ANNUAL NOTICE TO PARENTS 2018-2019

DEAR PARENT/GUARDIAN:

Section 48980 of the Education Code of California requires that notice be given at the beginning of the first semester or quarter of the regular school term to the parent or guardian of the minor pupils in the school district regarding the rights of the parent or guardian under sections 32390, 35291, 46014, 48205, 48207, 48208, 49403, 49423, 49451, 49472, 51938, Chapter 2.3 (commencing with section 32255) of Part 19, and notice of the availability of the program prescribed by Article 9 (commencing with section 49510) of Chapter 9 and of the availability of individualized instruction under section 48206.3.

Some legislation requires additional notification to the parents or guardians during the school term or at least 15 days prior to a specific activity. (A separate letter will be sent to parents or guardians prior to any of these specified activities or classes, and the student will be excused whenever the parents or guardians file with the principal of the school a statement in writing requesting that their child not participate.) Other legislation grants certain rights that are spelled out in this form.

Accordingly, you are hereby notified as follows (when used in this notification "parent" includes a parent or legal guardian):

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

RULES AND PROCEDURES ON SCHOOL DISCIPLINE (EC §35291):

Rules pertaining to student discipline, including those that govern suspension or expulsion, are set forth in Education Code Sections 48900 and following, and are available upon request from the school. In addition, the following disciplinary information is provided to parents:

DUTY CONCERNING CONDUCT OF PUPILS (EC §44807): Every teacher shall hold pupils accountable for their conduct on the way to and from school, and on the playground.

DUTIES OF PUPILS (5 CCR §300): Pupils must conform to school regulations, obey all directions, be diligent in study, be respectful of teachers/others in authority, and refrain from profane/vulgar language.

HAZING PROHIBITION (EC §48900(q)): Pupils and other persons in attendance are prohibited from engaging or attempting to engage in hazing.

DRESS CODE/GANG APPAREL (EC §35183): The district is authorized to adopt a reasonable dress code.

ATTENDANCE OF SUSPENDED PUPIL'S PARENT (EC §48900.1; LC §230.7): If a teacher suspends a student, the teacher may require the child's parent to attend a portion of the school day in his or her child's class. Employers may not discriminate against parents who are required to comply with this requirement.

SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT CARD (EC §35256, 35258): Districts are to make a concerted effort to notify parents of the purpose of school accountability report cards, and ensure that all parents have access to a copy.

SAFE PLACE TO LEARN ACT (EC §234.1): The district is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from bullying, as defined in EC §48900(r). Any student who engages in bullying of anyone in or from the district may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. The district's policies and process for filing a complaint should be publicized to pupils, parents, employees and agents of the governing board. The notice shall be in English and in the primary language of the recipient. For a copy of the district's anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, anti-intimidation, and anti-bullying policies or to report incidences of bullying please contact the district office. These policies shall be posted in schools and offices.

SCHOOL RECORDS AND ACHIEVEMENT

PUPIL RECORDS/NOTICE OF PRIVACY RIGHTS OF PARENTS AND STUDENTS (EC §49063 et seq., §49069, §49073, 34 CFR 99.30, 34 CFR 99.34, and the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act): Federal and state laws concerning student records grant certain rights of privacy and right of access to students and to their parents. Full access to all personally identifiable written records maintained by the school district must be granted to: (1) Parents of students 17 and younger; (2) Parents of students age 18 and older if the student is a dependent for tax purposes and the records are needed for a legitimate educational purpose; (3) Students age 18 and older, or students who are enrolled in an institution of postsecondary instruction (called "eligible students"); (4) Pupils age 14 and over who are identified as both homeless and an unaccompanied youth; (5) Individuals who have completed and signed a Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit.

Parents, or an eligible student, may review individual records by making a request to the principal. Districts must respond to a pupil record request by providing access no later than five business days following the date of the request. The principal will see that explanation and interpretations are provided if requested. Information that is alleged to be inaccurate or inappropriate may be removed upon request. In addition, parents or eligible students may receive a copy of any information in the records at reasonable cost per page. District policies and procedures relating to: location of, and types of records; kinds of information retained; availability of certificated personnel to interpret records if requested; persons responsible for records; directory information; access by other persons; review and challenge of records are available through the principal at each school. When a student moves to a new district, records will be forwarded upon the request of the new school district within ten school days. At the time of transfer, the parent or eligible student may review, receive a copy (at a reasonable fee), and/or challenge the records.

If you believe the district is not in compliance with federal regulations regarding privacy, you may file a complaint with the United States Department of Education (20 USC §1232g).

You have the right to inspect all instructional materials which will be used in connection with any survey, analysis, or evaluation as part of any applicable program.

RELEASE OF PUPIL DIRECTORY INFORMATION (EC §49073, 34 CFR 99.37): The district also makes student directory information available in accordance with state and federal laws. This means that each student's name, birth date, address, telephone number, email address, major course of study, participation in officially recognized school activities, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and most recent previous public

or private school attendance may be released in accordance with board policy. In addition, height and weight of athletes may be made available. Appropriate directory information may be provided to any agency or person except private, profit-making organizations (other than employers, potential employers or the news media). Names and addresses of seniors or terminating students may be given to public or private schools and colleges. Parents and eligible students will be notified prior to the destruction of any special education records. You have the right to inspect a survey or other instrument to be administered or distributed to your child that either collects personal information for marketing or sale or requests information about beliefs and practices and any instructional material to be used as part of your child's educational curriculum. Please contact your child's school if you wish to inspect such a survey or other instrument.

Upon written request from the parent of a student age 17 or younger, the district will withhold directory information about the student. If the student is 18 or older or enrolled in an institution of postsecondary instruction and makes a written request, the student's request to deny access to directory information will be honored. Requests must be submitted within 30 calendar days of the receipt of this notification. (Opt-out option available through Mandatory Annual Student Update via on line survey beginning in July.) Additionally, directory information related to homeless or unaccompanied youths will not be released without the express written consent for its release by the eligible pupil or guardian.

RELEASE OF INFO TO MILITARY SERVICES REPS / RELEASE OF TELEPHONE NUMBERS (EC §49073.5; 20 USC §7908): Parents of secondary students may request in writing that the student's name, address, and telephone listing not be released to armed forces recruiters without prior written parental consent.

PARTICIPATION IN STATE ASSESSMENTS AND OPTION TO REQUEST EXEMPTION (EC § 60615, 5 CCR § 852): Pupils in applicable grade levels will participate in the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) except as exempted by law. Each year, a parent may submit a written request to excuse his or her child from any or all parts of the CAASPP assessments for that school year. If the parent submits the exemption request after testing begins, any test(s) completed before the request is submitted will be scored; the results will be included in the pupil's records and reported to the parent. School district employees will not solicit or encourage any exemption request on behalf of a pupil or group of pupils.

HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM: NOTIFICATION REGARDING COLLEGE PREPARATORY COURSES (EC §51229): Districts are required to provide parents of each minor pupil enrolled in grades 9 to 12 written notice of college admission requirements and career technical education courses.

RELEASE OF STUDENT RECORDS/COMPLIANCE WITH SUBPOENA OR COURT ORDER (EC §§49076 and 49077): Districts are required to make a reasonable effort to notify parents in advance of disclosing student information pursuant to a subpoena or court order.

RELEASE OF STUDENT RECORDS TO SCHOOL OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE DISTRICT (EC §§49076(a)(1) and 49064(d)): Districts may release educational records, without obtaining prior written parental consent, to any school official or employee, which would include accountants, consultants, contractors, or other service providers, who have a legitimate educational interest in the educational record.

HEALTH SERVICES

CHILD HEALTH AND DISABILITIES PREVENTION PROGRAM (H&SC §124085): Physical examinations are required as a prerequisite for enrollment in the first grade. Free health screening may be available through the local health department. Failure to comply with this requirement or sign an appropriate waiver may result in exclusion of your child from school for up to five days.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION; PARENT REFUSAL TO CONSENT (EC §49451): A child may be exempt from physical examination whenever the parents file, annually, a written statement with the school principal stating that they will not consent to routine physical exam of their child. Whenever there is good reason to believe the child is suffering from a recognized contagious disease, the child will be excluded from school attendance.

VISION APPRAISAL (EC §49455): The district is required to appraise each student's vision during kindergarten, upon initial enrollment, and in grades 2, 5, and 8. Appraisal in the year immediately following a student's first enrollment in grades 4 or 7 shall not be required. The appraisal shall include tests for visual acuity, near vision, and color vision; however, color vision shall be appraised once and only on male students. The evaluation may be waived upon presentation of a certificate from a physician, surgeon, physician's assistant, or optometrist setting out the results of a determination of the student's vision, including visual acuity and color vision. This appraisal is not required if a parent files a written objection based on a religious belief with the principal.

SCOLIOSIS SCREENING NOTICE (EC §§49451 and 49452.5): In addition to the physical examinations required pursuant to Sections 100275, 124035 and 124090 of the Health and Safety Code, the district may provide for the screening of every female student in grade 7 and every male student in grade 8 for the condition known as scoliosis.

DENTAL FLUORIDE TREATMENT (H&SC §104830 et seq.): Pupils will be provided the opportunity to receive the topical application of fluoride or other decay-inhibiting agent to each pupil's teeth if the parent, or eligible pupil submits a letter stating that the treatment is desired.

PUPIL NUTRITION/NOTICE OF FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS (EC §§48980(b), 49510, 49520 and 49558): Needy children may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Details, eligibility criteria, and applications to participate in a free or reduced price meal program if it is available are available at your child's school. Individual records pertaining to student participation in any free or reduced-price meal program may, under appropriate circumstances, be used by school district employees to identify students eligible for public school choice and services pursuant to the federal Every Student Succeeds Act. When a household is selected for verification of eligibility for free and reduced meals, the District must notify the parent that their child(ren)'s eligibility is being verified.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (EC §48216 and 49403): The district is authorized to administer immunizing agents to pupils whose parents have consented in writing to the administration of such immunizing agent. The district is required to exclude pupils who have not been properly immunized pursuant to Health and Safety Code 120325 and 120335. The district must notify parents that they have two weeks to supply evidence either that the pupil has been properly immunized or is exempted from the requirement. All students entering kindergarten, advancing from sixth to seventh grade in the district, or prior to his or her first admission to the district, will be required to comply with the immunization requirements of Health and Safety Code section 120335, unless the student provides the district with a valid exemption from a licensed physician. No new personal belief exemptions will be accepted. Students with personal-belief exemptions on file with the district as of January 1, 2016, shall be allowed to continue enrollment until entering the next grade span in the district. Grade spans are defined as birth through preschool, K-6, including transitional kindergarten, and 7-12. Students qualified for an individualized education program may access special education and related services as required by his or her individualized educational program.

MEDICATION (EC §49423, §49423.1): Any student who must take prescribed medication at school and who desires assistance of school personnel must submit a written statement of instructions from the physician and a parental request for assistance in administering the

medication. Students may also carry and self-administer prescription autoinjectable epinephrine and prescription inhaled asthma medication upon the school's receipt of specified written confirmation with instructions for selfadministration and authorization from the student's parent and physician or surgeon. The parent must release the school district and personnel from liability for any harm resulting from the self-administered medication, and provide a release for authorized school personnel to consult with the physician or surgeon.

MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL SERVICES FOR PUPILS (EC §§49471 and 49472): The district is required to notify parents in writing if it does not provide or make available medical and hospital services for students injured while participating in athletic activities. The district is also authorized to provide medical or hospital services through non-profit membership corporations or insurance policies for student injuries arising out of school-related activities.

AVAILABILITY OF INDIVIDUALIZED INSTRUCTION/PRESENCE OF PUPIL WITH TEMPORARY DISABILITY IN HOSPITAL (EC §§48206.3, 48207-48208): Individualized instruction is available to students with temporary disabilities whose disability makes attendance in the regular day classes or alternative education program in which the student is enrolled impossible or inadvisable. Parents of students hospitalized or with a temporary disability shall notify the school district where the student receives care if an individualized instruction program is desired.

CONTINUING MEDICATION REGIMEN (EC §49480): Parents of any student on a continuing medication regimen for a non-episodic condition shall inform the school nurse or other designated certificated school employee of the medication(s) being taken, the current dosage, and the name of the supervising physician. (*See attached form.*) With the consent of the parent, the school nurse may communicate with the physician and may counsel with school personnel regarding 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 overdose.

SUN PROTECTIVE CLOTHING/USE OF SUNSCREEN (EC §35183.5): School sites must allow for outdoor use of sun-protective clothing and must allow students to use sunscreen, without a prescription or physician's note, during the school day.

ASBESTOS (40 CFR 763.84, 40 CFR 763.93): The district has a plan for eliminating health risks that are created by the presence of asbestos in school buildings. It may be reviewed at the district office. At least once each year, the district will notify parents of inspections, response actions, and post-response action activities that are planned or in progress.

USE OF PESTICIDES (EC §§17611.5, 17612 and 48980.3): School districts are required to inform parents about the use of pesticides on school grounds and provide access to the integrated pest management plan when certain pesticides are used. (See attached.)

COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN (EC §§32280 et seq.): Each school is required to report on the status of its school safety plan, including a description of its key elements, in the annual school accountability report card (SARC). The planning committee is required to hold a public meeting to allow members of the public the opportunity to express an opinion about the school plan. The planning committee shall notify specified persons and entities in writing.

NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE (EC §32289): A complaint of noncompliance with the school safety planning requirements may be filed with the State Department of Education under the Uniform Complaint Procedures (5 CCR 4600 et seq.).

TOBACCO FREE SCHOOLS (HS §104420): Use of tobacco products at any time by students, staff, parents, or visitors, is strictly prohibited in district-owned or leased buildings, on district property, and in district vehicles. This prohibition applies to all employees, students, and visitors at any school-sponsored instructional program, activity, or athletic event held on or off district property. Prohibited products include any product containing tobacco or nicotine, including, but not limited to, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew, clove cigarettes, and electronic cigarettes that can deliver nicotine and nonnicotine vaporized solutions. Exceptions may be made for the use or possession of prescription nicotine products. Any employee or student who violates the district's tobacco-free schools policy shall be asked to refrain from smoking and shall be subject to disciplinary action as appropriate.

STUDENT SERVICES

MINIMUM AGE OF ADMISSION TO KINDERGARTEN (EC §48000): A child shall be eligible for enrollment in kindergarten at the beginning of the school year or at a later time in the same year, if the child has his or her fifth birthday, respectively, on or before September 1. Any child who will have his/her birthday between September 2 for the applicable school year and December 2 shall be offered a transitional kindergarten program in accordance with law and district policy. On a case-by-case basis, a child who has reached age five after the date listed above but before the end of the applicable school year, may be admitted to kindergarten with the approval of the child's parent and subject to board approval in accordance with EC §48000.

PROSPECTUS OF SCHOOL CURRICULUM (EC §49091.14): The curriculum of every course offered by the schools of the district is compiled annually by each school in a prospectus. Each school prospectus is available for review upon request at each school site. Copies are available upon request for a fee not to exceed the actual copying cost.

MULTILINGUAL EDUCATION (EC §310): If the district implements a language acquisition program pursuant to EC §310, information on the types of language programs available and a description of each program will be made available with this notice or upon enrollment.

SPECIAL EDUCATION (IDEA): State and federal law requires that a free appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment be offered to qualified pupils with disabilities ages 3 through 21 years. More information concerning student eligibility, parental rights and procedural safeguards are available upon request.

SPECIAL EDUCATION; CHILD FIND SYSTEM (EC §56301): Any parent suspecting that a child has exceptional needs may request an assessment for eligibility for special education services through the school principal. Policy and procedures shall include written notification to all parents of their rights pursuant to EC §56300.

SPECIAL EDUCATION COMPLAINTS (5 CCR §3080): State regulations require the district to establish procedures to deal with complaints regarding special education. If you believe that the district is in violation of federal or state law governing the identification or placement of a special education student, or similar issues, you may file a written complaint with the district. State regulations require the district to forward your complaint to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Procedures are available from your school principal.

SECTION 504/DISABLED PUPILS (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973): Federal law requires the district to annually notify disabled pupils and their parents of the district's non-discriminatory policy and duty under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the U.S. Education Amendments of 1972; Americans with Disabilities Act; Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973; EC §200 et seq.): The district does not discriminate on the basis of gender, gender identity, gender expression, sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, genetic information, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, immigration status, or the perception of one or more of such characteristics. The district's policy of nondiscrimination requires notification in native language if the district's service area contains a community of minority persons with limited English language skills. Notification must state that the district will take steps to assure that the lack of English will not be a barrier to admission and participation in district programs. This policy applies to all students insofar as participation in programs and activities is concerned, with few exceptions such as contact sports. In accordance with federal law, complaints alleging noncompliance with this policy should be directed to the school principal. Appeals may be made to the district superintendent. A copy of the district's nondiscrimination policy is available upon request.

EDUCATIONAL EQUITY REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS,

CITIZENSHIP, OR RELIGION (EC §234.7): Children have a right to a free public education, regardless of immigration status, citizenship status, or religious beliefs. When enrolling a child, schools must accept a variety of documents from the student's parent to demonstrate proof of child's age or residency. No information about citizenship/immigration status or Social Security number is required to enroll in school. Parents have the option to provide a school with emergency contact information, including the information of secondary contacts, to identify a trusted adult guardian who can care for a minor student in the event the parent is detained or deported. Parents 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 a minor student. Students have the right to report a hate crime or file a complaint to the school district if they are discriminated against, harassed, intimidated, or bullied on the basis of actual or perceived nationality, ethnicity, or immigration status. The California Attorney General's website provides "know your rights" resources for immigrant students and family members online at https://oag.ca.gov/immigrant/rights.

FINGERPRINTING PROGRAM (EC §32390): Districts are authorized to offer fingerprinting programs for children enrolled in kindergarten or newly enrolled in the district. If the district has adopted such a program, you will be notified of procedures, applicable fee and your right to decline your child's participation upon your child's initial enrollment.

CHILDREN IN HOMELESS SITUATIONS (42 USC §11431-11435): Each local district shall appoint a liaison for homeless children who shall ensure the dissemination of public notice of the educational rights of students in homeless situations.

SEX / HIV EDUCATION

INSTRUCTION IN COMPREHENSIVE SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION AND HIV PREVENTION (EC §51938): The district shall annually notify parents about instruction in comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education and research on student health behaviors and risks planned for the school year. Written and audiovisual educational materials used in such education are available for inspection. If arrangement for the instruction is made after the beginning of the school year, parents will be notified no fewer than 14 days prior to the commencement of any such instruction if the district elects to provide the instruction by outside consultants in class or during an assembly. The notice must include the date of instruction, the name of the organization or affiliation of each guest speaker and information stating that the parent has the right to request a copy of the law pertaining to such instruction. Parents have the right to excuse his or her child from all or part of the comprehensive sexual health and HIV prevention education by submitting a written request to the district. Those students whose parents do not submit a written request to excuse them will receive such instruction. The law also authorizes the district, without prior parental consent, to use anonymous, voluntary and confidential research and evaluation tools to measure student's health behaviors and risks, including tests, questionnaires, and surveys containing age appropriate questions in grades 7 to 12 about the student's attitudes concerning or practices relating to sex. The district must notify parents in writing before any such test, questionnaire, or survey is administered and provide them with an opportunity to review the materials. Parents have the right to excuse his or her child from such participation by submitting a written request to the school district.

HEALTH INSTRUCTION/CONFLICTS WITH RELIGIOUS TRAINING AND BELIEFS (EC §51240): Upon written request of a parent, students shall be excused from part of any school instruction in health if it conflicts with the religious training and beliefs of a parent.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE/ATTENDANCE ALTERNATIVES

California law (EC §48980(g)) requires all school boards to inform each student's parent at the beginning of the school year of the various ways in which they may choose schools for their children to attend other than the ones assigned by school districts. Students who attend schools other than those assigned by the districts are referred to as "transfer students" throughout this notification. There is one process for choosing a school within the district which the parent lives (intradistrict transfer), and potentially three separate processes for selecting schools in other districts (interdistrict transfer). The general requirements and limitations of each process are described as follows:

Choosing a School Within District in Which Parent Lives:

The law (EC §35160.5(b)) requires the school board of each district to establish a policy that allows parents to choose the schools their children will attend, regardless of where the parent lives in the district. The law limits choice within a school district as follows:

- Students who live in the attendance area of a school must be given priority to attend that school over students who do not live in the school's attendance area.
- In cases in which there are more requests to attend a school than there are openings, the selection process must be "random and unbiased," which generally means students must be selected through a lottery process rather than on a first-come, first-served basis. A district cannot use a student's academic or athletic performance as a reason to accept or reject a transfer.
- Each district must decide the number of openings at each school which can be filled by transfer students. Each district also has the authority to keep appropriate racial and ethnic balances among its schools, meaning that a district can deny a transfer request if it would upset this balance or would leave the district out of compliance with a court-ordered or voluntary desegregation program.
- A district is not required to provide transportation assistance to a student that transfers to another school in the district under these provisions.
- If a transfer is denied, a parent does not have an automatic right to appeal the decision. A district may, however, voluntarily decide to put in place a process for parents to appeal a decision.

Choosing a School Outside District in Which Parent Lives:

Parents have three different options for choosing a school outside the district in which they live. The three options are:

Option 1: Districts of Choice (EC §§48300 through 48315): The law allows, but does not require, each school district to become a "district of choice" – that is, a district that accepts transfer students from outside the district under the terms of the referenced Education Code sections. If the school board of a district decides to become a "district of choice" it must determine the number of students it is willing to accept in this category each year and accept all pupils who apply to transfer until the school district is at maximum capacity. The school district of choice shall

ensure that pupils admitted under this article are selected through an unbiased process, that prohibits consideration of factors such as academic or athletic performance, physical conditions, or proficiency in English. If the district chooses not to become a "district of choice," a parent may not request a transfer under these provisions. Other provisions of the "district of choice" option include:

- Either the district a student would transfer to or the district a student would transfer from may deny a transfer if it will negatively affect the racial and ethnic balance of the district, or a court-ordered or voluntary desegregation plan. A district of choice cannot deny a transfer request on the basis that the costs to provide services exceeds the revenue received, but it may reject a request if doing so would require the creation of a new program. However, the district of choice may not deny the transfer of any special needs student, including an individual with exceptional needs, or an English Learner student even if the cost to educate the student exceeds the revenue received or the creation of a new program is required. The district a student would be leaving may also limit the total number of students transferring out of the district each year to a specified percentage of its total enrollment, depending on the size of the district.
- Communications to parents by a school district of choice shall be factually accurate and shall not target students based upon academic ability, athletic performance, or other personal characteristics.
- The district of choice must post transfer application information on its website, including any applicable forms, the timeline for a transfer, and an explanation of the selection process.
- All communications from a school district of choice regarding transfer opportunities must be available in all languages for which translations are required in the school district of residence under EC §48985.
- No student who currently attends a school or lives within the attendance area of a school can be forced out of that school to make room for a student transferring under these provisions.
- · Entrance priority must be given as follows:
- Siblings of students already attending school in the "district of choice" must be given first priority.
- Pupils eligible for free or reduced-price meals must be given second priority.
- Children of military personnel must be given third priority.
- A parent may request transportation assistance within the boundaries of the "district of choice." The district is required to provide transportation only to the extent it already does so.
- A school district in which an active military duty parent of a student resides shall not deny the transfer of that student to a school in any district, if the school district to which the parent of the student applies approves the application for transfer.

Option 2: Other Interdistrict Transfers (EC §46600 et seq.): The law allows two or more districts to enter into an agreement for the transfer of one or more students for a period of up to five years. New agreements may be entered into for additional periods of up to five years each. The agreement must specify the terms and conditions under which transfers are permitted. Districts of residence may not deny a transfer of a student whose parent is active duty military where the district of proposed enrollment approves the application. The law on interdistrict transfers also provides for the following:

 If either district denies a transfer request, a parent may appeal that decision to the county board of education. There are specified timelines in the law for filing an appeal and for the county board of education to make a decision.

Option 3: Parental Employment in Lieu of Residency Transfers (EC §48204(b)): If at least one parent of a student is physically employed in the boundaries of a school district other than the one in which they live for a minimum of 10 hours during the school week, the student may be considered a resident of the school district in which his/her parents work.

This code section does not require that a school district accept a student requesting a transfer on this basis, but a student may not be rejected on the basis of race, ethnicity, sex, parental income, academic achievement, or any other "arbitrary" consideration. Other provisions of EC §48204(b) include:

- Either the district in which the parent lives or the district in which the parent works may prohibit the student's transfer if it negatively impacts a desegregation plan.
- The district in which the parent works may reject a transfer if it determines that the cost of educating the student would be more than the amount of government funds the district would receive for educating the student.
- There are set limits (based on total enrollment) on the net numbers of students that may transfer out of a district under this law, unless the district approves a greater number of transfers.
- There is no required appeal process for a transfer that is denied. However, the district that declines to admit a student must provide in writing to the parent the specific reasons for denying the transfer.

Open Enrollment Act (EC §48350 et seq.)

Whenever a student is attending a district school on the Open Enrollment List, as identified by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, he/she may apply to transfer to another school within or outside of the district, if the school to which he/she is transferring has a higher Academic Performance Index. Districts with a school on the List must notify the parents at that school on or before the first day of the school year of their option to transfer to another public school. Information regarding the application process and applicable deadlines can be obtained from the district office.

This summary provides an overview of the laws applicable to school attendance for each alternative. Additional information is available upon request.

NOTICE OF ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS (EC §58501): State law authorizes all school districts to provide for alternative schools. Education Code section 58500 defines an alternative school as a school or separate class group within a school that 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/her desire to learn.

(3) Maintain a learning situation maximizing student self-motivation and encouraging the student in his/her own time to follow his/her own interests. These interests may result in whole or in part from a presentation by his/her teachers of choices of learning projects.

(4) Maximize the opportunity for teachers, parents and students to cooperatively develop the learning process and its subject matter. This opportunity shall be a continuous, permanent process.

(5) Maximize the opportunity for the students, teachers, and parents to continuously react to the changing world, including but not limited to the community in which the school is located.

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

GRADE REDUCTION/LOSS OF ACADEMIC CREDIT (EC §48980(i)): No student shall have his/her grade reduced or lose academic credit for any excused absence pursuant to EC §48205 for missed assignments/tests that can reasonably be provided/completed.

ABSENCES FOR CONFIDENTIAL MEDICAL SERVICES (EC §46010.1): Students in grades 7-12 and their parents are notified that the law permits schools to excuse students for the purpose of obtaining confidential medical services without parental consent. District policy regarding excusing such absences is available upon request.

ABSENCE FOR RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION (EC §46014): Districts may allow pupils with parent consent to be excused to participate in religious exercises/instruction.

NOTICE OF MINIMUM DAYS AND PUPIL-FREE STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS (EC §48980(c)): The district is required to annually notify parents of its schedule(s) of minimum days and student-free staff development days at the beginning of the year or as early as possible, but no later than one month prior to the scheduled minimum or student-free day. (See attached.)

MISCELLANEOUS

NON-MANDATORY PROGRAMS FOR PARENTAL/PUPIL

PARTICIPATION (EC §49091.18): Schools may not require a student or student's family to submit to or participate in any assessment, analysis, evaluation, or monitoring of the quality or character of student home life, parental screening or testing, nonacademic home-based counseling program, parent training, or prescribed family educational service plan.

SEX EQUITY IN CAREER PLANNING (EC §221.5(d)): Parents shall be notified in advance of career counseling and course selection commencing with course selection in Grade 7, to promote sex equity and allow parents to participate in counseling sessions and decisions.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY (EC §231.5; 5 CCR §4917): Each district is required to have adopted a written policy on sexual harassment, and shall provide a copy of such policy, as it pertains to students, with the annual notification. (See attached.) Districts are also required to display such policies in a prominent location and include it in orientation for employees and students.

DRUG FREE CAMPUS (Alcohol and Other Drug Use Prevention Education): Possession, use or sale of narcotics, alcohol, or other controlled substances is prohibited and strictly enforced at all school activities. Records will be forwarded to local law enforcement, and district sanctions will result from violations.

RIGHT TO REFRAIN FROM HARMFUL USE OF ANIMALS (EC §32255 et seq.): Pupils may choose to refrain from participating in educational projects involving the harmful or destructive use of animals.

EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (20 USC §6301 et seq.): Under ESSA, parents have the following rights:

- Information Regarding Professional Qualifications of Teachers, Paraprofessionals, and Aides: Upon request, parents have a right to information regarding the professional qualifications of their student's classroom teachers, paraprofessionals, and aides. This includes whether the teacher meets the state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grades and subjects she/he teaches, whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency permit or other provisional status because of special circumstances, the teacher's college major, whether she/he has any advanced degrees and the subject(s) of those degrees, and whether any instructional aides or paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if so, their qualifications. The district shall also notify parents if their child has been assigned to or has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified.
- Information Regarding Individual Student Reports on Statewide Assessments: Upon request, parents have a right to information on the level of achievement of their student on every State academic assessment administered to the student.

- Limited English Proficient Students: The Act requires prior notice be given to parents of English learners regarding limited English proficiency programs, including the reasons for the identification of the student as an English learner, the need of placement in a language instruction educational program, the student's level of English proficiency, how such level was assessed, the status of the student's academic achievement, the methods of instruction used in the programs available, how the recommended program will meet the student's needs, program performance, parent options to remove a student from a program and/or to decline initial enrollment, and expected rate of transition into classrooms not tailored for English learners.
- Program Improvement Schools: Parents shall be notified when their child's school is identified as a "program improvement" school and the opportunities for school choice.

The information provided above is available upon request from your child's school or the district office. Additional notices that may be required under the Every Student Succeeds Act shall be sent separately.

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (5 CCR §4622): The district is required to annually notify parents, pupils, employees, district and school advisory committees and other interested parties in writing of its required Uniform Complaint Procedures. (See attached.)

SCHOOL BUSES/PASSENGER SAFETY (EC §39831.5): Districts are required to provide safety regulations to all new students and students who have not previously been transported by school bus.

MEGAN'S LAW NOTIFICATION (PENAL CODE §290.4): Parents and members of the public have the right to review information regarding registered sex offenders at the main office of the local law enforcement agency for this school district.

EXCUSED ABSENCES (EC §48205)

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

- (1) Due to the pupil's illness.
- (2) Due to quarantine under the direction of a county/city health officer.

(3) For the purpose of having medical, dental, optometrical, or chiropractic services rendered.

(4) For the purpose of attending the funeral services of a member of the pupil's immediate family, so long as the absence is not more than one day if the service is conducted in California and not more than three days if the service is conducted outside California.

(5) For the purpose of jury duty in the manner provided for by law.

(6) Due to the illness or medical appointment during school hours of a child of whom the pupil is the custodial parent.

(7) For justifiable personal reasons, including, but not limited to, an appearance in court, attendance at a funeral service, observance of a holiday or ceremony of his or her religion, attendance at religious retreats, attendance at an employment conference, or attendance at an educational conference on the legislative or judicial process offered by a nonprofit organization when the pupil's absence is requested in writing by the parent and approved by the principal or a designated representative pursuant to uniform standards established by the governing board.

(8) For the purpose of serving as a member of a precinct board for an election pursuant to section 12302 of the Elections Code.

(9) For the purpose of spending time with a member of the pupil's immediate family, who is an active duty member of the uniformed services, as defined in section 49701, and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from, deployment to a combat zone or combat support position. Absences granted pursuant to this paragraph shall be granted for a period of time to be determined at the discretion of the superintendent of the school district.

(10) For the purpose of attending the pupil's naturalization ceremony to become a United States citizen.

(b) A pupil absent from school under this section shall be allowed to complete all assignments and tests missed during the absence that can be reasonably provided and, upon satisfactory completion within a reasonable period of time, shall be given full credit therefor. The teacher of the class from which a pupil is absent shall determine which tests and assignments shall be reasonably equivalent to, but not necessarily identical to, the tests and assignments that the pupil missed during the absence.

(c) For purposes of this section, attendance at religious retreats shall not exceed four hours per semester.

(d) Absences pursuant to this section are deemed to be absences in computing average daily attendance and shall not generate state apportionment payments.

(e) "Immediate family," as used in this section, has the same meaning as that set forth in section 45194, except that references therein to "employee" shall be deemed to be references to "pupil."

INVESTING FOR FUTURE EDUCATION (EC §48980(d)):

Parents are advised of the importance of investing for higher education for their children and of considering appropriate investment options, including, but not limited to, United States savings bonds.

COMPLAINTS CONCERNING DEFICIENCIES RELATED TO

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS, ETC. (EC §35186): A Uniform Complaint process is available to help identify and resolve deficiencies related to instructional materials, emergency or urgent facility conditions that pose a threat to the health and safety of pupils or staff, and teacher vacancy or misassignment. Notice of the complaint process and location at which to obtain a complaint form should be posted in the classrooms.

SCHOOL ACCREDITATION (EC §35178.4): Districts are required to notify each parent of a pupil in a school that has lost its accreditation status and the potential consequences of the school's loss of status, in writing or by posting the information on the school district's or school's Internet Website, or by any combination of these methods.

PUPIL FEES (EC §49010 et seq.): The district is required to establish policies concerning the provision of a free education to pupils. The district is also required to establish policies for filing a complaint of noncompliance under this section using the Uniform Complaint Procedures. Notice of the district's fee policies and complaint process shall be provided to pupils, parents, and employees on an annual basis.

LOCAL CONTROL AND ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN (EC §§52060-52077):

The district is required to adopt a three-year Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) and to update the LCAP on or before July 1 of each subsequent year. The LCAP is required to identify annual goals, specific actions geared toward implementing those goals, and must measure progress for student subgroups across multiple performance indicators based on eight priorities set by the State. The priorities must be aligned to the district's spending plan. The LCAP must be approved before the annual district budget can be adopted. Once the budget and LCAP are adopted at the local level, the plan will be reviewed by the county superintendent to ensure alignment of projected spending toward goals and services. The following are the State priorities:

- Providing all students access to fully credentialed teachers, instructional materials that align with state standards, and safe facilities;
- Implementation of and student access to state academic content and performance standards;
- 3. Parent involvement and participation;
- 4 . Improving student achievement and outcomes along multiple measures.

Authorization to Administer Medication

Student Medication – Legal Reference: Education Code Section 49423 "...any pupil who is required to take, during the regular school day, medication prescribed for him/her by a physician, may be assisted by the school nurse or other designated school person, if the school district received (1.) a written statement from such a physician detailing the name of the parent or guardian of the pupil indicating the desire that the school district assist the pupil in the matter set for in the physician's statement." No other medication is to be administered by school personnel. This includes all medication available without prescription. Medication is to be delivered in the original container labeled with the name of the student, name of the prescribing physician, name of the medication and instruction. Over the counter medications must be in their original container and be authorized by the parent and physician. This form must be completed for both prescription and over-the counter medications. It is the parent's responsibility to update this form as needed.

Student		GradeTeacher			Date	
Parent	t		Phone(s)_			
Health Care Provider		Phone			·	
1.	Medication(s)	Dosage	Frequency/Indication	Duration	Possible Side Effects	

2. Additional Information and/or Precautions regarding medications or student's condition. Please include Indications for "as needed" Medication:

3. HEALTH CARE PROVIDER: I am a physician actively licensed by the State of California. Attached hereto is a prescription for the medication/treatment specified above.

4. I am the parent/guardian of the above student and I have lawful custody of said child. I hereby give consent to appropriate District personnel to administer or assist in administering medication(s) and/or treatment as specified by his/her Health Care Provider. Furthermore, I hereby give consent to the School Nurse to receive from, or send to, the Health Care Provider any information concerning my child's medication or the medical condition.

Parent/Guardian's Signature_

Date:

5. AUTHORIZATION TO CARRY EMERGENCY MEDICATIONS SUCH AS ASTHMA INHALERS AND EPI-PENS:

Complete this section only if the student needs to carry and self-administer emergency medications such as asthma inhalers, Epi-Pens or other urgently needed medication. Item #1 above must also be completed listing the medication(s), dose, frequency, indications, and side effects.

A. **Student:** I certify that I have read and understand the instructions regarding the self-administration of my emergency medication(s). I agree to take these above described medications in compliance with my Health Care Provider's instructions. I understand the consequences of using the medication incorrectly or inconsistently or of sharing the medication with others. I will report problems with the medication, supplies or equipment immediately to the school nurse.

Student's Signature ____

B. Parent/Guardian: My child has been instructed in the proper dosage and administration of the above medication and has demonstrated the ability to self-administer it. We/I (Parent/Guardian) request that s/he be permitted to self-administer it as directed by our Health Care Provider in compliance with District policy and procedures.

C. Physician Approval: The student has been properly trained and is able to self-administer his/her asthma inhaler or Epi-Pen.

Physician Signature _____

_____Date:_____

Date:

Date:

LARKSPUR-CORTE MADERA SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANNUAL PESTICIDE NOTIFICATION

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The District has adopted a Least-Toxic Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Policy. The policy states that pests will be controlled to protect the health and safety of the students and staff, to maintain a productive learning environment and to maintain the integrity of the school buildings and grounds. It is the policy of the District to focus and develop long-term pest prevention methods and give "non-chemical" methods first consideration when selecting appropriate control measures.

The Healthy Act of 2000 requires all California school districts to provide parents or guardians of students with annual written notification of expected pesticide use on school sites. During the year 2018-19, there is no intended use of any pesticide at Neil Cummins Elementary, Hall Middle School or The Cove School. In the event there is an emergency need to use a pesticide, parents and guardians requesting prior notification will be notified at least 72 hours before pesticides are applied. If you would like notification, please complete and return the form below and mail it to:

Larkspur-Corte Madera School District 230 Doherty Drive Larkspur, CA 94939

If you have any questions, please contact Wolf Gutscher at 415-378-3799.

Larkspur-Corte Madera School District Request for Individual Notification of Pesticide Application

I understand that, upon request, the Larkspur-Corte Madera School District is required to supply information about individual pesticide applications at least 72 hours before application. I would like to be notified before each pesticide application at the listed sites.

I would prefer to be contacted by (circle one)	US Mail	E-Mail	Phone
Name of Parent or Guardian:		Date:	
School Site(s):			
Address:			
Daytime phone:Evening p	hone:		
E-mail:			

LARKSPUR-CORTE MADERA SCHOOL DISTRICT | 2018-2019

Board Approved 2/7/18

30 **31**

Revised 6/21/18

4 Independence Day Holiday	S M T W TH F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	JANUARY 2019 S M T W TH F S I 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 \checkmark	 New Year's Holiday (No School) Winter Break (No School) MLK Holiday (No School) Staff; 18 Student Days
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24Local Holiday25Local Holiday24-31Winter Break(No School)31New Year's Eve Holiday15 Staff; 15 Student Days	DECEMBER 2018 s M T W TH F S 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	JUNE 2019 S M T W TH F S I I I I I I I 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	 13 End of Trimester 3 13 Last Day of School (early dismissal) 9 Staff; 9 Student Days

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Students

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

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

The district strongly encourages any student who feels that he/she is being or has been sexually harassed on school grounds or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity by another student or an adult to immediately contact his/her teacher, the principal, or any other available school employee. Any employee who receives a report or observes an incident of sexual harassment shall notify the principal or a district compliance officer.

Complaints regarding sexual harassment shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with law and district procedures specified in AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures. Principals are responsible for notifying students and parents/guardians that complaints of sexual harassment can be filed under AR 1312.3 and where to obtain a copy of the procedures.

The Superintendent or designee shall take appropriate actions to reinforce the district's sexual harassment policy.

Instruction/Information

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

- 1. What acts and behavior constitute sexual harassment, including the fact that sexual harassment could occur between people of the same sex and could involve sexual violence
- 2. A clear message that students do not have to endure sexual harassment under any circumstance
- 3. Encouragement to report observed incidents of sexual harassment even where the alleged victim of the harassment has not complained
- 4. A clear message that student safety is the district's primary concern, and that any separate rule violation involving an alleged victim or any other person reporting a sexual harassment incident will be addressed separately and will not affect the manner in which the sexual harassment complaint will be received, investigated, or resolved
- 5. Information about the district's procedure for investigating complaints and the person(s) to whom a report of sexual harassment should be made
- 6. Information about the rights of students and parents/guardians to file a civil or criminal complaint, as applicable

SEXUAL HARASSMENT (cont.)

Disciplinary Actions

Any student who engages in sexual harassment or sexual violence at school or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity is in violation of this policy and shall be subject to disciplinary action. For students in grades 4-8, disciplinary action may include suspension and/or expulsion, provided that, in imposing such discipline, the entire circumstances of the incident(s) shall be taken into account.

Any staff member found to have engaged in sexual harassment or sexual violence toward any student shall be subject to discipline up to and including dismissal in accordance with applicable policies, laws, and/or collective bargaining agreements.

Policy adopted: March 23, 2005 Policy revised: November 14, 2012 Policy last revised: October 25, 2016 LARKSPUR-CORTE MADERA SCHOOL DISTRICT Larkspur, California

Students

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Prohibited sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, unwanted requests for sexual favors, or other unwanted verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature made against another person of the same or opposite sex in the educational setting, under any of the following conditions: (Education Code 212.5; 5 CCR 4916)

- 1. Submission to the conduct is explicitly or implicitly made a term or condition of a student's academic status or progress.
- 2. Submission to or rejection of the conduct by a student is used as the basis for academic decisions affecting the student.
- 3. The conduct has the purpose or effect of having a negative impact on the student's academic performance or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment.
- 4. Submission to or rejection of the conduct by the student is used as the basis for any decision affecting the student regarding benefits and services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through any district program or activity.

Examples of types of conduct which are prohibited in the district and which may constitute sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:

- 1. Unwelcome leering, sexual flirtations, or propositions
- 2. Unwelcome sexual slurs, epithets, threats, verbal abuse, derogatory comments, or sexually degrading descriptions
- 3. Graphic verbal comments about an individual's body or overly personal conversation
- 4. Sexual jokes, derogatory posters, notes, stories, cartoons, drawings, pictures, obscene gestures, or computer-generated images of a sexual nature
- 5. Spreading sexual rumors
- 6. Teasing or sexual remarks about students enrolled in a predominantly single-sex class
- 7. Massaging, grabbing, fondling, stroking, or brushing the body
- 8. Touching an individual's body or clothes in a sexual way
- 9. Impeding or blocking movements or any physical interference with school activities when directed at an individual on the basis of sex
- 10. Displaying sexually suggestive objects
- 11. Sexual assault, sexual battery, or sexual coercion

SEXUAL HARASSMENT (cont.)

Reporting Process and Complaint Investigation and Resolution

Any student who believes that he/she has been subjected to sexual harassment or who has witnessed sexual harassment is strongly encouraged to report the incident to his/her teacher, the principal, or any other available school employee. Within one school day of receiving such a report, the school employee shall forward the report to the principal or the district's compliance officer identified in AR 1312.3. In addition, any school employee who observes an incident of sexual harassment involving a student shall, within one school day, report his/her observation to the principal or a district compliance officer. The employee shall take these actions, whether or not the alleged victim files a complaint.

In any case of sexual harassment involving the principal, compliance officer, or any other person to whom the incident would ordinarily be reported or filed, the report may instead be submitted the Superintendent or designee.

When a report of sexual harassment is submitted, the principal or compliance officer shall inform the student or parent/guardian of the right to file a formal written complaint in accordance with the district's uniform complaint procedures.

If a complaint of sexual harassment is initially submitted to the principal, he/she shall, within two school days, forward the report to the compliance officer to initiate investigation of the complaint. The compliance officer shall contact the complainant and investigate and resolve the complaint in accordance with law and district procedures specified in AR 1312.3.

Confidentiality

All complaints and allegations of sexual harassment shall be kept confidential except as necessary to carry out the investigation or take other subsequent necessary action. (5 CCR 4964)

However, when a complainant or victim of sexual harassment notifies the district of the harassment but requests confidentiality, the compliance officer shall inform him/her that the request may limit the district's ability to investigate the harassment or take other necessary action. When honoring a request for confidentiality, the district will nevertheless take all reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the complaint consistent with the request.

When a complainant or victim of sexual harassment notifies the district of the harassment but requests that the district not pursue an investigation, the district will determine whether or not it can honor such a request while still providing a safe and nondiscriminatory environment for all students.

Response Pending Investigation

When an incident of sexual harassment is reported, the principal or designee, in consultation with the compliance officer, shall determine whether interim measures are necessary pending the results of the investigation. The principal/designee or compliance officer shall take immediate measures necessary to stop the harassment and protect students and/or ensure their access to the educational program. Such measures may include placing the individuals involved in separate classes or transferring a student to a class taught by a different teacher, in accordance with law and Board policy. The school should notify the individual who was harassed of his/her options to avoid contact with the alleged harasser and allow the complainant to change academic and extracurricular arrangements as appropriate. The school should also ensure that the complainant is aware of the resources and assistance, such as counseling,

SEXUAL HARASSMENT (cont.)

that are available to him/her. As appropriate, such actions shall be considered even when a student chooses to not file a formal complaint or the sexual harassment occurs off school grounds or outside school-sponsored or school-related programs or activities.

Notifications

A copy of the district's sexual harassment policy and regulation shall:

- 1. Be included in the notifications that are sent to parents/guardians at the beginning of each school year (Education Code 48980; 5 CCR 4917)
- 2. Be displayed in a prominent location in the main administrative building or other area where notices of district rules, regulations, procedures, and standards of conduct are posted (Education Code 231.5)

A copy of the district's sexual harassment policy and regulation shall be posted on district and school web sites and, when available, on district-supported social media.

- 3. Be provided as part of any orientation program conducted for new students at the beginning of each quarter, semester, or summer session (Education Code 231.5)
- 4. Appear in any school or district publication that sets forth the school's or district's comprehensive rules, regulations, procedures, and standards of conduct (Education Code 231.5)
- 5. Be included in the student handbook
- 6. Be provided to employees

Community Relations

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

The Board of Trustees recognizes that the district has the primary responsibility to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations governing educational programs. The Board encourages early resolution of complaints whenever possible. To resolve complaints which may require a more formal process, the Board adopts the uniform system of complaint processes specified in 5 CCR 4600-4670 and the accompanying administrative regulation.

Complaints Subject to the UCP

The district's uniform complaint procedures (UCP) shall be used to investigate and resolve the following complaints:

- 1. Any complaint alleging district violation of applicable state or federal law or regulations governing adult education programs, After School Education and Safety programs, agricultural vocational education, American Indian education centers and early childhood education program assessments, bilingual education, peer assistance and review programs for teachers, career technical and technical education and training programs, child care and development programs, child nutrition programs, compensatory education, consolidated categorical aid programs, Economic Impact Aid, English learner programs, federal education programs in Title I-VII, migrant education, Regional Occupational Centers and Programs, school safety plans, special education programs, State Preschool Programs, Tobacco-Use Prevention Education programs, and any other district-implemented program which is listed in Education Code 64000(a)
- 2. Any complaint alleging the occurrence of unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) against any student, employee, or other person participating in district programs and activities, including, but not limited to, those programs or activities funded directly by or that receive or benefit from any state financial assistance, based on the person's actual or perceived characteristics of race or ethnicity, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information, or any other characteristic identified in Education Code 200 or 220, Government Code 11135, or Penal Code 422.55, or based on his/her association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics (5 CCR 4610)
- 3. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the requirement to provide reasonable accommodation to a lactating student on school campus to express breast milk, breastfeed an infant child, or address other breastfeeding-related needs of the student (Education Code 222)
- 4. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the prohibition against requiring students to pay fees, deposits, or other charges for participation in educational activities (5 CCR 4610)
- 5. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with legal requirements related to the implementation of the local control and accountability plan (Education Code 52075)

- 6. Any complaint, by or on behalf of any student who is a foster youth, alleging district noncompliance with any legal requirement applicable to the student regarding placement decisions, the responsibilities of the district's educational liaison to the student, the award of credit for coursework satisfactorily completed in another school or district, school transfer, or the grant of an exemption from Board-imposed graduation requirements (Education Code 48853, 48853.5, 49069.5, 51225.1, 51225.2)
- 7. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the physical education instructional minutes requirement for students in elementary school (Education Code 51210, 51223)
- 8. Any complaint alleging retaliation against a complainant or other participant in the complaint process or anyone who has acted to uncover or report a violation subject to this policy
- 9. Any other complaint as specified in a district policy

The Board recognizes that alternative dispute resolution (ADR) can, depending on the nature of the allegations, offer a process to reach a resolution to the complaint that is acceptable to all parties. ADR such as mediation may be offered to resolve complaints that involve more than one student and no adult. However, mediation shall not be offered or used to resolve any complaint involving sexual assault or where there is a reasonable risk that a party to the mediation would feel compelled to participate. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the use of ADR is consistent with state and federal laws and regulations.

The district shall protect all complainants from retaliation. In investigating complaints, the confidentiality of the parties involved shall be protected as required by law. For any complaint alleging retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the Superintendent or designee shall keep the identity of the complainant, and/or the subject of the complaint if he/she is different from the complainant, confidential when appropriate and as long as the integrity of the complaint process is maintained.

When an allegation that is not subject to the UCP is included in a UCP complaint, the district shall refer the non-UCP allegation to the appropriate staff or agency and shall investigate and, if appropriate, resolve the UCP-related allegation(s) through the district's UCP.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training to district staff to ensure awareness and knowledge of current law and related requirements, including the steps and timelines specified in this policy and the accompanying administrative regulation.

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain records of all UCP complaints and the investigations of those complaints in accordance with applicable law and district policy.

Non-UCP Complaints

The following complaints shall not be subject to the district's UCP but shall be referred to the specified agency: (5 CCR 4611)

1. Any complaint alleging child abuse or neglect shall be referred to the County Department of Social Services, the County Protective Services Division, and the appropriate law enforcement agency.

- 2. Any complaint alleging health and safety violations by a child development program shall, for licensed facilities, be referred to Department of Social Services and shall, for licensing-exempt facilities, be referred to the appropriate Child Development regional administrator.
- 3. Any complaint alleging fraud shall be referred to the Legal, Audits and Compliance Branch of the California Department of Education.

Any complaint alleging employment discrimination or harassment shall be investigated and resolved by the district in accordance with the procedures specified in AR 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment.

Any complaint 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, or teacher vacancies and misassignments shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with the procedures in AR 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures. (Education Code 35186)

Community Relations

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

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

Compliance Officers

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

Brett Geithman, Ed.D. Superintendent 230 Doherty Drive, Larkspur, CA 94939 415-927-6960 bgeithman@lcmschools.org

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

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

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

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

Notifications

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

The Superintendent or designee shall annually provide written notification of the district's UCP to students, employees, parents/guardians of district students, district advisory committee members, school advisory committee members, appropriate private school officials or representatives, and other interested parties. The notification shall include information regarding the prohibition of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying; unlawful student fees; local control and accountability plan (LCAP) requirements; and requirements related to the educational rights of foster youth, homeless students, former juvenile court school students, and children of military families. (Education Code 262.3, 48853, 48853.5, 49010-49013, 49069.5, 51225.1, 51225.2, 52075; 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 antidiscrimination laws, if applicable
- 3. Advise the complainant of the appeal process, including, if applicable, 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, such as the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) in cases involving unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying).
- 4. Include statements that:
 - a. The district has the primary responsibility to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations governing educational programs.
 - 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. A complaint alleging retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) must be filed not later than six months from the date it occurred, or six months from the date the complainant first obtained knowledge of the facts of the alleged unlawful discrimination. The time for filing may be extended for up to 90 days by the Superintendent or designee for good cause upon written request by the complainant setting forth the reasons for the extension.
 - d. Complaints should be filed in writing and signed by the complainant. If a complainant is unable to put his/her complaint in writing, for example, due to conditions such as a disability or illiteracy, district staff shall assist him/her in the filing of the complaint.

e. If a complaint is not filed in writing but the district receives notice of any allegation that is subject to the UCP, the district shall take affirmative steps to investigate and address the allegations, in a manner appropriate to the particular circumstances.

If the allegation involves retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) and the investigation confirms that discrimination has occurred, the district will take steps to prevent recurrence of discrimination and correct its discriminatory effects on the complainant, and on others, if appropriate.

- f. A student enrolled in a public school shall not be required to pay a fee for his/her participation in an educational activity that constitutes an integral fundamental part of the district's educational program, including curricular and extracurricular activities.
- g. The Board is required to adopt and annually update the LCAP in a manner that includes meaningful engagement of parents/guardians, students, and other stakeholders in the development and/or review of the LCAP.
- h. A foster youth shall receive information about educational rights related to his/her educational placement, enrollment in and checkout from school, as well as the responsibilities of the district liaison for foster youth to ensure and facilitate these requirements and to assist the student in ensuring proper transfer of his/her credits, records, and grades when he/she transfers between schools or between the district and another district.
- i. The complainant has a right to appeal the district's decision to CDE by filing a written appeal within 15 calendar days of receiving the district's decision.

In any complaint alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the respondent also shall have the right to file an appeal with CDE in the same manner as the complainant, if he/she is dissatisfied with the district's decision.

- j. The appeal to CDE must include a copy of the complaint filed with the district and a copy of the district's decision.
- k. Copies of the district's UCP are available free of charge.

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

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

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

District Responsibilities

All UCP-related complaints shall be investigated and resolved within 60 calendar days of the district's receipt of the complaint unless the complainant agrees in writing to an extension of the timeline. (5 CCR 4631)

For complaints alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the district shall inform the respondent when the complainant agrees to an extension of the timeline for investigating and resolving the complaint.

The compliance officer shall maintain a record of each complaint and subsequent related actions, including steps taken during the investigation and all information required for compliance with 5 CCR 4631 and 4633.

All parties involved in the allegations shall be notified when a complaint is filed and when a decision or ruling is made. However, the compliance officer shall keep all complaints or allegations of retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) confidential except when disclosure is necessary to carry out the investigation, take subsequent corrective action, conduct ongoing monitoring, or maintain the integrity of the process. (5 CCR 4630, 4964)

All complainants shall be protected from retaliation.

Filing of Complaints

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

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

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

- 1. A complaint alleging district violation of applicable state or federal law or regulations governing the programs specified in the accompanying Board policy (item #1 of the section "Complaints Subject to the UCP") may be filed by any individual, public agency, or organization. (5 CCR 4630)
- 2. Any complaint alleging noncompliance with law regarding the prohibition against requiring students to pay student fees, deposits, and charges or any requirement related to the LCAP may be filed anonymously if the complaint provides evidence, or information leading to evidence, to support an allegation of noncompliance. A complaint about a violation of the prohibition against the charging of unlawful student fees may be filed with the principal of the school or with the Superintendent or designee. However, any such complaint shall be filed no later than one year from the date the alleged violation occurred. (Education Code 49013, 52075; 5 CCR 4630)
- 3. A complaint alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) may be filed only by a person who alleges that he/she

personally suffered the unlawful discrimination or by a person who believes that an individual or any specific class of individuals has been subjected to it. The complaint shall be initiated no later than six months from the date when the alleged unlawful discrimination occurred, or six months from the date when the complainant first obtained knowledge of the facts of the alleged unlawful discrimination. The time for filing may be extended for up to 90 days by the Superintendent or designee for good cause upon written request by the complainant setting forth the reasons for the extension. (5 CCR 4630)

- 4. When a complaint alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) is filed anonymously, the compliance officer shall pursue an investigation or other response as appropriate, depending on the specificity and reliability of the information provided and the seriousness of the allegation.
- 5. When the complainant of unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) or the alleged victim, when he/she is not the complainant, requests confidentiality, the compliance officer shall inform him/her that the request may limit the district's ability to investigate the conduct or take other necessary action. When honoring a request for confidentiality, the district shall nevertheless take all reasonable steps to investigate and resolve/respond to the complaint consistent with the request.

Mediation

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

Before initiating the mediation of a complaint alleging retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the compliance officer shall ensure that all parties agree to make the mediator a party to relevant confidential information. The compliance officer shall also notify all parties of the right to end the informal process at any time.

If the mediation process does not resolve the problem within the parameters of law, the compliance officer shall proceed with 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. If mediation is successful and the complaint is withdrawn, then the district shall take only the actions agreed upon through the mediation. If mediation is unsuccessful, the district shall then continue with subsequent steps specified in this administrative regulation.

Investigation of Complaint

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

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

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

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

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

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

The compliance officer shall apply a "preponderance of the evidence" standard in determining the veracity of the factual allegations in a complaint. This standard is met if the allegation is more likely to be true than not.

Report of Findings

Unless extended by written agreement with the complainant, a final decision shall be sent to the complainant within 60 calendar days of the district's receipt of the complaint. Within 30 calendar days of receiving the complaint, the compliance officer shall prepare and send to the complainant a written report, as described in the section "Final Written Decision" below. If the complainant is dissatisfied with the compliance officer's decision, he/she may, within five business days, file his/her complaint in writing with the Board.

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

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

In resolving any complaint alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying), the respondent also shall be sent the district's decision and, in the same manner as the complainant, may file a complaint with the Board if dissatisfied with the decision.

Final Written Decision

The district's decision on how it will resolve the complaint shall be in writing and shall be sent to the complainant and respondent. (5 CCR 4631)

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

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

For all complaints, the decision shall include: (5 CCR 4631)

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

- 2. The conclusion(s) of law
- 3. Disposition of the complaint
- 4. Rationale for such disposition

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

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

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

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

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

The decision may also include follow-up procedures to prevent recurrence or retaliation and for reporting any subsequent problems.

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

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

Corrective Actions

When a complaint is found to have merit, the compliance officer shall adopt any appropriate corrective action permitted by law. Appropriate corrective actions that focus on the larger school or district environment may include, but are not limited to, actions to reinforce district policies; training for faculty, staff, and students; updates to school policies; or school climate surveys.

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

- 1. Counseling
- 2. Academic support
- 3. Health services
- 4. Assignment of an escort to allow the victim to move safely about campus
- 5. Information regarding available resources and how to report similar incidents or retaliation
- 6. Separation of the victim from any other individuals involved, provided the separation does not penalize the victim
- 7. Restorative justice
- 8. Follow-up inquiries to ensure that the conduct has stopped and there has been no retaliation
- 9. Determination of whether any past actions of the victim that resulted in discipline were related to the treatment the victim received and described in the complaint

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

1. Transfer from a class or school as permitted by law

- 2. Parent/guardian conference
- 3. Education regarding the impact of the conduct on others
- 4. Positive behavior support
- 5. Referral to a student success team
- 6. Denial of participation in extracurricular or co-curricular activities or other privileges as permitted by law
- 7. Disciplinary action, such as suspension or expulsion, as permitted by law

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

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

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

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

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

Appeals to the California Department of Education

Any complainant who is dissatisfied with the district's final written decision of a complaint regarding any specified federal or state educational program subject to the UCP may file an appeal in writing with CDE within 15 calendar days of receiving the district's decision. (Education Code 222, 48853, 48853.5, 49013, 49069.5, 51223, 51225.1, 51225.2, 51228.3, 52075; 5 CCR 4632)

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

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

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

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

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Know Your Rights

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.

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.