each one of us is deeply interconnected with that of every Californian. It has also emphasized the importance of having accessible health care coverage and a well-funded safety-net available for our most marginalized communities. With the Supreme Court again ruling that the Affordable Care Act is the law of the land, and with the American Rescue Plan lowering premiums for thousands of Californians, it is easier than ever to get covered and stay covered.


Health Coverage Options

Medi-Cal:

- ▶ Children—regardless of immigration status—foster youth, pregnant women, and legally present individuals—including those with DACA status—may be eligible for no- or low-cost Medi-Cal.
- ▶ Medi-Cal covers immunizations, checkups, specialists, vision and dental services, and more for children and youth at no or low cost.
- ▶ Medi-Cal enrollment is available year round.
- ▶ During COVID-19, Medi-Cal plans began offering more services using telehealth. Ask your provider about accessing care over video or telephone.



Covered California:

- ▶ Covered California is where legal residents of California can compare quality health plans and choose the one that works best for them.
- ▶ Based on income and family size, many Californians may qualify for financial assistance.
- ▶ Enroll during Open Enrollment or any time you experience a life-changing event, like losing your job or having a baby. You have 60 days from the event to complete enrollment.

 **Immigrant Families** visit: www.allinforhealth.org/immigrantfamilies *Immigration status information is kept private, protected, and secure. It will not be used by any immigration agency to enforce immigration laws, but only to determine eligibility for health programs.*

Enroll.

Three ways to enroll in Medi-Cal and Covered California:

-  www.coveredca.com
-  1(800) 300-1506
-  Find in-person help: www.coveredca.com/get-help/local/

Get Care.

- ▶ Find a primary care doctor in your network.
- ▶ Schedule an annual checkup for you and your family.
- ▶ Make sure to take your child to the dentist.
- ▶ Pay your monthly premium if your plan requires it.

Renew.

- ▶ Medi-Cal must be renewed every year. If you receive a renewal notice, complete and return. You can also renew online or by phone. For help, contact your local Medi-Cal office.
- ▶ Health plans through Covered California must be renewed every year. Renewal information will be mailed at the end of the year, or contact Covered California at: 1 (800) 300-1506.

You and your family may qualify for low or no-cost health coverage:

Household Size	If household income is less than...			If household income is between...
	\$17,775	\$27,435	\$34,261	\$17,775 - \$51,040
1	\$24,040	\$37,105	\$46,338	\$24,040 - \$68,960
2	\$30,305	\$46,775	\$58,414	\$30,305 - \$86,880
3	\$36,570	\$56,445	\$70,490	\$36,570 - \$104,800
4	\$42,836	\$66,116	\$82,567	\$42,836 - \$122,720
5	\$49,101	\$75,786	\$94,643	\$49,101 - \$140,640
▶	Adults may be eligible for Medi-Cal	Children may be eligible for Medi-Cal	Pregnant women may be eligible for Medi-Cal	May be eligible for financial help to purchase insurance through Covered California

For more information go to:
www.allinforhealth.org

July 2021





YOUR CHILD'S ORAL HEALTH

To make sure your child is ready for school, California law, *Education Code Section 49452.8*, requires that your child have an oral health assessment (dental check-up) by May 31 in either transition al kindergarten, kindergarten or first grade, whichever is his or her first year in public school.

A licensed dentist or other licensed or registered dental health professional needs to perform the assessment. If your child has had an assessment within 12 months of entering school, that assessment will meet this requirement. **Schools must receive a signed copy of the required form by May 31st.**

If you have a dental provider:

- Take the attached Oral Health Assessment/Waiver Request form to the dental office to be completed at the time of your child's check-up. If you cannot take your child for this required assessment, please indicate the reason for this in Section 3 of the form.
- You can get copies of the necessary form at your child's school or online from the California Department of Education's Web site at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/>.
- California law requires schools to maintain the privacy of students' health information. Your child's identity will not be associated with any report produced as a result of this requirement.

If you do not have a dental provider, the following resources will help you find a dentist:

- Child Health & Disability Prevention Program (CHDP) - 916-875-7151
<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/chdp/Pages/default.aspx>.
- Medi-Cal Dental - 800-322-6384 - www.smileca.org.
- Sacramento Covered - 866-850-4321 toll-free - <https://www.sacramentocovered.org>.
- Sacramento County Oral Health Program - 916-875-5869 - <http://www.saccountyoralth.net>
- Solano County Oral Health Program - 707-784-2120
https://www.solanocounty.com/depts/ph/fhs/dental_clinics/default.asp
- For local assistance with filing the Medi-Cal/Denti-Cal applications call: Walnut Grove 1st Five at (916) 776-1844 or Rio Vista CARE at (707) 374-5243.

Remember, your child is not healthy and ready for school if he or she has poor dental health! Here is important advice to help your child stay healthy:

- Take your child to the dentist twice a year.
- Choose healthy foods for the entire family. Fresh foods are usually the healthiest foods.
- Brush teeth at least twice a day with toothpaste that contains fluoride.
- Limit candy and sweet drinks, such as punch or soda. Sweet drinks and candy contain a lot of sugar, which causes cavities and replaces important nutrients in your child's diet. Sweet drinks and candy also contribute to weight problems, which may lead to other diseases, such as diabetes. The less candy and sweet drinks, the better!

Baby teeth are very important. They are not just teeth that will fall out. Children need their teeth to eat properly, talk, smile, and feel good about them- selves. Children with cavities may have difficulty eating, stop smiling, and have problems paying attention and learning at school. Tooth decay is an infection that does not heal and can be painful if left without treatment. If cavities are not treated, children can become sick enough to require emergency room treatment, and their adult teeth may be permanently damaged.

Many things influence a child's progress and success in school, including health. Children must be healthy to learn, and children with cavities are not healthy. Cavities are preventable, but they affect more children than any other chronic disease.

If you have questions about the new oral health assessment requirement, please contact:

Angela Patin RN, Nurse at (916) 417-0352; e-mail: apatin@rdusd.org

TYPE-2 DIABETES INFORMATION

Pursuant to California Education Code Section 49451.7, this Type-2 Diabetes information is for local educational agencies to provide to parents and guardians of incoming 7th grade students. The California Department of Education developed this Type-2 Diabetes information in collaboration with the California Department of Public Health, American Diabetes Association, California School Nurses Organization, and Children's Hospital of Orange County.

Description

Type-2 Diabetes: The most common form of diabetes in teens and adult.

- Until a few years ago, type 2 diabetes was rare in children, but it is becoming more common, especially for overweight teens.
- According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), one in three American children born after 2000 will develop type 2 diabetes in his or her lifetime.

Type-2 Diabetes affects the way the body is able to use sugar (Glucose) for energy.

- The body turns the carbohydrates in food into glucose, the basic fuel for the body's cells.
- The pancreas makes insulin, a hormone that moves glucose from the blood to the cells.
- In type 2 diabetes, the body's cells resist the effects of insulin and blood glucose levels rise.
- Over time, glucose reaches dangerously high levels in the blood, which is called hyperglycemia. Hyperglycemia can lead to major health problems like heart disease, blindness and kidney failure.

Risk Factors Associated with Type-2 Diabetes

It is recommended that students displaying or possibly experiencing the risk factors and warning signs associated with type 2 diabetes be screened (blood tested) for the disease. Researchers do not completely understand why some people develop type 2 diabetes and others do not; however, the following risk factors are associated with an increased risk of type 2 diabetes in children:

- Being overweight.** The single greatest risk factor for type 2 diabetes in children is excess weight. In the U.S., almost one out of every five children is overweight. The chances are more than double that an overweight child will develop diabetes.
- Family history of diabetes.** Many affected children and youth have at least one parent with diabetes or have a significant family history of the disease.
- Inactivity.** Being inactive further reduces the body's ability to respond to insulin.
- Specific racial/ethnic groups.** Native Americans, African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, or Asian/Pacific Islanders are more prone than other ethnic groups to develop type 2 diabetes.
- Puberty.** Young people in puberty are more likely to develop type 2 diabetes than younger children, probably because of normal rises in hormone levels that can cause insulin resistance during this stage of rapid growth and physical development.

Warning Signs and Symptoms Associated with Type 2 Diabetes

Warning signs and symptoms of type 2 diabetes in children develop slowly, and initially there may be no symptoms. However, not everyone with insulin resistance or type 2 diabetes develops these warning signs, and not everyone who has these symptoms necessarily has type 2 diabetes.

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

Type 2 Diabetes Prevention Methods and Treatments

Healthy lifestyle choices can help prevent and treat type 2 diabetes. Even with a family history of diabetes, eating healthy foods in the correct amounts and exercising regularly can help children achieve or maintain a normal weight and normal blood glucose levels.

Eat healthy foods. Make wise food choices. Eat foods low in fat and calories.

Get more physical activity. Increase physical activity to at least 60 minutes every day.

Take medication. If diet and exercise are not enough to control the disease, it may be necessary to treat type 2 diabetes with medication.

The first step in treating type 2 diabetes is to visit a doctor. A doctor can determine if a child is overweight based on the child's age, weight, and height. A doctor can also request tests of a child's blood glucose to see if the child has diabetes or pre-diabetes (a condition which may lead to type 2 diabetes).

Type 1 Diabetes

Type 1 diabetes in children is an autoimmune disease that can be fatal if untreated, and the guidance provided in this information sheet is intended to raise awareness about this disease.

Description

Type 1 diabetes usually develops in children and young adults but can occur at any age

- According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), cases of type 1 diabetes in youth increased nationally from 187,000 in 2018 to 244,000 in 2019, representing an increase of 25 per 10,000 youths to 35 per 10,000 youths, respectively.
- The peak age of diagnosis of type 1 diabetes is 13-14 years, but diagnosis can also occur much earlier or later in life.

Type 1 diabetes affects insulin production

- As a normal function, the body turns the carbohydrates in food into glucose (blood sugar), the basic fuel for the body's cells.
- The pancreas makes insulin, a hormone that moves glucose from the blood into the cells.
- In type 1 diabetes, the body's pancreas stops making insulin, and blood glucose levels rise.
- Over time, glucose can reach dangerously high levels in the blood, which is called hyperglycemia.
- Untreated hyperglycemia can result in diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA), which is a life-threatening complication of diabetes.

Risk Factors Associated with Type 1 Diabetes

It is recommended that students displaying warning signs associated with type 1 diabetes, which are described below, should be screened (tested) for the disease by their health care provider.

Risk Factors

Researchers do not completely understand why some people develop type 1 diabetes and others do not; however, having a family history of type 1 diabetes can increase the likelihood of developing type 1 diabetes. Other factors may play a role in developing type 1 diabetes, including environmental triggers such as viruses. Type 1 diabetes is not caused by diet or lifestyle choices.

Warning Signs and Symptoms Associated with Type 1 Diabetes and Diabetic Ketoacidosis

Warning signs and symptoms of type 1 diabetes in children develop quickly, in a few weeks or months, and can be severe. If your child displays the warning signs below, contact your child's primary health care provider or pediatrician for a consultation to determine if screening your child for type 1 diabetes is appropriate:

- Increased thirst
- Increased urination, including bed-wetting after toilet training
- Increased hunger, even after eating
- Unexplained weight loss
- Feeling very tired
- Blurred vision
- Very dry skin
- Slow healing of sores or cuts
- Moodiness, restlessness, irritability, or behavior changes

DKA is a complication of untreated type 1 diabetes. DKA is a medical emergency. Symptoms include:

- Fruity breath
- Dry/flushed skin
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Stomach pains
- Trouble breathing
- Confusion

Types of Diabetes Screening Tests That Are Available

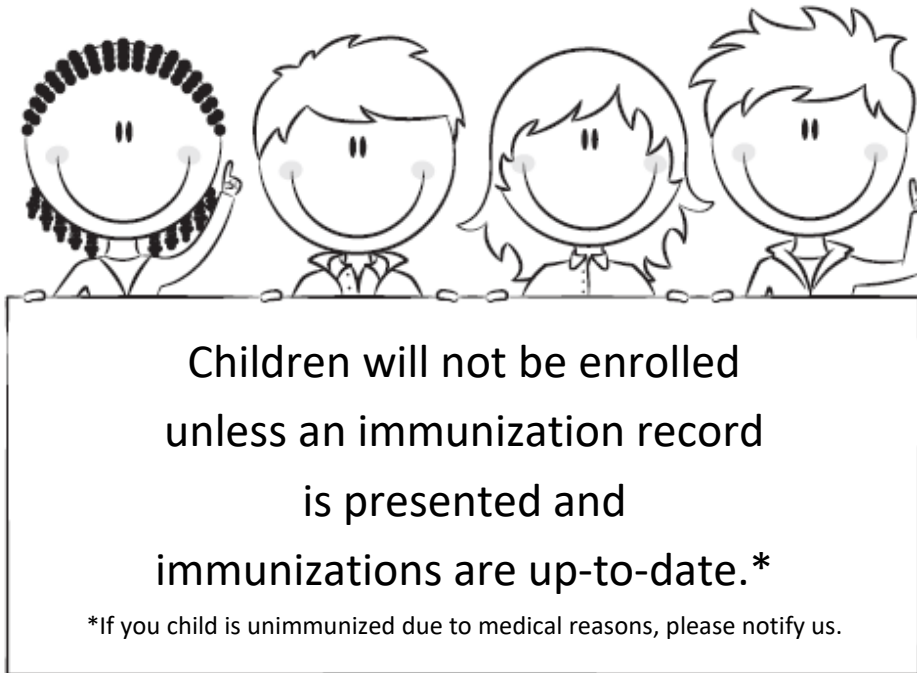
- **Glycated hemoglobin (A1C) test.** A blood test measures the average blood sugar level over two to three months. An A1C level of 6.5 percent or higher on two separate tests indicates diabetes.
- **Random (non-fasting) blood sugar test.** A blood sample is taken any time without fasting. A random blood sugar level of 200 milligrams per deciliter (mg/dL) or higher suggests diabetes.
- **Fasting blood sugar test.** A blood sample is taken after an overnight fast. A level of 126 mg/dL or higher on two separate tests indicates diabetes.
- **Oral glucose tolerance test.** A test measuring the fasting blood sugar level after an overnight fast with periodic testing for the next several hours after drinking a sugary liquid. A reading of more than 200 mg/dL after two hours indicates diabetes.

Type 1 Diabetes Treatments

There are no known ways to prevent type 1 diabetes. Once type 1 diabetes develops, medication is the only treatment. If your child is diagnosed with type 1 diabetes, their health care provider will be able to help develop a treatment plan. Your child's health care provider may refer your child to an endocrinologist, a doctor specializing in the endocrine system and its disorders, such as diabetes.

Contact your student's school nurse, school administrator, or health care provider if you have questions.

No Shots? No Records? No School.



IMM-1167

Important information about California State Health Requirements

Immunizations- Proof of immunization is required to enroll all students. You will receive a notice if your child does not meet California State Immunization requirements. Please take your child to get the needed immunizations, and bring an updated record to the school office as soon as possible. **Children cannot start school until all immunization requirements have been met and the updated record has been received and reviewed.**

Effective January 1st 2016, exemptions for religious or other personal beliefs are **no longer an option** for the vaccines that are currently required for entry into school or child care in California

Medical exemptions require a written statement from a licensed physician (M.D. or D.O.) which states:

That the physical condition or medical circumstances of the child are such that the required immunization(s) is/are not indicated

Which vaccines are being exempted

Whether the medical exemption is permanent or temporary

The expiration date, if the exemption is temporary

Dental Exam (Oral Health Assessment) - This requirement is due by May 31 of your child's First Grade year in school. An Oral Health Assessment form (attached) must be completed by a dentist or other licensed or registered dental health professional and turned into the school office. A dental exam *done after August 2022* will meet this requirement. If you would like to request for your child be waived from this requirement, please complete Section 3 and return by the due date.

Health Exam (CHDP) - This requirement is due by November of your child's First Grade year. A Report of Health Examination (attached) must be completed by a licensed physician (M.D. or D.O.), certified pediatric nurse practitioner or certified family nurse practitioner. A health exam *done after February 2022* will meet this requirement. Waivers for this requirement are available in the school office.

Please call your School Nurse if you have any questions regarding these California State Health requirements.

The EpiPen4Schools Program

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

A significant portion of severe allergic reactions at schools occur among students with no prior allergy diagnosis. Food Allergy Research & Education (FARE) states one in 13 children under age 18 has a food allergy. From 1997 to 2007, there was an 18% increase in food allergies and the rate of children with peanut allergies had tripled.

On January 1st, Governor Brown signed a new law called Senate Bill 1266 that requires schools to have on hand a supply of undesignated epinephrine auto-injectors.

The EpiPen Auto-Injector is a disposable, pre-filled automatic injection device that administers epinephrine in the event of a severe allergic reaction. Having access to an EpiPen is important because epinephrine is the only first-line treatment for a severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis).

SIGNS OF AN ALLERGIC REACTION INCLUDE:

SYMPTOMS

MOUTH itching & swelling of the lips, tongue, or mouth

THROAT* itching and/or a sense of tightness in the throat, hoarseness, and hacking cough

SKIN hives, itchy rash, and/or swelling about the face or extremities

GUT nausea, abdominal cramps, vomiting, and/or diarrhea

LUNG* shortness of breath, repetitive coughing, and/or wheezing

HEART* “thready”, pulse, “passing out”

The EpiPen4Schools Program was developed to improve access to epinephrine in the event of a life threatening allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) at school. We currently have implemented this program in your child’s school and have an emergency supply of EpiPens available in the case that a severe allergic reaction happens while your child is at school, and they do not have their own designated EpiPen.

- **Please note, these EpiPens are not to substitute a child’s designated EpiPen. If your child has a known allergy and a doctor’s order for an EpiPen while in school, that student needs to have their own EpiPen available to them while in school.**

If you have any questions please contact the school nurse.

Angela Patin RN at apatin@rdusd.org or leave a message at (916) 417-0352

Amanda Burch at aburch@rdusd.org or leave a message at (707) 770-9343



NOTICE REGARDING MEDICATION TO BE TAKEN DURING SCHOOL HOURS



The laws require the following concerning medication to be taken at school:

Students are not allowed to bring any medicine to school with them to be self-administered. If non-prescription medication is required to be taken during school hours, such as aspirin, allergy pills, etc., a parent or guardian must bring the medicine to the school and give it to the students.

If a student must take medicine during school hours which has been prescribed by a doctor, the following applies:

An **Authorization for Administration of Medication During School Hours** form must be obtained from the school secretary and completed, signed by a parent and by the doctor prescribing the medication, and returned to the school office along with the medicine to be given. If a student needs to self-administer medication during school hours, then a **Medication Self-Administration** form must also be completed and signed by the prescribing doctor and parent.

Trained school personnel will then administer the medication at the prescribed time and keep a record of this on a medication card in the nurse's office.

Medication must be in the container in which it was purchased with the pharmacy or manufacturer's label attached and must be prescribed to the student who will be taking the medication. The label will state: student's name, date, name of medication, dosage, time to be taken, special instructions and physician's name. No medications (including over-the-counter medications) will be given at school without a current Healthcare Provider prescription.

***** Every attempt will be made by school personnel to administer the medication in the dosage and schedule required. However, the prime responsibility rests with the pupil to report to appropriate school personnel for their medication. Should the medication be of such seriousness that a missed dosage will cause extraordinary reactions, the part should be arranged for the medicine to be given to the pupil by themselves or another person outside the school, whomever the parent wishes to designate.**

RIVER DELTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

AUTHORIZATION FOR ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION DURING SCHOOL HOURS*
Individualized Health and Support Plan (ISHP)

This form must be completed with Healthcare Provider and Parent/Guardian signatures before any medication may be taken at school.

California Education code 49423 allows the school nurse or other designated school personnel to assist students who are required to take medication during the school day as delegated by the Healthcare Provider. This service is provided to enable the student to remain in school and to maintain or improve the potential for education and learning.

Medication must be in the container in which it was purchased with the pharmacy or manufacturer's label attached and must be prescribed to the student who will be taking the medication. The label will state: student's name, date, name of medication, dosage, time to be taken, special instructions and physician's name. No medications (including over-the-counter medications) will be given at school without a current Healthcare Provider prescription.

Student Name: _____ DOB: _____
Medical Record #: _____ School: _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY HEALTHCARE PROVIDER:

Use one form per medication

TO HEALTHCARE PROVIDER: Please note: Whenever possible, please prescribe medication that can be given outside of the school day. If medication must be administered during school hours, please complete the information below:

Diagnosis: _____ Date of Examination: _____
Medication Prescribed: _____
Dosage: _____ Time(s)/Frequency: _____ Route: _____
Side effects: _____
Signs & symptoms for which a PRN (as needed) medication is to be taken: _____
How soon it can be repeated: _____
Duration of medication schedule (one year maximum): _____

Administration of this medication may be delegated to unlicensed assistive personnel, in the absence of a licensed nurse, as a licensed nurse is not usually available to give medications.

Healthcare Provider's signature: _____ Date: _____
Print/Type Provider's Name: _____ License No: _____
Address: _____ Phone: _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/GUARDIAN:

My signature below verifies that:

- 1. I am the parent or legal guardian of the pupil named above.
2. I authorize my child to receive the medication as authorized above.
3. I agree to deliver my child's medication to the appropriate school staff as described above.
4. The school district is not responsible for the results or side-effects of the medication. The school district is not responsible for reminding the student to take medication. The classroom teacher will be advised that the student will need to be released from the classroom when the student indicates that it is time for the medication to be taken.
5. I give my permission for the exchange of confidential information regarding my child between River Delta Unified School District and the above named healthcare provider as it relates to the above medication.
6. The school will be notified immediately if there is a change in healthcare provider, medication, or instructions.
7. In return for the school district's assistance in administering the medication to my child, I hereby waive on my own behalf, and on behalf of my child, the right to maintain any legal action for damages against the school district for any adverse effect that the medication may have on my child.

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____
Address: _____ Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

This form must be renewed whenever the prescription changes and at the beginning of each school year.

*A completed "Medication Self-Administration" form must accompany this form in order for a student to carry and self administer medication

Senate Bill No. 250

CHAPTER 726

An act to add Section 49557.5 to the Education Code, relating to pupil meals.

[Approved by Governor October 12, 2017. Filed with Secretary of State October 12, 2017.]

Legislative counsel's digest

SB 250, Hertzberg. Pupil meals: Child Hunger Prevention and Fair Treatment Act of 2017.

Existing law requires each school district or county superintendent of schools maintaining kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to provide one nutritionally adequate free or reduced-price meal for each needy pupil during each school day, except as specified. Existing law authorizes a school district or county office of education to use funds made available through any applicable federal or state program or to use its own funds to provide the required meals.

This bill would enact the Child Hunger Prevention and Fair Treatment Act of 2017. The act would require certain local educational agencies, as defined, that provide school meals through the federal National School Lunch Program or the federal School Breakfast Program to ensure that a pupil whose parent or guardian has unpaid school meal fees is not shamed, treated differently, or served a meal that differs from what a pupil whose parent or guardian does not have unpaid school meal fees would receive under that local educational agency's policy. The act would prohibit school personnel and volunteers at a local educational agency that serves nutritionally adequate meals to pupils during the instructional day from allowing any disciplinary action that is taken against a pupil to result in the denial or delay of a nutritionally adequate meal to that pupil. The act would require a local educational agency to notify a parent or guardian of the negative balance of a pupil's school meal account no later than 10 days after the pupil's school meal account has reached a negative balance. The act would require a local educational agency, before sending this notification to the parent or guardian, to exhaust all options and methods to directly certify the pupil for free or reduced-price meals. The act would require a local educational agency to reimburse school meal fees paid by a pupil's parent or guardian when fees were paid or unpaid fees debt accrued when a pupil would have been determined to be eligible for free or reduced-price school meals. To the extent that these provisions would place additional requirements on local educational agencies, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. This act shall be known, and may be cited, as the Child Hunger Prevention and Fair Treatment Act of 2017.

SEC. 2. It is the intent of the Legislature to prohibit school personnel from using denial or delay of a school meal as a way to punish a child for any reason and to establish transparent rules for resolving school meal fees debt owed by the child's parent or guardian when the debt has gone unpaid.

SEC. 3. Section 49557.5 is added to the Education Code, to read: 49557.5. (a) For purposes of this section, "local educational agency" means a school, school district, county office of education, or charter school.

(b) (1) A local educational agency, including a local educational agency in which there is a school that is required to serve a free or reduced-price meal during the school day pursuant to Section 49550 and at which all pupils are not eligible to be served breakfast and lunch under the Community Eligibility Provision or Provision 2 of the federal National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 1751 et seq.), shall ensure that a pupil whose parent or guardian has unpaid school meal fees is not shamed, treated differently, or served a meal that differs from what a pupil whose parent or guardian does not have unpaid school meal fees would receive under that local educational agency's policy. This paragraph does not prohibit a school from serving an alternative reimbursable meal to a pupil who may need one for dietary or religious reasons.

(2) If a local educational agency is required to provide to the department or to the United States Department of Agriculture a copy of the meal charge policy required pursuant to memorandum SP 46-2016 issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, the local educational agency or governing board or body of the local educational agency, as applicable, shall make that policy public.

(c) School personnel and volunteers at a local educational agency that serves nutritionally adequate meals to pupils during the instructional day shall not allow any disciplinary action that is taken against a pupil to

result in the denial or delay of a nutritionally adequate meal, as defined in Section 49553, to that pupil.

(d) A local educational agency shall not take any action directed at a pupil to collect unpaid school meal fees. A local educational agency may attempt to collect unpaid school meal fees from a parent or guardian, but shall not use a debt collector, as defined in Section 803 of the federal Consumer Credit Protection Act (15 U.S.C. Sec. 1692a).

(e) A local educational agency shall notify a parent or guardian of the negative balance of a pupil's school meal account no later than 10 days after the pupil's school meal account has reached a negative balance. Before sending this notification to the parent or guardian, the local educational agency shall exhaust all options and methods to directly certify the pupil for free or reduced-price meals. If the local educational agency is not able to directly certify the pupil, the local educational agency shall provide the parent or guardian with a paper copy of, or an electronic link to, an application with the notification and contact the parent or guardian to encourage application submission.

(f) To the extent that the expense is reimbursable under the federal National School Lunch Program, a local educational agency shall reimburse school meal fees paid by a pupil's parent or guardian when fees were paid or unpaid fees debt accrued during any time that the pupil would have been determined, as identified by the local educational agency's review pursuant to subdivision (e), to be eligible for free or reduced-price school meals.

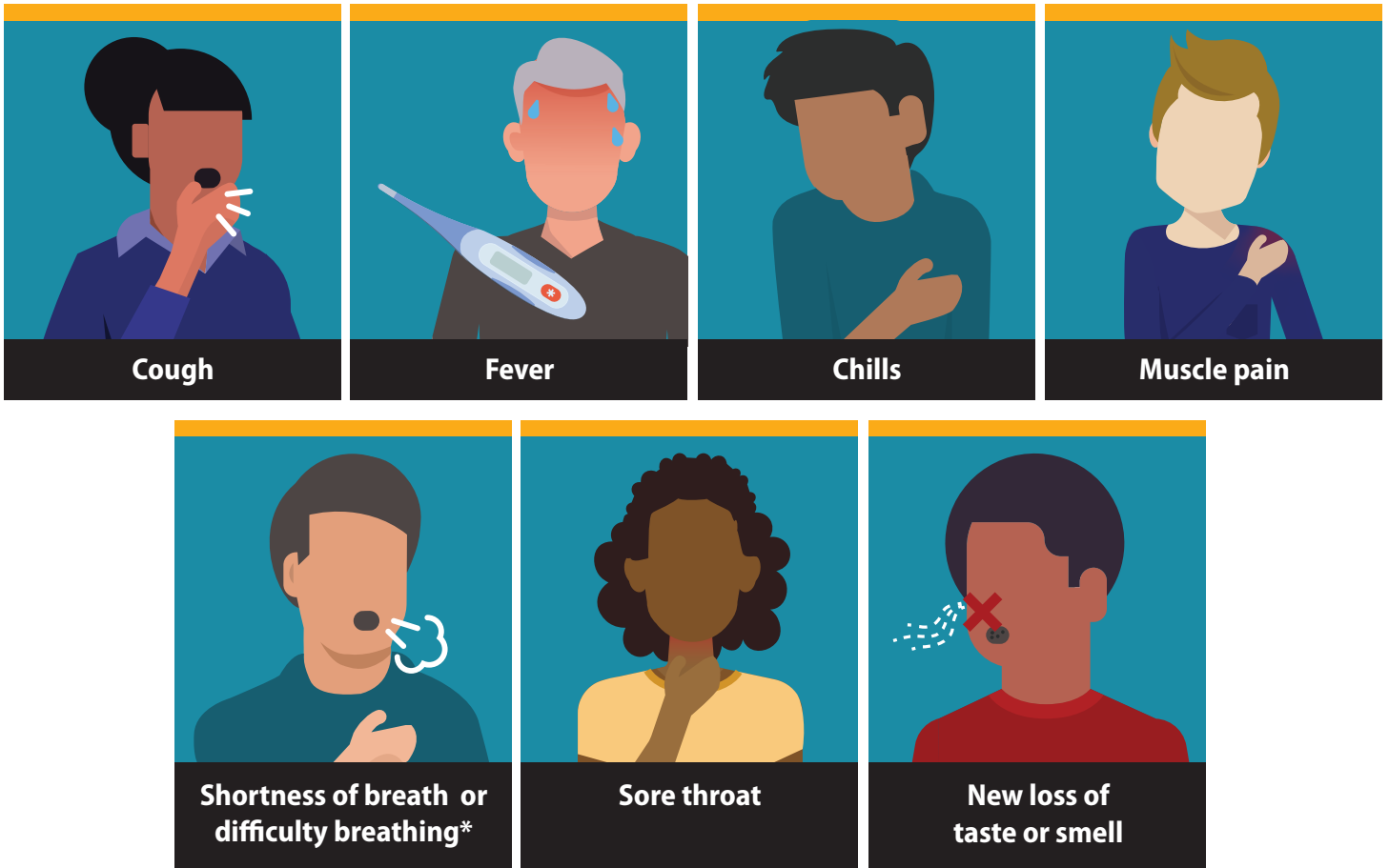
(g) Nothing in this section is intended to allow for the indefinite accrual of unpaid school meal fees.

(h) This section shall only apply to a local educational agency that provides school meals through the federal National School Lunch Program or the federal School Breakfast Program.

SEC. 4. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

Symptoms of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Know the symptoms of COVID-19, which can include the following:



Symptoms can range from mild to severe illness, and appear 2-14 days after you are exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.

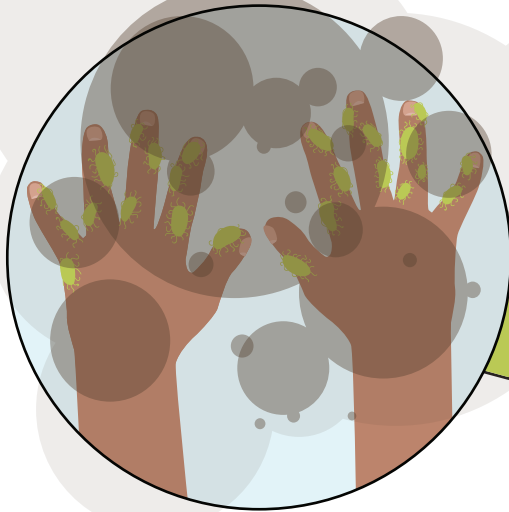
***Seek medical care immediately if someone has emergency warning signs of COVID-19.**

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- Bluish lips or face

This list is not all possible symptoms. Please call your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you.



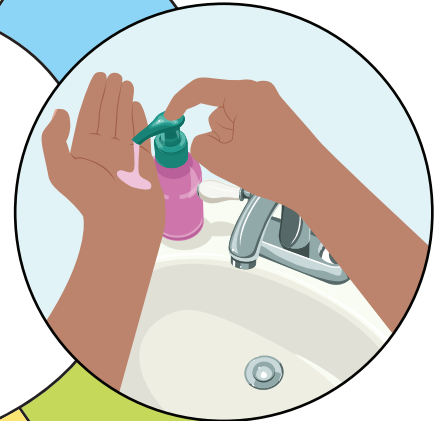
Wash Your Hands!



Dirty!



Wet



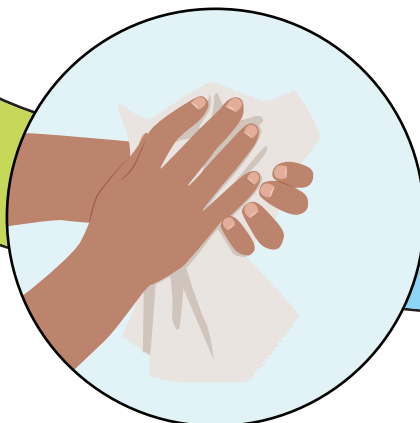
Get Soap



Scrub



Rinse



Dry



Clean!



Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention
National Center for Emerging
and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases

www.cdc.gov/handwashing

February 29, 2020

Talking to Children About COVID-19 (Coronavirus) A Parent Resource

A new type of coronavirus, abbreviated COVID-19, is causing an outbreak of respiratory (lung) disease. It was first detected in China and has now been detected internationally. While the immediate health risk in the United States is low, it is important to plan for any possible outbreaks if the risk level increases in the future.

Concern over this new virus can make children and families anxious. While we don't know where and to what extent the disease may spread here in the United States, we do know that it is contagious, that the severity of illness can vary from individual to individual, and that there are steps we can take to prevent the spread of infection. Acknowledging some level of concern, without panicking, is appropriate and can result in taking actions that reduce the risk of illness. Helping children cope with anxiety requires providing accurate prevention information and facts without causing undue alarm.

It is very important to remember that children look to adults for guidance on how to react to stressful events. If parents seem overly worried, children's anxiety may rise. Parents should reassure children that health and school officials are working hard to ensure that people throughout the country stay healthy. However, children also need factual, age appropriate information about the potential seriousness of disease risk and concrete instruction about how to avoid infections and spread of disease. Teaching children positive preventive measures, talking with them about their fears, and giving them a sense of some control over their risk of infection can help reduce anxiety.

Specific Guidelines

Remain calm and reassuring.

- Children will react to and follow your verbal and nonverbal reactions.
- What you say and do about COVID-19, current prevention efforts, and related events can either increase or decrease your children's anxiety.
- If true, emphasize to your children that they and your family are fine.
- Remind them that you and the adults at their school are there to keep them safe and healthy.
- Let your children talk about their feelings and help reframe their concerns into the appropriate perspective.

Make yourself available.

- Children may need extra attention from you and may want to talk about their concerns, fears, and questions.
- It is important that they know they have someone who will listen to them; make time for them.
- Tell them you love them and give them plenty of affection.

Avoid excessive blaming.

- When tensions are high, sometimes we try to blame someone.
- It is important to avoid stereotyping any one group of people as responsible for the virus.
- Bullying or negative comments made toward others should be stopped and reported to the school.
- Be aware of any comments that other adults are having around your family. You may have to explain what comments mean if they are different than the values that you have at home.

Monitor television viewing and social media.

- Limit television viewing or access to information on the Internet and through social media. Try to avoid watching or listening to information that might be upsetting when your children are present.
- Speak to your child about how many stories about COVID-19 on the Internet may be based on rumors and inaccurate information.
- Talk to your child about factual information of this disease—this can help reduce anxiety.
- Constantly watching updates on the status of COVID-19 can increase anxiety—avoid this.
- Be aware that developmentally inappropriate information (i.e., information designed for adults) can cause anxiety or confusion, particularly in young children.
- Engage your child in games or other interesting activities instead.

Maintain a normal routine to the extent possible.

- Keep to a regular schedule, as this can be reassuring and promotes physical health.
- Encourage your children to keep up with their schoolwork and extracurricular activities, but don't push them if they seem overwhelmed.

Be honest and accurate.

- In the absence of factual information, children often imagine situations far worse than reality.
- Don't ignore their concerns, but rather explain that at the present moment very few people in this country are sick with COVID-19.
- Children can be told this disease is thought to be spread between people who are in close contact with one another—when an infected person coughs or sneezes.
- It is also thought it can be spread when you touch an infected surface or object, which is why it is so important to protect yourself.
- For additional factual information contact your school nurse, ask your doctor, or check the <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html> website.

Know the symptoms of COVID-19.

- The CDC believes these symptoms appear in a few days after being exposed to someone with the disease or as long as 14 days after exposure:
 - Fever
 - Cough
 - Shortness for breath
- For some people the symptoms are like having a cold; for others they are quite severe or even life threatening. In either case it is important to check with your child's healthcare provider (or yours) and follow instructions about staying home or away from public spaces to prevent the spread of the virus.

Review and model basic hygiene and healthy lifestyle practices for protection.

- Encourage your child to practice every day good hygiene—simple steps to prevent spread of illness:
 - Wash hands multiple times a day for at least 20 seconds (singing Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star slowly takes about 20 seconds).
 - Cover their mouths with a tissue when they sneeze or cough and throw away the tissue immediately, or sneeze or cough into the bend of their elbow. Do not share food or drinks.

- Practice giving fist or elbow bumps instead of handshakes. Fewer germs are spread this way.
- Giving children guidance on what they can do to prevent infection gives them a greater sense of control over disease spread and will help to reduce their anxiety.
- Encourage your child to eat a balanced diet, get enough sleep, and exercise regularly; this will help them develop a strong immune system to fight off illness.

Discuss new rules or practices at school.

- Many schools already enforce illness prevention habits, including frequent hand washing or use of alcohol-based hand cleansers.
- Your school nurse or principal will send information home about any new rules or practices.
- Be sure to discuss this with your child.
- Contact your school nurse with any specific questions.

Communicate with your school.

- Let your school know if your child is sick and keep them home. Your school may ask if your child has a fever or not. This information will help the school to know why your child was kept home. If your child is diagnosed with COVID-19, let the school know so they can communicate with and get guidance from local health authorities.
- Talk to your school nurse, school psychologist, school counselor, or school social worker if your child is having difficulties as a result of anxiety or stress related to COVID-19. They can give guidance and support to your child at school.
- *Make sure to follow all instructions from your school.*

Take Time to Talk

You know your children best. Let their questions be your guide as to how much information to provide. However, don't avoid giving them the information that health experts identify as critical to ensuring your children's health. Be patient; children and youth do not always talk about their concerns readily. Watch for clues that they may want to talk, such as hovering around while you do the dishes or yard work. It is very typical for younger children to ask a few questions, return to playing, then come back to ask more questions.

When sharing information, it is important make sure to provide facts without promoting a high level of stress, remind children that adults are working to address this concern, and give children actions they can take to protect themselves.

Information is rapidly changing about this new virus—to have the most correct information stay informed by accessing <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

Keep Explanations Age Appropriate

- Early elementary school children need brief, simple information that should balance COVID-19 facts with appropriate reassurances that their schools and homes are safe and that adults are there to help keep them healthy and to take care of them if they do get sick. Give simple examples of the steps people take every day to stop germs and stay healthy, such as washing hands. Use language such as “adults are working hard to keep you safe.”
- Upper elementary and early middle school children will be more vocal in asking questions about whether they truly are safe and what will happen if COVID-19 comes to their school or community. They may need assistance separating reality from rumor and fantasy. Discuss efforts of school and

community leaders to prevent germs from spreading.

- Upper middle school and high school students are able to discuss the issue in a more in-depth (adult-like) fashion and can be referred directly to appropriate sources of COVID-19 facts. Provide honest, accurate, and factual information about the current status of COVID-19. Having such knowledge can help them feel a sense of control.

Suggested Points to Emphasize When Talking to Children

- Adults at home and school are taking care of your health and safety. If you have concerns, please talk to an adult you trust.
- Not everyone will get the coronavirus (COVID-19) disease. School and health officials are being especially careful to make sure as few people as possible get sick.
- It is important that all students treat each other with respect and not jump to conclusions about who may or may not have COVID-19.
- There are things you can do to stay health and avoid spreading the disease:
 - Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
 - Stay home when you are sick.
 - Cover your cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
 - Wash hands often with soap and water (20 seconds).
 - If you don't have soap, use hand sanitizer (60–95% alcohol based).
 - Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

Additional Resources

Talking With Children: Tips for Caregivers, Parents, and Teachers During Infectious Disease Outbreaks, <https://store.samhsa.gov/product/Talking-With-Children-Tips-for-Caregivers-Parents-and-Teachers-During-Infectious-Disease-Outbreaks/SMA14-4886>

Coping With Stress During Infectious Disease Outbreaks, <https://store.samhsa.gov/product/Coping-with-Stress-During-Infectious-Disease-Outbreaks/sma14-4885>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/transmission.html>

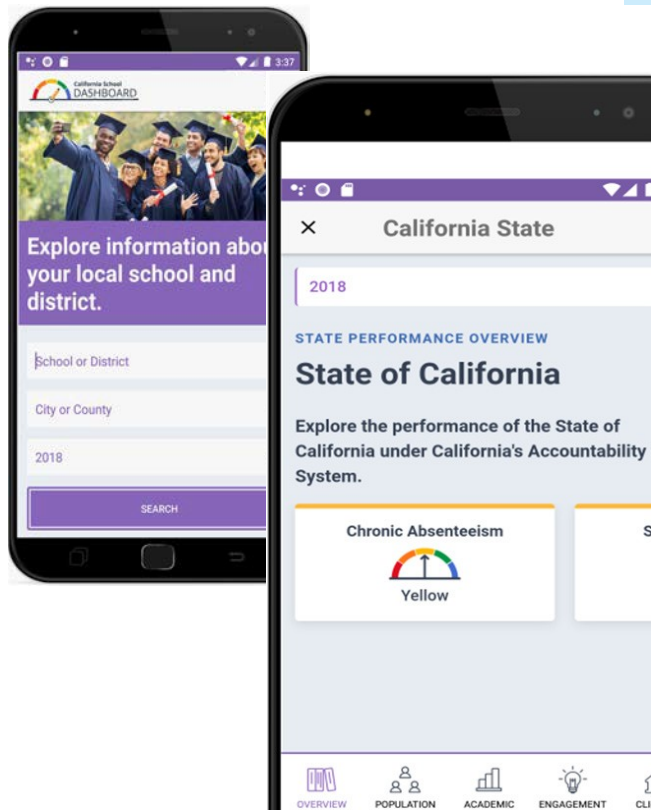
Handwashing and Hand Sanitizer Use at Home, at Play, and Out and About, <https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/pdf/hand-sanitizer-factsheet.pdf>

For more information related to schools and physical and mental health, visit www.nasponline.org and www.nasn.org.

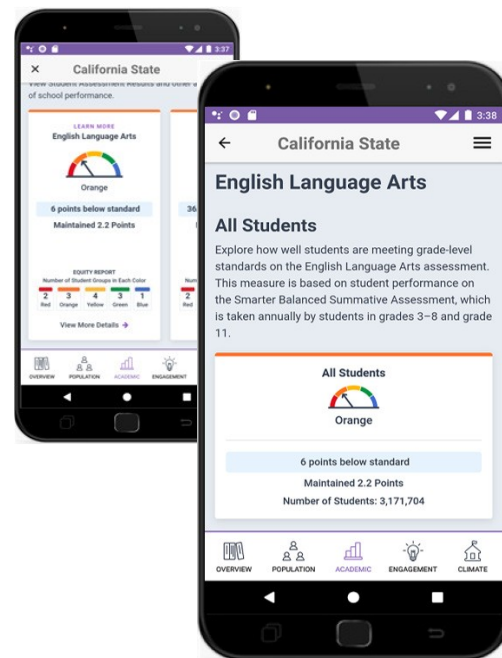
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STUDENT TECHNOLOGY, NETWORK, INTERNET SERVICE & DEVICE ACCEPTABLE USE

As a privilege, the River Delta Unified School District authorizes students to use personal technology devices or devices provided by the District to be used for educational purposes. However, the District reserves the rights to suspend access at any time, without notice, for any reason. Students must abide by this agreement and the conditions and restrictions set forth in Board policies and administrative regulations. District technology includes, but is not limited to, computers, the district's computer network including server and wireless computer networking technology (wi-fi), the Internet, email, USB drives, wireless access points (routers), tablet computers, smartphones and smart devices, telephones, cellular telephones, personal digital assistants, pagers, MP3 players, wearable technology, any wireless communication device including emergency radios, and/or future technological innovations, whether accessed on or off site or through district-owned or personally owned equipment or devices.

Student Obligations and Responsibilities

Students are expected to use district technology safely, responsibly, and for educational purposes only. The student in whose name district technology is issued is responsible for its proper use at all times. Students shall not share their assigned online services account information, passwords, or other information used for identification and authorization purposes, and shall use the system only under the account to which they have been assigned.

Students are prohibited from using district technology for improper purposes, including, but not limited to, use of district technology to:

- The use or distribution of another person's password
- Access, send, post, display, or otherwise use material that is discriminatory, offensive, derogatory, obscene, sexually explicit, or of hate related material
- Bully, harass, intimidate, or threaten other students, staff, or other individuals ("cyberbullying")
- Disclose, use, or disseminate personal identification information (such as name, address, telephone number, Social Security number, or other personal information) of another student, staff member, or other person with the intent to threaten, intimidate, harass, or ridicule that person
- Infringe on copyright, license, trademark, patent, or other intellectual property rights
- Intentionally disrupt or harm district technology or other district operations, such as: destroying district equipment, installing or uninstalling a computer program, changing settings on district computers without permission from district personnel
- Possession or use of any tools designed for probing, monitoring, or breaching the security of the network or willfully infecting the network or files with a virus
- Install unauthorized software
- Access the system to manipulate data of the district or access another users' folders, work, or files without their consent
- Use for commercial or non-school related activities such as network games, downloading of games/music/videos files or serving as a host for such activities
- Participating in non-district approved forums, chat rooms, or exchanges
- Engage in or promote any practice that is unethical or violates any law or Board policy, administrative regulation, or district practice
- Activities that would subject the school/district or the individual to criminal, civil or administrative liability

Privacy

Since the use of district technology is intended for educational purposes, students shall not have any expectation of privacy in any use of district technology.

The district reserves the right to monitor and record all use of district technology, including, but not limited to, access to the Internet or social media, communications sent or received from district technology, or other uses. Such monitoring/recording may occur at any time without prior notice for any legal purposes including, but not limited to, record retention and distribution and/or investigation of improper, illegal, or prohibited activity. Students should be aware that, in most instances, their use of district technology (such as web searches and emails) cannot be erased or deleted.

All passwords created for or used on any district technology are the sole property of the district. The creation or use of a password by a student on district technology does not create a reasonable expectation of privacy.

Personally Owned Devices

If a student uses a personally owned device to access district technology, he/she shall abide by all applicable Board policies, administrative regulations, and this Acceptable Use Agreement. Any such use of a personally owned device may subject the contents of the device and any communications sent or received on the device to disclosure pursuant to a lawful subpoena or public records request.

Reporting

If a student becomes aware of any security problem (such as any compromise of the confidentiality of any login or account information) or misuse of district technology, he/she shall immediately report such information to the teacher or other district personnel.

Consequences for Violation

Violations of the law, Board policy or administrative regulation, or this agreement may result in revocation of a student's access to district technology and/or discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion. In addition, violations of the law, Board policy, or this agreement may be reported to law enforcement agencies as appropriate.

NOTE: The specific use of technology for the purpose of the assessment for Common Core State Standards test, or other mandated tests are not covered by this agreement.

California Healthy Kids Survey Notification

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Your child is being asked to take a survey at school. The survey includes questions about alcohol, tobacco, and other drug issues, as well as questions about school safety and the learning environment. Student participation in the survey is voluntary. We hope that you will give permission for your child to participate in the survey so that his or her opinion and knowledge can be used to improve the school.

The survey is anonymous. No names or any other identifying information is connected to the answers except for the name of the school.

If you have questions, please contact Trisha Salomon (707) 374-1729. Prior to the administration of the survey parents will be sent more information on dates and consent policies and procedures.

If you wish to view the survey, you may do so at the school office or on our website or by clicking this link. If you are unable to use the link, the information is listed in the department section of the RDUSD website in the Education Services section.

Consent forms will be provided through ParentSquare.

Sincerely,

Nancy Vielhauer
Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services



District and School Communication to Parents

River Delta Unified School District now uses ParentSquare for communication, primarily with email, text, and app notifications. ParentSquare automatically generates an account for each parent, using their preferred email address and/or phone number.

We encourage all parent to access their Aeries accounts to access Parent Square. [For assistance with this process please click this link.](#)

We also encourage parents to access their accounts so they can download the mobile app and update their preferences on when and how they are notified.

ParentSquare Support

[Slide Deck Introduction to ParentSquare \(English\)](#)

[Introduction to ParentSquare \(English\)](#)

[Tips for Parents and Guardians \(English\)](#)

[iOS App Download](#)

[Android App Download](#)

Opt-Out

We promise to only send you information closely related to school. You can opt-out at any time. [See this document for more information about opting out form our communications.](#)

HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO WITH PARENTSQUARE:

- Receive messages from the school via email, text, or app notification
- Choose to receive information as it comes or all at once at 6pm daily.
- Communicate in your preferred language
- Comment on school postings to engage in your school community
- Participate in group messages
- Sign up for parent-teacher conference with smart online technology.
- Sign forms and permission slips, receive report cards, sign up to volunteer, and more all from your phone, or web portal



ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND AGREEMENT TO ABIDE BY RIVER DELTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

The novel coronavirus (or COVID-19) has created a pandemic resulting in a State of Emergency in California. COVID-19 is extremely contagious and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact. As a result, federal, state, and local governments and health officers have required or recommended social distancing and, in many instances, have prohibited or significantly limited the congregation of groups of people.

River Delta Unified School District (“RDUSD ”) is complying with guidance and taking reasonable steps to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19. However, this risk cannot be completely eliminated and RDUSD cannot guarantee that you and/or, if applicable, your student(s)/child(ren) will not become infected with COVID-19. Further, participating in the RDUSD athletic program and related events and activities (“Athletic Program”) could increase your and/or, if applicable, your student(s)/child(ren)’s risk of contracting COVID-19. Consequently, for the safety of our staff, students, parents, and other visitors, RDUSD requires all persons participating in its activities during this pandemic to acknowledge an assumption of the risk, waive (i.e. release) liability, and agree to abide by our COVID-19 protocols, as follows:

1. I request to participate in the above Activity. If applicable, I am the parent and/or legal guardian of the above-named student(s)/child(ren), and I request that he/she/they be allowed to participate in the above Activity and I give my permission for he/she/they to do so.
2. Assumption of Risk. By signing this agreement, I understand and acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and voluntarily assume the risk that I and, if applicable, my student(s)/child(ren), may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by participating in the above activity, and that such exposure or infection may result in personal injury, illness, permanent disability, and death. I understand that the risk of becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by participating in the Activity may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of myself and others, including, but not limited to, other participants or RDUSD officials, employees, volunteers, and/or representatives. I voluntarily agree to assume all of the foregoing risks and accept sole responsibility for any harm, loss, or injury to myself and/or, if applicable, my student(s)/child(ren)(including, but not limited to, personal injury, disability, and death), illness, damage, loss, claim, liability, or expense of any kind, that I, or, if applicable, my student(s)/child(ren), may experience or incur in connection with the above Activity. (“Claims”).
3. Waiver of Liability. In consideration for the District allowing me and/or, if applicable, my student(s)/child(ren) to participate in the above Activity, I, on behalf of myself, and/or, if applicable, my student(s)/child(ren), hereby release, covenant not to sue, discharge, and hold harmless the District,, and any officials, employees, volunteers, and/or representatives thereof (“Releasees”), of and from the Claims, including all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs, or expenses of any kind arising out of or relating thereto. I understand and agree that this release includes any Claims based on the actions, omissions, or negligence or other conduct of RDUSD,

its officials, employees, volunteers, agents and/or representatives, whether a COVID-19 infection occurs before, during, or after participation in the above Activity.

4. Agreement to Abide by COVID-19 Protocols. I agree that I, and/or, if applicable, my student(s)/child(ren), will not enter District grounds or facilities if I am, and/or he/she/they is/are, feeling ill, which includes, but is not limited to, the following symptoms: fever, cough, difficulty breathing, shortness of breath, chest pain, and/or bluish lips or face. I understand and acknowledge that I, or, if applicable, my student(s)/child(ren), may be denied entrance or admittance if the District determines that I am, or he/she/they is/are, showing any such symptoms. I warrant and represent that I am not aware of any medical condition of myself and/or, if applicable, my student(s)/child(ren) which would render it inappropriate for me and/or him/her/they to participate in the activity. I agree to abide by all COVID-19 guidelines and other COVID-19-related policies and procedures, which may change over time as circumstances change over time. This may include hand washing requirements and temperature checks for myself and, if applicable, my student(s)/child(ren). I agree to practice good hygiene etiquette such as sneezing into my elbow, utilizing tissues, and avoid touching my eyes, nose, and mouth, and, if applicable, to instruct my student(s)/child(ren) to do the same. I understand and acknowledge that my failure to abide by and/or my failure to ensure that any student/child of mine abides by this agreement may result in me and/or, if applicable, my student(s)/child(ren), being removed from the Athletic Program.

I HAVE READ THIS ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND AGREEMENT TO ABIDE BY RDUSD COVID-19 PROTOCOLS, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS.

Signatures are required through Parent Square

FOR PARTICIPANTS OF MINORITY AGE (UNDER AGE 18 AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION)

This is to certify that I, as parent/guardian, with legal responsibility for this participant, have read and explained the provisions in this waiver/release to my child/ward including the risks of presence and participation and his/her/their personal responsibilities for adhering to the rules and regulations for protection against communicable diseases. Furthermore, my child/ward understands and accepts these risks and responsibilities. I for myself, my spouse, and child/ward do consent and agree to his/her/their release provided above for all the Releasees, and myself, my spouse, and child/ward do release and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Releasees for any and all liabilities incident to my minor child's/ward's presence and/or participation in these activities as provided above, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THEIR NEGLIGENCE, to the fullest extent provided by law.

Signatures are required through Parent Square