

Bishop Unified School District

656 W. Pine Street, Bishop, CA 93514

760-872-3680 FAX: 872-6016

ANNUAL NOTICE TO PARENT/GUARDIAN/STUDENTS/TEACHERS And Advisory Committees REGARDING YOUR RIGHTS 2025-2026

Dear Parent or Guardian:

As required by law, I wish to notify you as the parent and/or guardian of students enrolled in our schools of your rights and responsibilities. I ask, therefore, that you please take a moment of your time to carefully review the attached materials. After your review, please sign and return the attached acknowledgment indicating that you have received and reviewed these materials. All references are to the California Education Code [E.C.] unless otherwise noted. This mailing also contains information required under federal law.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please feel free to contact our school offices: Bishop Union High School at (760) 873-4275, Palisade Glacier High School at (760) 938-2001, Home Street Middle School at (760) 872-1381, and Bishop Elementary School at (760) 872-1278.

Sincerely,



Katie Kolker
Superintendent

PARENTAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Education Code section 48982 requires parents or guardians to sign and return this acknowledgment.
Please return this form to the main office.

By signing below, I am neither giving nor withholding my consent for my child/children to participate in any program. I am merely indicating that I have received and read the attached 22-page notice regarding my rights relating to activities which might affect my child/children.

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Printed Name of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Printed Name of Student (s) _____

SCHOOL RULES

1. You have a right to review the school rules regarding student discipline. [E.C. section 35291] Those rules are explained in the Student Handbook which is reviewed and mailed home annually. If you wish an additional copy, please contact the School Office.

ATTENDANCE

1. **General Absences** - see attached Education Code Section [48205](#)*. No student may have his or her grade reduced or lose academic credit for any absence excused pursuant to Education Code section 48205 if missed assignments and tests that can be provided are satisfactorily completed within a reasonable period of time. [E.C. section 48980(j)]
2. **Absence for Religious Purposes** - With your written permission, your child may be excused to attend religious services away from school. However, your child will be required to complete a certain number of minutes for that day. Such absences are limited to four days per month. [E.C. section 46014]
3. **Absence for Justifiable Personal Reasons** - Upon your written request and approval by the school principal, your child may be excused from school for justifiable personal reasons such as an appearance in court, observation of a religious holiday or ceremony, attendance at religious retreats (not to exceed one (1) full school day per semester), an employment conference [E.C. section 48205] a naturalization ceremony [E.C. 48205], for the purpose of spending time with an immediate family member who is an active duty member of the uniformed services, as defined in Education Code section 49701, and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from deployment, or due to the pupil's participation in military entrance processing.
4. **Inter District Attendance Options** - It is the intent of the Legislature that the governing board of each school district annually review the enrollment options available to the pupils within their districts and that the school districts strive to make available enrollment options that meet the diverse needs, potential, and interest of California's pupils. Please contact our District Office (872-3680) for more information regarding all current attendance options.
5. **Victims of Bullying Transfer Rights** - School districts must approve the request of a bullying victim, as defined, to transfer to another school within the district. If the requested school is at capacity, the school district must accept a request for an alternate site. If the school district of residence has only one school available, the school district of residence must honor the student's interdistrict transfer request if the school district of proposed enrollment approves the transfer. [E.C. section 46600]
6. **Attendance in School District in Which Parent/Guardian is Employed** - Now applicable through the 12th grade, your child may have the option of attending school in the district where you or your spouse is employed for at least 10 hours per school week. If interested, call the District Office (872-3680) for information. [E.C. sections 48204(b) and 48980(e)]
7. **Enrollment Based on Parent and Student Living at Parent's Place of Employment for a Minimum of 3 Days During the School Week**. Parents may apply for enrollment of their child in a school district in which the parent is employed, and where the parent and child live at the parent's place of employment for a minimum of 3 days during the school week. [E.C. 48204(a)(7)]
8. **Attendance Where Caregiver Resides** - If your child lives in the home of a care giving adult, as defined by law, your child may attend the school district in which that residence is located. Execution of an affidavit under penalty of perjury pursuant to the Family Code by the care giving adult is required to determine that your child lives in the caregiver's home. [E.C. sections 48204(d) and 48980(h)]
9. **Children of Military Service Members / Residency** - A student complies with a school district's residency requirements for school attendance if the student's parent is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation within the state while on active military duty pursuant to an official military order. School districts must accept applications by electronic means for enrollment, including enrollment in a specific school or program within the district, and course registration. The parent must provide proof of residency in the

school district within 10 days after the published arrival date provided on official documentation. [E.C. section 48204.3]

- 10. Children of Military Service Members / Residency Retention and Matriculation** - A student living in the household of an active duty military service member must be allowed to continue attending the student's school of origin for the remainder of the school year if the family moves.

A student from an active duty military family who is transitioning between school grade levels must be allowed to continue in the school district of origin and in the same attendance area of his/her school of origin. If the student is transitioning to middle school or high school, and the school designated for matriculation is in another school district, the local educational agency must allow the student to continue to the school designated for matriculation in that school district. The new school must immediately enroll the student, even if the child has outstanding fees, fines, textbooks, or other items or moneys due to the school last attended, or if the student is unable to produce clothing or records normally required for enrollment.

If the parent/guardian's military service ends during the school year, then the student is allowed to stay in his/her school of origin for the remainder of the school year if s/he is in grades 1-8, or through graduation if the student is in high school. [E.C. section 48204.6]

- 11. Residency Retention for Migratory Children** - Currently migratory children, who are enrolled in a school district due to a parent's or immediate family member's temporary or seasonal employment in an agricultural or fishing activity, as defined by Education Code section 54441, must be allowed to continue in their schools of origin, regardless of any change of residence during that school year, for the duration of their status as migratory children. When a student's status as a migratory child changes during the school year, the school district must: (1) allow K-8th graders to continue in their schools of origin for the remainder of that school year; and (2) allow 9-12th graders to continue in their schools of origin through graduation.

Migratory children and their parents/guardians must be informed of the impact that remaining in their schools of origin will have on their eligibility to receive migrant education services.

- 12. Residency Retention for Students Whose Parents are Detained or Deported** - Students retain residency in a school district, regardless of the students' current residency, when both of the following requirements are met: a) the student's parent or guardian has departed California against his or her will, and the student can provide official documentation evidencing the departure; and b) the student moved outside of California as a result of his or her parent or guardian leaving the state against his or her will, and the student lived in California immediately before moving outside the state. The student must provide evidence of enrollment in a California public school immediately before moving outside the state.

Deported parents may designate another adult to attend school meetings and to serve as an emergency contact. No charges or fees of any kind may be required for admission or attendance in these circumstances.

This law applies to parents who are: (1) in the custody of a government agency and are transferred to another state; (2) subject to a lawful removal order and who were removed or were permitted to leave California voluntarily before being removed; and (3) subject to any additional circumstances consistent with these purposes, as determined by the school district. [E.C. section 48204.4]

- 13. Temporary Disability / Individualized Instruction** - If your child has a temporary disability which prevents him/her from attending regular classes, s/he may receive individualized instruction either: (1) at home provided by the school district in which the student resides; or (2) in a hospital or other residential health facility, excluding state hospitals, provided by the school district in which the hospital or residential health facility is located.

"Temporary disability" means a physical, mental or emotional disability incurred while a student is enrolled in regular day classes or an alternative education program to which the student can reasonably be expected to return.

"Temporary disability" does not include a disability that would qualify a student as a "student with exceptional needs" under Education Code section 56026.

A student with a temporary disability who is in a hospital or other residential health facility, excluding a state hospital, which is located outside of the school district in which the pupil's parent or guardian resides shall be deemed to have

complied with the residency requirements for school attendance in the school district in which the hospital is located. Once the parent has notified the district in which the hospital is located of the student's presence in the qualifying hospital, the district has five working days to notify the parent if individualized instruction shall be made available. If the determination is positive, individualized instruction shall commence within five working days.

Individual instruction in a student's home must commence no later than five working days after a school district determines that the student shall receive this instruction.

When a student receiving individual instruction is well enough to return to school, s/he must be allowed to return to the school that s/he attended immediately before receiving individual instruction, if the student returns during the school year in which the individual instruction was initiated.

Students enrolled in individual instruction in a hospital or other residential health facility for a partial week, are entitled to attend school in his/her school district of residence, or to receive individual instruction provided by the school district of residence in the student's home, on days in which he or she is not receiving individual instruction in a hospital or other residential health facility, if s/he is well enough to do so.

Absences from the student's regular school program due to the student's temporary disability are excused until the student is able to return to the regular school program. [E.C. sections 48206.3, 48207, 48207.3, 48207.5, 48208, 48240 (c) and 48980(b).]

14. **High School Students Leaving School at Lunch Time** - The governing board of this school district, pursuant to Education Code section 44808.5, has decided to allow the pupils enrolled at the high school to leave the school grounds during the lunch period. Neither the school district nor any officer or employee shall be liable for the conduct or safety of any pupil during such time as the pupil has left the school grounds pursuant to this section.
15. **Minimum Days or Pupil Free Staff Development Days:** Release Days: Sept.1, 26; November 11, 24-28; December 22-31; January 1-2, 19; February 13, 16; March 6, 30-31; April 1-3, 6-7; May 22, 25. Check school calendars for additional calendar information.

DISCIPLINE

1. **Student Discipline Rules** - The district maintains a student discipline code with policies and procedures. Copies are available at the District Office.
2. **Release of Student to Peace Officer** - If a school official releases your child from school to a peace officer for the purpose of removing him/her from the school premises, the school official shall take immediate steps to notify you or a responsible adult (identified on your child's registration card), except when a student has been taken into custody as a victim of suspected child abuse. In those cases, the peace officer will notify the parent or guardian. [E.C. section 48906]
3. **Parent Responsibility** - Parents or guardians are liable for all the damages caused by the willful misconduct of their minor children which result in death or injury to other students, school personnel, or school property. Parents are also liable for any school property loaned to the student and willfully not returned. Parents' or guardians' liability may be as much as \$25,000 for damages and another maximum of the same amount of a reward, if any. We expect these amounts to be indexed and rise annually [E.C. section 48904]. The school district may withhold the grades, diplomas, or transcripts of the student responsible until such damages are paid or the property returned or until completion of a voluntary work program in lieu of payment of money. [E.C. section 48904, Civil Code section 1714.1]. If your child commits an obscene act or engages in habitual profanity or vulgarity, disrupts school activities or otherwise willfully defies the authority of school personnel, and is suspended for such misconduct, you may be required to attend a portion of a school day in your child's classroom. [E.C. section 48900.1]
4. **Student Search** - The school principal or designee may search the person of a student (including backpack, purse, bag, etc.) or the student's locker if there is a reasonable suspicion to believe the student may have a concealed weapon, narcotics, stolen property, or contraband. [U.S. Supreme Court Case: *New Jersey v.*

T.L.O. (1985) 469 U.S. 325]. Evidence gathered from video surveillance tape systems in posted areas is specifically admissible in discipline hearings, as no one has a reasonable expectation of privacy in those circumstances.

5. **Dress Code** - Guidelines are listed in the Student Handbook (mailed home in registration packet) and additional copies are available at your request.

STUDENT SERVICES

1. **Services to Disabled Pupils** - If you have reason to believe that your child (ages 0 through 21 years) has a disability which requires special services or accommodations, bring this to the attention of the school office. Your child will be evaluated to determine whether he/she is eligible for special instruction or services. [E.C. sections 56020- et seq.]
2. **Student Sexual Harassment** - Students in grades 4 through 12 may be suspended or expelled for sexual harassment. A copy of the district's policy on student sexual harassment* is enclosed for your review.
3. **Student Nutrition Program** - All students may currently receive one (1) free breakfast and lunch per day regardless of financial eligibility. To obtain information or to apply for participation in other statewide programs for income eligible students, a parent/guardian may contact the school office. To obtain information and apply for participation in the statewide program to provide nutritious meals at school to eligible students, a parent/guardian may contact the school office. [E.C. sections 49510-49520]

HEALTH SERVICES

1. **Kindergarten and First Grade Physical Examination** - Good health is important to your child's learning and successful academic career. State law requires that for each child enrolling in the first grade, the parent must present a certificate, signed by a physician, verifying that the child has received a physical examination within the last 18 months. You may file with the school district a written objection or waiver stating the reasons if you are unable to obtain such services. You must understand that your child may be sent home if you fail to provide the certificate or waiver, or if your child is suspected to be suffering from a contagious disease. You may find it convenient to have your child immunized at the same time that the physical examination is conducted. These services may be available to you at no cost through the Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP). For information, you may contact Laura Wieggers, the School Nurse, at 872- 1278. [E.C. sections 48213 and 49450]
2. **Immunizations** - Students seeking to enroll in the District for the first time, or advancing to grade 7, must provide proof of immunization or a valid exemption, as set forth below.

For *initial* enrollment, including enrollment in a District preschool or transitional kindergarten program:

Students Initially Admitted at Ages 4-6 years Need These Immunizations:

- [Diphtheria](#), [Tetanus](#), and [Pertussis](#) (DTaP, DTP, or DT) —5 doses
(4 doses OK if one was given on or after 4th birthday)
- [Polio](#) (OPV or IPV)—4 doses
(3 doses OK if one was given on or after 4th birthday)
- [Hepatitis B](#)—3 doses
- [Measles](#), [Mumps](#), and [Rubella](#) (MMR)—2 doses
(Both given on or after 1st birthday)
- [Varicella](#) (Chickenpox)—1 dose

Parents must show their child's Immunization Record as proof of immunization. These immunization requirements also apply to students entering [transitional kindergarten](#).

Students Initially Admitted at Ages 7-17 Years Need These Immunizations:

- [Diphtheria](#), [Tetanus](#), and [Pertussis](#) (DTaP, DTP, DT, Tdap, or Td)—4 doses
(3 doses OK if last dose was given on or after 2nd birthday)

- [Polio](#) (OPV or IPV)—4 doses
(3 doses OK if one was given on or after 2nd birthday)
- [Measles](#), [Mumps](#), and [Rubella](#) (MMR)—1 dose
(2 doses required at [7th grade](#))
- [Varicella](#) (chickenpox)
(Admission at ages 7-12 years need 1 dose; ages 13-17 years need 2 doses)
- [Tetanus](#), Diphtheria, and [Pertussis](#) (Tdap) —1 dose at [7th grade](#) or out-of-state transfer admission at 8th–12th grades
(1 dose on or after the 7th birthday)

Students Entering Grade 7 Need These Additional Immunizations:

- [Measles](#), [Mumps](#), and [Rubella](#) (MMR)—2 doses
(or any measles-containing vaccine; both doses after 1st birthday)
- [Tetanus](#), [Diphtheria](#), and [Pertussis](#) (DTaP or DTP) —1 dose
(1 dose on or after the 7th birthday)

The law allows parents to seek an exemption of their children from meeting immunization requirements based on medical reasons. In order to do so, parents must submit a letter from a licensed physician, stating: (1) that in the opinion of the licensed physician, that the physical condition of the child is such that immunization is not considered safe, indicating the specific nature and probable duration of the medical condition or circumstances, including, but not limited to, family medical history, for which the physician does not recommend immunization; or (2) the medical circumstances relating to the child are such that immunization(s) is/are not considered safe, indicating the specific nature and probable duration of the medical condition or circumstances, including, but not limited to, family medical history, for which the physician does not recommend immunization. The note must indicate what immunization(s) the student should be exempt from. The law does not allow parents/guardians to elect an exemption simply because of inconvenience (a record is lost or incomplete and it is too much trouble to go to a physician or clinic to correct the problem). Students who had a medical exemption issued before December 31, 2020 will be allowed continued enrollment until they enroll in the next grade span. Grade spans are defined as: (1) birth through preschool, (2) Kindergarten through 6th grade, and (3) 7th through 12th grade. As of January 1, 2021, the District will only accept medical exemptions that are submitted on the California Department of Public Health's standardized, statewide medical exemption certification form. Additionally, January 1, 2016 was the deadline for parents to exempt their children from required immunizations based on their religious or personal beliefs. Students who had a signed waiver based on religious or personal beliefs on file by January 1, 2016, are exempt from the immunization requirement until they complete the grade span they were in as of January 1, 2016. Schools should maintain an up-to-date list of pupils with exemptions, so they can be excluded quickly if an outbreak occurs. If an outbreak of a communicable disease occurs at a school, the non-immunized student will be excluded for his/her own safety until such time as directed by health officials or district administration. [E.C. sections 48216, 48853.5(d)(7)(B), 48980(a), and 49403. Health and Safety Code sections 120325, 120335, 120341, 120365, 120370(a)(2), and 120372(a).]

3. Cancer Prevention Act / Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Immunization

HPV, or human papillomavirus, is a common virus that can cause cancers later in life. California law requires that students be advised to follow current immunization guidelines, as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Academy of Family Physicians, regarding full human papillomavirus (HPV) immunization before admission or advancement to the eighth grade level of any private or public elementary or secondary school.

AB 659 recommends students entering the 8th grade be fully vaccinated against HPV, with students and their parent or guardians receiving a notification of the requirement when they enter the 6th grade.

Per the CDC, **children ages 11–12 years should get two doses of HPV vaccine, given 6 to 12 months apart.** HPV vaccines can be given starting at **age 9**. Children who get the first dose before their 15th birthday only need two doses. Teens who get the first dose on or after their 15th birthday need three doses. The HPV vaccine series is most effective when given before a person is exposed to the virus. More information may be found on the CDC's webpage: <https://www.cdc.gov/hpv/parents/vaccine-for-hpv.html> "HPV vaccination can prevent over 90 percent of cancers caused by HPV. HPV vaccines are very safe, and scientific research shows that the benefits of HPV vaccination far outweigh the potential risks." (E.C. section 48980.4 and Health and Safety Code section 120336.)

4. Assistance with Medication - If your child must take medication during the school day which includes

over-the-counter remedies, nutritional supplements, herbal remedies, and medication prescribed by a physician, surgeon or physician's assistant, designated school personnel may assist your child. In order for staff to administer medication to the student at school, the parent/guardian must submit a written statement with the following information:

1. Identity of the student
2. Grant permission for an authorized district representative to communicate directly with the student's authorized health care provider and pharmacist, as may be necessary, regarding the health care provider's written statement or any other questions that may arise with regard to the medication
3. Contain an acknowledgment that the parent/guardian understands how district employees will administer the medication or otherwise assist the student in its administration
4. Contain an acknowledgment that the parent/guardian understands his/her responsibilities to enable district employees to administer or otherwise assist the student in the administration of medication, including, but not limited to, the parent/guardian's responsibility to provide a written statement from the authorized health care provider, to ensure that the medication is delivered to the school in a proper container by an individual legally authorized to be in possession of the medication, and to provide all necessary supplies and equipment
5. Contain an acknowledgment that the parent/guardian understands that he/she may terminate the consent for the administration of the medication or for otherwise assisting the student in the administration of medication at any time

In addition to the requirements in items #1-5 above, if a parent/guardian has requested that his/her child be allowed to carry and self-administer prescription auto-injectable epinephrine or prescription inhaled asthma medication, the parent/guardian's written statement shall: (E.C. sections [49423](#), [49423.1](#))

1. Consent to the self-administration
2. Release the district and school personnel from civil liability if the student suffers an adverse reaction as a result of self-administering the medication

In addition to the requirements in items #1-5 above, if a parent/guardian wishes to designate an individual who is not an employee of the District to administer medication to his/her child, the parent/guardian's written statement shall clearly identify the individual and shall state:

- a. The individual's willingness to accept the designation
- b. That the individual is permitted to be on the school site
- c. Any limitations on the individual's authority

To administer medication to the student at school, the parent/guardian must also submit a written letter from the physician, or complete the District's form, indicating the following information:

1. Clear identification of the student (E.C. sections [49423](#), [49423.1](#); 5 CCR [602](#))
2. The name of the medication (E.C. sections [49423](#), [49423.1](#); 5 CCR [602](#))
3. The method, amount, and time schedules by which the medication is to be taken (E.C. sections [49423](#), [49423.1](#); 5 CCR [602](#))
4. If a parent/guardian has requested that his/her child be allowed to self-administer medication, confirmation that the student is able to self-administer the medication (E.C. sections [49414.5](#), [49423](#), [49423.1](#); 5 CCR [602](#))
5. For medication that is to be administered by unlicensed personnel, confirmation by the student's health care provider that the medication may safely and appropriately be administered by unlicensed personnel (E.C. sections [49423](#), [49423.1](#); 5 CCR [602](#))

[Note: Items #6-8 below may be revised to reflect District practice.]

6. For medication that is to be administered on an as-needed basis, the specific symptoms that would necessitate administration of the medication, allowable frequency for administration, and indications for referral for medical evaluation
7. Possible side effects of the medication
8. Name, address, telephone number, and signature of the student's authorized health care provider

Students may carry and use sunscreen without a doctor's note or prescription, and may also wear sun-protective clothing (E.C. section 49480).

5. **Anti-Seizure Medication** - Parents of a student diagnosed with seizures, a seizure disorder, or epilepsy who has been prescribed an emergency anti-seizure medication may request that their student's school have one or more of its employees receive voluntary training in the administration of the medication in the event that the student suffers a seizure when a school nurse is not available. Upon receipt of the parent's request, the school district must notify the parent that his or her child may qualify for an individualized education program or a Section 504 plan.

Parents must provide a seizure action plan pursuant to Ed. Code section 49468.3 before an emergency anti-seizure

medication or therapy treatment may be administered.

6. **Physical Examinations** - If you want your child to be exempt from physical examinations at school, file a written statement with the school refusing such an exam. However, when there is a good reason to believe that your child is suffering from a recognized contagious or infectious disease, he/she may be sent home and shall not be permitted to return to school until the contagious or infectious disease does not exist. [E.C. section 49451]
7. **Medical and Hospital Services** - The school district does not provide insurance on individual students. However, you may purchase accident insurance through the district for medical and hospital services covering your child. The insurance provides coverage for your child while on school grounds or in school buildings during the time your child is required to be there because of his/her attendance during a regular school day of the district; or while being transported by the district to and from school or other places of instruction; or while at any other place as an incident to school-sponsored activities and while being transported to, from and between such places. Applications are available in the Main Office. [E.C. section 49472]
8. **Scoliosis Screening (Curvature of the Spine)** - If your child is enrolled in grades 7 through 12, and is suspected of having curvature of the spine, please notify the school office. If your child is identified at school as having this condition, you will be notified. [E.C. section 49452.5]
9. **Sight and Hearing Test** - The school district is required to provide for the testing of the sight and hearing of each student enrolled in the schools unless you submit a written denial of consent. [E.C. section 49452]
10. **Information for Use in Emergencies** - For the protection of your child's health and welfare, we ask that you continually update Emergency Information Cards that are on file and available in the Main Office. [E.C. section 49408]
11. **Confidential Medical Services Without Parental Consent** - According to the Education Code, school authorities may excuse any student in grades 7 through 12 from school for the purpose of obtaining confidential medical services without the consent of the pupil's parents or guardian. For more information, please contact the Main Office. [E.C. section 46010.1]
12. **Immunizations and Control of Communicable Disease** - This district cooperates with the local health office in the control and prevention of communicable disease in school-age children. If you consent in writing, the district may permit any person licensed as a physician and surgeon, or if under the direction of a supervising physician or surgeon, may also permit a physician's assistant, nurse practitioner, registered nurse, licensed vocational nurse, or nursing student who is acting under the supervision of a registered nurse, in accordance with applicable provisions of law, to administer an immunizing agent to your child. You will be advised in writing before any immunization program is instituted. [E.C. section 49403]

SEX EDUCATION

1. **Instruction in Comprehensive Sexual Health Education/HIV/AIDS Prevention** [E.C. sections 51930-51939] - Districts shall annually notify parents about instruction in comprehensive sexual health education and HIV/AIDS 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. You will be notified prior to the commencement of any such instruction as to whether the instruction will be taught by district personnel or by outside consultants in class or during an assembly. A copy of the law pertaining to such instruction is available upon request from the district. You may request in writing that your child not receive comprehensive sexual health education and/or HIV/AIDS prevention education.
2. **Student Surveys, Tests and Questionnaires Regarding Sexual Attitudes and Practices**
The law also authorizes the district to use anonymous, voluntary and confidential research and evaluation tools to measure 7th- 12th grade students' health behaviors and risks, including tests, questionnaires, and surveys containing age appropriate questions about the student's attitudes concerning or practices relating to sex. The district must notify you in writing before any such test, questionnaire, or survey is administered and provide you with an opportunity to review the test and request in writing that your child not participate. If a school receives a written request from the parent or guardian excusing a student from this activity, the student may not be subject to disciplinary action, academic penalty or other sanction and an alternative educational activity must be made available to the student.

EXEMPTIONS AND PARENTAL RIGHTS

1. **Parental Rights: Education Empowerment Act of 1998** - The Education Empowerment Act of 1998 establishes various rights for parents, in addition to other rights identified in this Annual Notice. Your rights, as a parent or guardian, include the following:

Inspection of Instructional Materials: All primary supplemental instructional materials and assessments, including textbooks, teacher's manuals, films, tapes, and software shall be compiled and stored by the classroom instructor and made available promptly for your inspection in a reasonable time frame or in accordance with procedures determined by the governing board of the school district.

Observation of School Activities: You have the right to observe instruction and other school activities that involve your child in accordance with procedures determined by the governing board of the school district to ensure the safety of pupils and school personnel and to prevent undue interference with instruction or harassment of school personnel. Reasonable accommodation of parents and guardians shall be considered by the governing board of this school district. Upon written request by you, school officials shall arrange for your observation of the requested class or classes or activities in a reasonable time frame and in accordance with procedures determined by the governing board of this school district.

Consent for Evaluations: Your child may not be tested for a behavioral, mental, or emotional evaluation without your informed written consent.

Affirmation or Disavowal of Beliefs: A pupil may not be compelled to affirm or disavow any particular personally or privately held world view, religious doctrine, or political opinion.

This law does not relieve pupils of any obligation to complete regular classroom assignments.

Health Component of Any Program or Class: Parents may exempt students from the health component of any course or class if that instruction conflicts with a parent or guardian's religious training or beliefs.

2. Language Acquisition Programs

The District offers the following language acquisition program(s) for English learners:

Structured English Immersion – In this program, nearly all classroom instruction is provided in English. Curriculum presentation is designed for English Learners. At minimum, students are offered English Language Development (ELD) and access to grade level academic subject matter content. Supplemental intervention using the home language is provided based on the student's individual academic needs. The goal of this program is proficiency only in English.

Dual Immersion Program – Dual Language Immersion (DLI) Program Alternative: Also referred to as Two-Way Immersion. This is an enriched bilingual program offered to provide instruction in Spanish and English to students whose parent/guardian chooses it. Parents of English Learner students, at all levels of proficiency in English, and at any time of enrollment may request this option for their child. In this program, the core subjects are taught in both languages with the objective that the students become bilingual and biliterate. The same state content standards, materials, and CAASPP assessments are used as in the regular classes. English Language Development is provided as part of the alternative program core curriculum and measured annually using the ELPAC. Our program follows the 90:10 model in which the percent of instruction initially in kindergarten is greater in Spanish and gradually decreases to 50:50.

English Language Mainstream – This option is for students who are gaining fluency in oral English but do not meet the minimum proficiency requirements in reading, writing and mathematics in English for their grade level. In this program, your child is placed in a regular classroom. Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies are taught in English. English Language Development (ELD) and SDAIE (Specially Designed Academic Instruction in English) strategies are used as needed, determined by the teacher.

Any language acquisition program provided by the District shall:

- (1) Be designed using evidence-based research and include both Designated and Integrated English Language Development (ELD);

- (2) Be allocated sufficient resources by the District to be effectively implemented, including, but not limited to, certificated teachers with the appropriate authorizations, necessary instructional materials, pertinent professional development for the proposed program, and opportunities for parent and community engagement to support the proposed program goals; and
- (3) Within a reasonable period of time, lead to:
 - (A) Grade-level proficiency in English, and, when the program model includes instruction in another language, proficiency in that other language; and
 - (B) Achievement of the state-adopted academic content standards in English, and, when the program model includes instruction in another language, achievement of the state-adopted academic content standards in that other language. (5 CCR 11309(c).)

Parent Choice and Process to Request the Establishment of a Language Acquisition Program

Parents or legal guardians may choose a language acquisition program that best suits their child. When the parents or guardians of 30 or more students in a school, or 20 or more students in any grade level at a school, request a language acquisition program, the school must offer the language acquisition program to the extent possible once various requirements are met, such as the program having been established with parental, school employee and community input. (E.C. section 310.)

When the parents or guardians of 30 or more students in a school, or 20 or more students in any grade level at a school, request the same or a substantially similar type of language acquisition program, the District shall respond by taking actions to comply with the timelines and requirements of 5 CCR 13111(h):

- (1) Within 10 school days notify the parents and guardians of students attending the school, the school's teachers, administrators, and the District's English learner parent advisory committee and parent advisory committee, in writing, of the parents' requests for a language acquisition program;
- (2) Identify costs and resources necessary to implement any new language acquisition program, including but not limited to certificated teachers with the appropriate authorizations, necessary instructional materials, pertinent professional development for the proposed program, and opportunities for parent and community engagement to support the proposed program goals; and
- (3) Determine, within 60 calendar days, whether it is possible to implement the requested language acquisition program; and provide notice, in writing, to the parents and guardians of students attending the school, the school's teachers, and administrators, of its determination;
 - (A) In the case of an affirmative decision to implement a language acquisition program at the school, create and publish a reasonable timeline of actions necessary to implement the language acquisition program.
 - (B) In the case where the District determines it is not possible to implement a language acquisition program requested by parents and guardians, the District shall provide in written form an explanation of the reason(s) the program cannot be provided and the District may offer an alternate option that can be implemented at the school. (5 CCR 13111(h).)

3. Other Parental Rights

The rights of parents and guardians of district pupils include the rights identified below. These rights include your right:

- a. To observe in your child's classroom (upon reasonable notice).
- b. To meet with your child's teacher and the school principal (upon reasonable notice).
- c. To volunteer your time and resources at the school.
- d. To be notified on a timely basis if your child is absent from school without permission.
- e. To be notified concerning your child's classroom and standardized test performance.
- f. To request a specific school and teacher and to receive a response from the school district. (This does not obligate the school district to grant the request.)
- g. To have a safe learning environment for your child.
- h. To examine curriculum materials of your child's class.
- i. To be informed of your child's progress and appropriate school personnel to contact in the event of problems.
- j. To access student records for your child.
- k. To receive information concerning expectations for student learning.
- l. To be informed in advance about school rules, policies, dress codes, and procedures for visiting the school.
- m. To receive information about any psychological testing of your child and to deny permission for such testing. To

participate as a member of any school site council or parental advisory council at the school, in accordance with governing membership.

- n. To question, and receive an answer regarding, items in your child's record that appear inaccurate, misleading, or that invade privacy.
 - o. To request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's teacher or any paraprofessional serving your child.
 - p. To be notified, at least once, in advance of career counseling and course selection (commencing with grade 7) so that you may participate in the counseling sessions and decisions.
4. **Dissection of Animals** - If your child chooses not to participate in the dissection of animals, and if the teacher believes that an adequate alternative education project is possible, then the teacher may work with him/her to develop and agree upon an alternative education project for the purpose of providing your child an alternate avenue for obtaining the information required by the class. The school will need a signed note from you indicating your child's objection. [E.C. section 32255]
5. **Excused from Instruction Due to Religious Belief** - Whenever any part of the instruction in health or family life education conflicts with your religious training and beliefs or personal moral conviction, or those of your child, your child shall be excused from such instruction upon your written request. [E.C. section 51240]
6. **Tests on Personal Beliefs** - Unless you give written permission, your child will not be given any test, questionnaire, survey, or examination containing any questions about your child's, or his/her parents' or guardians' personal beliefs or practices in sex, family life, morality, religion, political affiliations or beliefs, illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior, mental or psychological problems, legally recognized privileged relationships (such as lawyer, physician, or minister), critical appraisals of individuals with whom you have close family relationships, or income (except as required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program). Parents may inspect all instructional materials used in connection with any survey, analysis or evaluation. [20 U.S.C. 1232h and E.C. sections 51513, 60614]
7. **Educational Rights of High Mobility High School Students When Changing Schools After Their Second Year of High School** - High school "high mobility" students, which include students in foster care, homeless, recent immigrants, migrant students, former juvenile court school pupils, and students from military families, have the following rights when transferring to a new school after their second year of high school:
- Have the option to be **exempted from all coursework and other requirements that are more than statewide course requirements** for graduation, unless the District makes a finding that the student is reasonably able to complete the District's graduation requirements in time to graduate by the end of the fourth year of high school;
 - Have the option of attending a **fifth year** of high school in order to complete statewide graduation course requirements;
 - To **consult** with school staff and the student's educational rights holder regarding other options available to the student, such as:
 - (1) a fifth year of high school;
 - (2) transfer opportunities available through California Community Colleges; and
 - (3) possible credit recovery.
- The consultation must also include a discussion of how remaining for a fifth year of high school or accepting an exemption from the local graduation coursework requirements may potentially impact the student's vocational plans or ability to gain admission to college, and also take into consideration the student's academic record and any other information relevant to making an informed decision. (Ed. Code, § 51225.1, subd. (b)(1), (2), and (3) and subd. (f)(1)-(3).)
- **Foster youth and homeless students** have the right to a consultation with school staff and their educational rights holder regarding the student's option to remain in the student's **school of origin**; (Ed. Code, § 51225.1, subd. (b)(5).)
 - Have their official **transcript**, reflecting the correct, full and partial credits earned, sent to their new school within

two business days; (Ed. Code, § 49069.5, subd. (d) and (e).)

- Have their new school **accept and issue the credits** forwarded by the transferring school, to prevent the student from unnecessarily retaking a course (Ed. Code, § 51225.2, subd. (b); and
- The official transcripts for transferring **foster youth** must include a determination of the days of enrollment or seat time, or both if applicable, to ensure that transferring foster youth get full credit for coursework completed at their prior school. (Ed. Code, § 49069.5, subd. (e).)
- If exempted from local graduation requirements, and upon completing statewide coursework requirements before the end of the fourth year of high school, the District may not require or request that the student graduate before the end of the student's fourth year of high school. (Ed. Code, § 51225.1, subd. (e).)

SCHOOL RECORDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

1. **Pupil Records** - You have a right to inspect and review your child's school records; to challenge their contents; to have an administrator assist you in interpreting the records; request amendment to ensure that they are accurate, and not misleading, or otherwise in violation of your child's privacy rights; to have a district-level hearing to appeal the decision not to change records; and to file a complaint with the state and/or United States Department of Education if the district fails to comply with state and federal law with regard to your child's records. Except for certain exceptions, pupil records are confidential and will not be disclosed without your consent. Please be aware, however, that when your child enrolls or intends to enroll in another district, we will send his or her records, including suspension and/or expulsion disciplinary records, to that district. Your child's records may be shared with school officials and employees, and other persons connected with the school who have a legitimate educational interest and who may need them to perform his or her tasks. For example, pupil records may be used to identify and verify eligibility for certain services under the federal No Child Left Behind Act. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel), a person serving on the governing board, a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as attorney, auditor, consultant or therapist), or a parent or student serving on an official committee (such as disciplinary or grievance committee), or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. For further information or assistance contact the Superintendent's Office or the Student Privacy Policy Office, U. S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington DC 20202. [E.C. sections 49063 and 49070; Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) 34 CFR Part 99]
2. **Regulations Regarding Pupil Achievement** - If a student is in danger of failing a course, written notification will be sent to parents or a personal/telephone conference with the parent is required. [E.C. section 49067]
3. **Exemption from California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP)** - Each year, parents and guardians will be notified regarding their student's participation in the CAASPP assessment system. Parents and guardians wanting to excuse their children from any or all parts of the CAASPP must submit a written request. Such written requests must be submitted to the school on an annual basis. If you have any questions, please contact your appropriate site Principal: BUHS-(873-4275), PGHS- (938-2001). [E.C. sections 60615, 60604, 60640 and 5 CCR 852]
4. **School Accountability Report Card** - The School Accountability Report Card is available on request and is accessible at the following internet site: www.bishopschools.org This contains information about the district regarding the quality of the district's programs and its progress toward achieving stated goals.
5. **Release of Directory Information** - The law allows schools to release 'directory information' to certain persons or organizations such as military recruiters and colleges. Directory information may include a student's name, address, telephone information, e-mail address, date of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight & height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most recent previous public or private school attended by the student. If you wish that the district withhold any of this information, contact your appropriate site Principal: BUHS- (873-4275), PGHS- (938-2001), Home Street MS (872-1381), Bishop Elementary (872-1278) [E.C. section 49061(c)].
6. **Homeless Students / Release of Directory Information** – Written consent of the parent or that of the student, if accorded parental rights, must be obtained before directory information pertaining to a homeless student may be released. [E.C. section 49073(c); 20 USC 1232g]

7. **Advanced Placement Examination Fees** – state funds may be available to cover the costs of Advanced Placement examination fees. [E.C. sections 48980(j) and 52242.]

DUE PROCESS PROTECTIONS AND COMPLAINTS

1. **Complaints Regarding Employees** - Any individual, public agency, or organization alleging a violation of federal or state statutes may file a written complaint regarding specific programs within the Bishop Unified School District through the Uniform Complaint Procedure.
2. **Uniform Complaint Procedures** - Bishop Unified School District has the primary responsibility for the compliance with federal and state laws [5 CCR 4610, 4620 and 4622] The district has established procedures to address allegations of unlawful discrimination and complaints alleging violation of state or federal laws governing educational programs. It is unlawful to discriminate on the basis of ethnic group identification, religion, age, sex, marital, parental or family status, gender, which includes a person's gender identity and gender expression, sexual orientation, race, color, ancestry, national origin, immigration status, physical or mental disability, or genetic information. The District's policy of non-discrimination also applies to all acts of the District's Governing Board and Superintendent, and the County Superintendent of Schools in adopting policies and procedures that govern the District. For the full list of the prohibited types of discrimination, please see provision 5, "Complaints Regarding Discrimination and the Education of Disabled Students" below. (Copies of [UCP Board Policy 1312.3](#) and [UCP Administrative Regulation 1312.3](#) are available in the District Office or online at <https://www.bishopschools.org>)

The Uniform Complaint Procedures shall be used to investigate and resolve complaints alleging the district's violation of applicable state or federal law or regulations governing the following program and activities:

- Adult Education
- After School Education and Safety
- Agricultural Vocational Education
- American Indian Education Centers and Early Childhood Education Program
- Assessments
- Bilingual Education
- California Peer Assistance and Review Programs for Teachers
- Career Technical Education
- Child Care and Development
- Compensatory Education
- Consolidated Categorical Aid
- Economic Impact Aid
- English Learner Programs
- Every Student Succeeds Act / No Child Left Behind (Titles I–VII)
- Migrant Education
- Regional Occupational Centers and Programs
- School Safety Plans
- State Preschool
- Tobacco-Use Prevention Education
- Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAP)
- Course periods without educational content
- Educational rights of students in foster care, homeless students, current and former juvenile court school students, and children living in active duty military households
- Physical Education instructional minutes
- Pupil Fees
- Reasonable accommodations for lactating students

The District is prohibited from adopting or approving the use of any textbook, instructional material, supplemental instructional material, or curriculum for classroom instruction that would subject a student to unlawful discrimination pursuant to Education Codes section 220. Complaints alleging a violation of this law may be filed under the District's complaint procedures or may be filed with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (State Superintendent) directly. Complaints filed directly with the State Superintendent must identify the basis for the direct filing and why immediate action is necessary. The State Superintendent may directly intervene without waiting for an investigation by

the District. Complaints may be filed by a member of the public, including anyone electing to file anonymously, if the complaint provides evidence or information supporting the allegation. [E.C. section 244]

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.

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. [E.C. sections [49013](#), [52075](#); 5 CCR [4630](#)]

The Uniform Complaint Procedures shall also be used to investigate and resolve any complaint, by or on behalf of a former juvenile court school student who transfers into the district after his/her second year of high school, alleging district noncompliance with any requirement applicable to the student regarding the award of credit for coursework satisfactorily completed in the juvenile court school or the grant of an exemption from Board-imposed graduation requirements. (E.C. sections 51225.1, 51225.2) The Superintendent or designee shall post a standardized notice of the education rights of former juvenile court school students now enrolled at the district. [E.C. sections [48853](#), [48853.5](#), 49069.5, [51225.1](#), [51225.2](#)]

- a. Complaints made under this procedure shall be directed to Katherine Kolker, Superintendent of the Bishop Unified School District, 656 W. Pine Street, Bishop, CA 93514 or call 760-872-3680.
- b. You may contact our Superintendent to obtain a free copy of the district's complaint procedures.(BP/AR 1312.3)*
- c. In addition to this procedure you have a right to:
 - i. Direct your complaint directly to the CDE State Superintendent of Public Instruction.
 - ii. Appeal to the CDE State Superintendent of Public Instruction a complaint that has not been resolved to your satisfaction by the school district. *Any appeal to California Department of Education must include a copy of the locally filed complaint and a copy of the Bishop Unified School District's decision. [5CCR 4632(c)]*
- d. In addition to this procedure, you may wish to:
 - i. Direct a complaint to appropriate agencies for investigation.
 - ii. Consult with an attorney to determine if you have legal rights that may be pursued through available civil law remedies. You may wish to contact the following low-cost or free legal services:

Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles
Education Law Unit
1550 West 8th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90017 (213) 487-3320

Greater Bakersfield Legal Assistance
615 California Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93304 (661) 325-5043

3. **Pupil Fee Noncompliance** - Complaints regarding the imposition of pupil fees for participation in educational activities may be filed with the school Principal and may be submitted anonymously, if you wish. If complainant is not satisfied with the District's decision, complainant may appeal to, and receive a written decision from, the CDE within 60 days. [E.C. section 49013.]
4. **Local Control Accountability Plan Non-compliance** – School districts, charter schools and county offices of education are required to adopt and annually update their LCAPs. Complaints asserting non-compliance with LCAP requirements may be filed under the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures and may be filed anonymously. If a complainant is not satisfied with the District's decision, the complainant may appeal to the

California Department of Education and receive a written decision within 60 days. [E.C. section 52075.]

- 5. Complaints Regarding Discrimination and the Education of Disabled Students** - Our school district is committed to equal opportunity for all individuals in education. Our district programs and activities shall be free from discrimination based on a person's actual or perceived sex (sex discrimination includes sexual harassment and discrimination against a student based on pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy or recovery from pregnancy or childbirth-related conditions or the denial of lactation accommodations for lactating students), gender, which includes a person's gender identity and gender expression, age, race (includes ancestry, color, ethnicity, ethnic group identification, and ethnic background), religion (includes all aspects of religious belief, observance and practice and includes agnosticism and atheism), national origin, nationality, lack of English skills, immigration status, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, genetic information, sexual orientation (includes heterosexuality, homosexuality, and bisexuality) or any other unlawful consideration, or because a person is perceived to have one or more of the above characteristics or because a person associates with a person or group with one of more of these actual or perceived characteristics. Intimidation, harassment or bullying based upon these actual or perceived characteristics is also prohibited. The district shall promote programs which ensure that these discriminatory practices are eliminated in all district activities. [E.C. section 56501] You have certain rights under the law, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1974, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA, formerly known as EHA). The California Department of Education and the Office for Civil Rights of the U. S. Department of Education have authority to enforce these laws and all programs and activities that receive Federal funds. [E.C. sections 260, et seq., and the above cited federal statutes] If you wish further details in this regard, or wish to file a complaint, please contact the Superintendent at 872-3680.
- 6. Williams Complaints** - Any individual, public agency or organization may file complaints about specified situations pertaining to: (1) instructional materials; (2) emergency or urgent facilities conditions that pose a threat to the health and safety of pupils or staff; and (3) teacher vacancies or misassignments. The District's Williams Complaints Administrative Regulation [1312.4](#) and Exhibit [1312.4*](#) are available upon request and on online at <https://www.bishopschools.org>.
- 7. Uniform Complaints – Rights of Homeless and Students in Foster Care:** The district's uniform complaint procedures cover complaints pertaining to the education of homeless and students in foster care, including, but not limited to, a school district's failure to:
- a. Allow a foster child or homeless student to remain in his/her school of origin while resolution of a school placement dispute is pending;
 - b. Place a foster child or homeless student in the least restrictive educational programs and provide access to academic re- sources and services, and extracurricular and enrichment activities available to all students and make educational and school placement decisions based on the best interests of the child;
 - c. Provide educational services for foster children living in emergency shelters;
 - d. Designate a staff person as the educational liaison for foster children and homeless students. The educational liaison must ensure and facilitate the proper educational placement, enrollment in school, and checkout from school of foster children, and assist foster children when transferring from one school or district to another by ensuring the proper transfer of credits, records and grades;
 - e. Compile and transfer the complete educational record, including full or partial credits earned and the current classes and grades, of a transferring foster child to the next educational placement;
 - f. Ensure the proper and timely transfer between schools of students in foster care;
 - g. Within two business days of receipt of a transfer request or notification of enrollment from the new local educational agency, transfer the student and deliver the student's complete educational information and records to the next educational placement; and
 - h. Ensure that no lowering of grades will occur as a result of a foster student's absence due to a change in placement by a court or placing agency, or due to a verified court appearance or related court activity.

A notice summarizing the rights of foster youth is available online through the California Department of Education at

[and may be found in Education Code section 48853.5.](#)

A complainant not satisfied with the district's decision may appeal to the CDE and receive a written decision from the CDE within 60 days. [E.C. sections 48853, 49069.5, 51225.1, 51225.2.]

- 8. Uniform Complaints – Graduation and Coursework Requirements for Foster Youth, Homeless, Former Juvenile Court, Migratory and Newly Arrived Immigrant Students Participating in a “Newcomer Program,” and Students Living in Active Duty Military Households** - The following rights apply to foster youth, homeless students, former juvenile court students, and students living in the households of parents/guardians who are active duty members of the military:
- a. Within 30 days of transferring, after the completion of the second year of high school, students must be notified that s/he may be exempt from local graduation requirements and that this exemption continues after the court's jurisdiction over a foster child ends, when a homeless student is no longer homeless, when a student is no longer under the jurisdiction of a juvenile court, when the student no longer lives in the household of an active duty service member, or when a student no longer meets the definition of “migratory child” and/or a student participating in a newcomer program; [E.C. section 51225.1(d) and (j)];
 - b. Accept coursework satisfactorily completed while attending another public school, a juvenile court school, or a nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency, even if the student did not complete the entire course; and must issue full or partial credit for the coursework completed. For students living in active duty military households, “public schools” include schools operated by the United States Department of Defense. [E.C. section 51225.2(b)];
 - c. Students may not be required to retake a course satisfactorily completed elsewhere. If the student did not complete the entire course, the school district or county office of education may not require that the student retake the portion already completed, unless the school district or county office of education, in consultation with the holder of the student's educational rights, finds that the student is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate from high school. When partial credit is awarded in a particular course, the student must be enrolled in the same or equivalent course in order to continue and complete the entire course [E.C. section 51225.2(b) and (d)];
 - d. Students may not be prevented from retaking or taking a course to meet the eligibility requirements for admission to the California State University or the University of California [E.C. section 51225.2(e)];
 - e. Exempt students transferring between schools at any time after the completion of his/her second year of high school from all coursework and other requirements adopted by the district's governing board that are in addition to the statewide coursework requirements for graduation found in Education Code section 51225.3, unless the district makes a finding that the student is reasonably able to complete the district's graduation requirements in time to graduate from high school by the end of the student's fourth year of high school [E.C. section 51225.1(a)];
 - f. For students deemed reasonably able to complete the district's graduation requirements within the student's fifth year of high school, the district must do all of the following: (a) inform the student of his/her option to remain in school for a fifth year to complete the school district's graduation requirements; (b) inform the student, and the person holding the right to make educational decisions for the student, about how remaining in school for a fifth year to complete the school district's graduation requirements will affect the student's ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution; (c) provide information to the student about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges; and (d) upon agreement with an adult student or with a minor student's educational rights holder, permit the student to stay in school for a fifth year to complete the school district's graduation requirements [E.C. section 51225.1(b)(1)-(4)];
 - g. Within 30 calendar days of the school transfer, the school district must notify a student who may qualify for the exemption from local graduation requirements, his or her parent/guardian, the person holding the right to make educational decisions for the student, the foster youth's social worker, a former juvenile court student's probation officer, and, in the case of homeless students, the school district's liaison for homeless students, of the availability of the exemption from local graduation requirements and whether the student qualifies for the exemption. [E.C. section 51225.1(d)(1) - (6)]

If the school district fails to provide timely notice of these rights, the student will be eligible for the local graduation requirements exemption even after the student is no longer: (1) homeless, (2) in foster care, (3) under the juvenile court's jurisdiction, (4) a “migratory child” or a student “participating in a newcomer program” as defined, or (5)

living in the household of an active duty military service member, if the student otherwise qualifies for the exemption. [E.C. section 51225.1(d).];

- h. Students exempted from local graduation requirements who complete statewide coursework requirements before the end of their fourth year of high school may not be required or asked to graduate before the end of their fourth year of high school, if otherwise entitled to remain in attendance. [E.C. section 51225.1(e).];
- i. If a student is exempted from local graduation requirements, the school district must notify the student and the student's educational rights holder of how any of the requirements that are waived will affect the student's ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution and must provide information about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges [E.C. section 51225.1(f).];
- j. Students eligible for the exemption from local graduation requirements and who would otherwise be entitled to remain at the school, shall not be required to accept the exemption or be denied enrollment in, or the ability to complete, courses necessary to attend an institution of higher education, regardless of whether those courses are required for statewide graduation requirements [E.C. section 51225.1(g).];
- k. If a student is not exempted from local graduation requirements or has previously declined the exemption, the school district must exempt the student at any time if he/she requests and qualifies for the exemption [E.C. section 51225.1(h).];
- l. Once exempted from local graduation requirements, the school district shall not revoke the exemption [E.C. section 51225.1(i).];
- m. If a student in foster care is exempted from local graduation requirements, the exemption must continue to apply after the termination of the court's jurisdiction over the student while he/she is enrolled in school or if the student transfers to another school or school district [E.C. section 51225.1(j)(1).];
- n. If a homeless student is exempted from local graduation requirements, the exemption must continue to apply after the student is no longer homeless while s/he is enrolled in school or if the student transfers to another school or school district [E.C. section 51225.1(j)(2).];
- o. If a former juvenile court school student is exempted from local graduation requirements, the exemption must continue to apply after the termination of the court's jurisdiction over the student while s/he is enrolled in school or if the student transfers to another school or school district [E.C. section 51225.1 (j)(3).];
- p. For students living in active duty military households, the exemption will continue to apply after: (1) a student transfers to another school or school district, or (2) a student no longer meets the "child of military family" definition. [E.C. section 51225.1 (j)(4).];
- q. For a student who is a migratory child and/or is participating in a newcomer program, the exemption will continue after the student no longer meets the definition of "migratory child" and/or a "student participating in a newcomer program", respectively. [E.C. section 51225.1 (j)(5) and (6).];
- r. A school district may not require or request that students transfer schools in order to be exempted from local graduation requirements [E.C. section 51225.1 (k).]; and
- s. Transfer requests may not be made on a student's behalf solely to qualify the student for an exemption under this section. [E.C. section 51225.1 (l).]

Non-Compliance Complaints

Complaints of non-compliance may be filed under the local educational agency's Uniform Complaint Procedures. A complainant not satisfied with the local education agency's decision may appeal to the California Department of Education (CDE) and receive a written decision regarding the appeal within 60 days of the CDE's receipt of the appeal. [E.C. sections 51225.1(m) and 51225.2(f)]

- 9. **Uniform Complaints – Assigning Students to Course Periods Without Educational Content** - Beginning with the 2016-2017 school year, school districts may not assign students in grades 9-12 to course periods without

educational content for more than one week in any semester without written parental consent and related documentation. "Course periods without educational content" are defined to include course periods where: (1) a student is released early from school; (2) the student is assigned to a service, instructional work experience or to a course to assist a certificated employee, but is not expected to complete curricular assignments; or (3) where the student is not assigned to any course during the class period.

School districts are also prohibited, without written parental consent and related documentation, from enrolling 9-12th graders in classes they have previously completed and received a grade that is satisfactory to receive a high school diploma and to attend a California public institution of postsecondary education. Non-compliance complaints may be filed under the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures. A complainant not satisfied with the district's decision may appeal to the CDE and receive a written decision from the CDE within 60 days. [E.C. sections 51228.1, 51228.2, and 51228.3.]

10. Uniform Complaints –Physical Education Instructional Minutes - Students in an elementary school maintaining grades 1-6 and 1-8 are required to receive at minimum, 200 minutes of physical education instruction each 10 school days, exclusive of recesses and lunch periods.

Middle and High School Students in Grades 7-12: Unless exempted pursuant to Education Code section 51241, students are required to receive at least 400 minutes of physical education instruction each 10 school days. High school students may be excused from physical education classes during one of grades 10, 11 or 12 for up to 24 clock hours in order to participate in automobile driver training, but must still attend a minimum of 7,000 minutes of physical education instruction during that school year. (E.C. section 51222 (a).)

Complaints regarding a school district's failure to comply with these physical education instructional minute requirements may be filed under the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures. Complainants not satisfied with the District's decision may appeal to the CDE and receive a written decision from the CDE within 60 days. [E.C. sections 51210, 51222 (a) and 51223.]

11. Uniform Complaints – Lactation Accommodations for Parenting Students

School districts must provide reasonable accommodations to lactating students on school campuses to express breast milk, breast-feed an infant child or address other needs related to breast-feeding. A student may not incur an academic penalty as a result of her use of reasonable lactation accommodations and must be provided an opportunity to make up any work missed due to such use. A complaint of noncompliance with this provision may be filed under the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures. Complainants not satisfied with the school district's decision may appeal to the CDE and receive a written decision within 60 days. [E.C. section 222(f).]

12. Uniform Complaints - Pregnant and Parenting Student Rights

Rights Under Education Code Section 221.51:

Local educational agencies (including school districts, charter schools and county offices of education):

(a) Shall not apply any rule concerning a student's actual or potential parental, family, or marital status that treats students differently on the basis of sex.

(b) Shall not exclude nor deny any student from any educational program or activity, including class or extracurricular activity, solely on the basis of the student's pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery therefrom.

(c) May require any student to obtain the certification of a physician or nurse practitioner that the student is physically and emotionally able to continue participation in the regular education program or activity.

(d) Pregnant or parenting students shall not be required to participate in pregnant minor programs or alternative education programs. Pregnant or parenting students who voluntarily participate in alternative education programs shall be given educational programs, activities, and courses equal to those they would have been in if participating in the regular education program.

(e) Shall treat pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, and recovery therefrom in the same manner and under the same policies as any other temporary disabling condition.

Rights Under Education Code Section 46015:

(a)

(1) pregnant or parenting students are entitled to eight weeks of parental leave, which the student may take before the birth of the student's infant if there is a medical necessity and after childbirth during the school year in which the birth takes place, inclusive of any mandatory summer instruction, in order to protect the health of the student who gives or expects to give birth and the infant, and to allow the pregnant or parenting student to care for and bond with the infant. The student, if the student is 18 years of age or older, or, if the student is under 18 years of age, the person holding the

right to make educational decisions for the student, shall notify the school of the student's intent to exercise this right. Failure to notify the school shall not reduce these rights.

(2) A pregnant or parenting student who does not wish to take all or part of the parental leave to which s/he is entitled shall not be required to do so.

(3) A pregnant or parenting student is entitled to receive more than eight weeks of parental leave if deemed medically necessary by the student's physician.

(4) When a student takes parental leave, the supervisor of attendance shall ensure that absences from the student's regular school program are excused until the student is able to return to the regular school program or an alternative education program.

(5) During parental leave, a local educational agency shall not require a pregnant or parenting student to complete academic work or other school requirements.

(6) A pregnant or parenting student may return to the school and the course of study in which he or she was enrolled before taking parental leave.

(7) Upon return to school after taking parental leave, a pregnant or parenting student is entitled to opportunities to make up work missed during his or her leave, including, but not limited to, makeup work plans and reenrollment in courses.

(8) Notwithstanding any other law, a pregnant or parenting student may remain enrolled for a fifth year of instruction in the school in which the student was previously enrolled when it is necessary in order for the student to be able to complete state and any local graduation requirements, unless the local educational agency makes a finding that the student is reasonably able to complete the local educational agency's graduation requirements in time to graduate from high school by the end of the student's fourth year of high school.

(9) A student who chooses not to return to the school in which he or she was enrolled before taking parental leave is entitled to alternative education options offered by the local educational agency.

(10) A pregnant or parenting student who participates in an alternative education program shall be given educational programs, activities, and courses equal to those he or she would have been in if participating in the regular education program.

(11) A student shall not incur an academic penalty as a result of his or her use of these accommodations.

(b) A complaint of noncompliance with these requirements may be filed under the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures. The District shall respond to a complaint within 60 days. A complainant not satisfied with the District's decision may, within 15 days of receipt of the decision, appeal the decision to the California Department of Education (CDE) and shall receive a written decision regarding the appeal within 60 days of the CDE's receipt of the appeal. If the District finds merit in a complaint, or if the CDE finds merit in an appeal, the District shall provide a remedy to the affected student.

- 13. Juvenile Court Students Who Have Qualified for a Diploma - Graduation Requirements and Continuing Education Options** - Juvenile court students who have qualified for a diploma have additional rights related to deferring or declining the issuance of a diploma in order to take additional coursework, continuing their education upon release from the juvenile detention facility, and community college transfer opportunities. [E.C. section 48645.7]
- 14. Special Education Programs** - Complaints regarding special education programs are no longer covered by the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures. For more information, please refer to the Notice of Procedural Safeguards under the IDEA. Complaints alleging that a student was discriminated against due to his or her disability still fall under the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures.
- 15. Child Nutrition Program Complaints** - Complaints related to Child Nutrition Programs established pursuant to the National School Lunch Program, Summer Food Service Program, Child and Adult Care Food Program, Special Milk Program, School Breakfast Program, and Food Distribution Program are no longer processed through the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures. Instead, complaints must be processed through the existing procedures outlined in federal regulations and new, related state regulations. A complaint must be submitted within one year of the date of the alleged violation, and may be filed by phone, e-mail, or letter. Please see California Code of Regulations, title 5, sections 15580 – 15584 for more information. [5 CCR §§ 15580 – 15584]
- 16. State Preschool Health and Safety Issues Complaints** - The District operates State preschool programs which are exempt from state licensing, West Bishop State Preschool in the morning and Bishop Kids Club in the afternoon, which are both located at 800 West Elm Street in Bishop. Complaints regarding state preschool health and safety issues are processed under the District's Regulation and Exhibit #1312.4 (see attached). Complaints must be filed with the preschool program administrator, or his/her designee, and may be filed anonymously. [E.C. section 8235.5 and 5 CCR §§ 4690 – 4694.]

MISCELLANEOUS

1. **New additions to List of Student Discipline Matters** - A comprehensive discussion of the rules and offenses related to student discipline can be obtained at the District Office. [E.C. section 48915]
2. **Student Sexual Harassment** – Students in grades 4 through 12 may be suspended or expelled for sexual harassment. The Board of Trustees prohibits sexual harassment in the educational environment by any person in any form. Sexual harassment is in violation of federal and state laws, including Title VII of the Civil Rights act of 1964 and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1982. Within the educational environment sexual harassment is prohibited between students, employees and students, and supervisors and students. Repeated or unwarranted verbal or physical sexual advances, sexually explicit derogatory statements, or sexually discriminatory remarks made by someone in the educational environment which are offensive or objectionable to the student or which cause the student discomfort or humiliation, or which interfere with the student's performance, are prohibited. Action will be taken when necessary to eliminate such practices or remedy their effects. Students who engage in such harassment may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion (E.C. sections 212.5; 230; 48900.2). The principal or designee shall discuss the district's sexual harassment policy with his/her students and employees and assure them that they are not required to endure sexually insulting, degrading or exploitative treatment or any other form of sexual harassment. The principal or designee shall provide staff in-service or student instruction and counseling as needed (Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972).

Students and staff are encouraged to immediately report incidents of sexual harassment to the principal or designee. The principal or designee shall promptly investigate each complaint of sexual harassment in a way that ensures the privacy of all parties concerned. In no case shall the student be required to resolve the complaint directly with the offending person.

3. **Use of the Internet and/or On-Line Sites** – BUHS provides pupils with access to the Internet or an on-line service. All students are required to sign an Acceptable Use Agreement/Policy (a copy of this agreement is available in the main office). This privilege will be revoked for inappropriate use/abuse.
4. **Sex Offender Information: "Megan's Law"** – The Sex Offender Identification Line is a telephone service for use by the public and organizations to identify serious sex offenders. This district does not disseminate this information; however, anyone at least 18 years of age may call (900) 463-0400. You will need the following information on the person you are checking on: Name and one of the following: address, birth date, driver's license number or Social Security number. You will be charged a flat rate of \$10 for information on up to two individuals. You may also receive information from your local law enforcement agency or view the Attorney General's Home Page at www.caag.state.ca.us.
5. **College Entrance Requirements / Education** – In addition to the rights described in Education Code sections 51100-51102, students and parents have the right to be informed of college entrance requirements. It is critically important to know how to assist those students who choose to pursue a college education. Students and parents need to know the series of college preparatory classes to take in high school. The minimum requirements vary, depending on the selected college or university. The a-g requirements noted below are submitted by the Regents of the University of California and are, generally, the most rigorous:
 - An English class every semester of every year for four years.
 - A mathematics class every semester of every year for three years, including algebra and geometry. Four years are recommended.
 - Two years of a laboratory science beyond the ninth grade. An additional year is recommended.
 - Two years of history-social science, which are to include U.S. government, world history, culture, and geography.
 - Two years of the same language other than English.
 - Two years of college preparatory electives in addition to those required in "a-e" above.
 - One year of visual and performing arts, effective for the entering class of 2003.

To gain admission to college, students must also take and submit scores from either the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or the American College Test (ACT). The counseling office can provide the testing dates and locations.

a. **College Admissions Requirements:**

University of California – there are three paths to eligibility: (1) Eligibility in the Statewide Context - students must complete specific coursework and college admissions tests and earn the required GPA and test scores; (2) Eligibility

in the Local Context (ELC) - students must rank in the top 4 percent of their graduating class at a participating California high school; and (3) Eligibility by Examination Alone - students must achieve specified high scores on their college admissions tests.

The following website links provide more information regarding University of California admission requirements:
http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/undergrad_adm/paths_to_adm/freshman.html
http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/undergrad_adm/paths_to_adm/freshman/subject_reqs.html

California State University - Most applicants who are admitted meet the standards in each of the following areas: (1) specific high school courses; (2) grades in specified courses and test scores; and (3) graduation from high school.

The following website link provides more information regarding the California State University admission requirements: http://www.csumentor.edu/planning/high_school/

b. Career Technical Education:

Career Technical Education is a program of study that involves a multiyear sequence of courses that integrates core academic knowledge with technical and occupational knowledge to provide students with a pathway to postsecondary education and careers. For more information, visit the California Department of Education's website at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/>

Guidance Counseling - Students may meet with guidance counselors at their school to discuss college admission requirements and/or to enroll in career technical education courses.

6. **Apprenticeship and Pre-Apprenticeship Programs.** The District shall use the database of registered program sponsors provided on the internet website of the Department of Industrial Relations' Division of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS) to assist students in locating apprenticeship opportunities. See the DAS webpage for more information: <https://www.dir.ca.gov/das/>. The District may use contact information contained in the Division of Apprenticeship Standard's database to obtain information or materials, including, but not limited to, pamphlets or brochures. (Ed. Code, § 48980.5.)
7. **California College Guidance Initiative Data Sharing** - The California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI) works with California school districts to make applying for college and student financial aid a more streamlined experience for students. The CCGI currently receives enrollment data for all public school students in grades 6-12 from the California Department of Education (CDE). For more information about the CCGI, visit their website at <https://www.californiacolleges.edu/#/> (Ed. Code, § section 60900.5(d).)
Student transcript information may be shared with the CCGI in order to do both of the following:
 - (a) Provide students and their families with direct access to online tools and resources for college and career planning.
 - (b) Enable a student to transmit information shared with the CCGI to both of the following:
 - (i) Institutions of higher education for purposes of admissions and academic placement.
 - (ii) The Student Aid Commission for purposes of determining eligibility for, and increasing uptake of, student financial aid.(Education Code sections 60900 (f)(3)(A) and 60900.5(f).)
8. **Cal Grant Program / Senior Opt-Out** – School districts shall give written notice annually, by January 1, to each 11th grade student and to the parents/guardians of 11th graders under the age of 18, that students will be automatically deemed Cal Grant applicants unless the student, or the parent/guardian if the student is a minor, opts out within 30 days of receipt of this notice. Students who are 18 years or older and parents/guardians of minor 11th graders may contact Kelsey James / Guidance Counselor at kjames@bishopschools.org if they do not want their grade point average reported to the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) for purposes of the Cal Grant Program. The District's high schools plan to first submit senior GPAs electronically to the CSAC before October 1.
9. **Future College or University** - Because of rising costs, it is important for you to invest early for the future college or university education of your child. You may wish to consider appropriate investment options including, but not limited to, U. S. Savings Bonds. [E.C. section 48980(d)]
10. **Management Plan for Asbestos-Containing Material** - A complete, updated management plan for asbestos-containing material in school buildings is available at each school office.

11. **Pesticide Warnings** - The district has implemented an integrated pest management (IPM) program designed to effectively control pests using a combination of techniques. Pesticides that pose the least possible hazard and are effective in a manner that minimizes risks to people, property, and the environment may be used according to established regulations and treatment thresholds. Pursuant to the Healthy Schools Act of 2000, the district is required to notify staff, parents, or guardians of the name of all pesticide products expected to be applied at the school facility during the upcoming year. Those products are as follows: Spectracide (permethrin), Raid (Cypermethrin Imiprothrin), and Victor (Boric Acid) are products that can be expected to be applied at the school. Please contact your school if you would like to be notified at least 72 hours prior to the application of pesticides. Information regarding pesticide information may be obtained at website for the California Department of Pesticide Regulation at www.cdpr.ca.gov. Copies of the District's Integrated Pest Management plan, Administrative Regulation 3514.2 – Integrated Pest Management, are available in the school offices and on the District's website, under board policies, at www.bishop-ca.schoolloop.com/Board_Info.
12. **Tattooing or Body Piercing** - It is a misdemeanor to tattoo or offer to tattoo a person under the age of 18. It is an infraction of the law to perform or offer to perform body piercing on a person under the age of 18, except in the presence of, or as directed by a notarized writing signed by, the parent or guardian. This does *not* include ear piercing. [Penal Code sections 652, 653]
13. **School Safety Plans** - Notice of the PLAN details is available to the public through the District Office on request, and copies are provided to local law enforcement. Please contact your school for any questions or information.
14. **Firearm Safety and Safe Storage of Firearms Information** - Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, school districts are required to include information in their Annual Notices related to the safe storage of firearms and California's child access prevention laws, which establish liability for parents and guardians who should have known that their child could gain access to a firearm at home. The information included in the Annual Notice must be informed by model content developed by the California Department of Education (CDE), which is attached in both English and Spanish. (Ed. Code, §§ 49391, 49392, and 48986.)
15. **Translation** - When 15% or more of the pupils enrolled in a public school that provides instruction in Kindergarten or any of grades 1 -12 speak a single primary language other than English, as determined from the census data submitted to the Dept. of Ed. Pursuant to Sec. 52164 in the preceding year, all notices, reports, statements, or records sent to the parent or guardian of any such pupil by the school or school district shall, in addition to being written in English, be written in such primary language, and may be responded to either in English or the primary language. [E.C. section 48985.]
16. **Synthetic Drugs/Fentanyl** - According to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) website, deadly doses of fentanyl have been found in fake/counterfeit versions of Adderall, Xanax, and Oxycodone, among other medications. Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is up to 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine. Non-prescribed synthetic drug use, such as fentanyl, is a major cause of fatal overdoses in the United States. Illicitly manufactured fentanyl can be found in counterfeit pills and in different forms, including liquids and powders. Please be advised that social media platforms are being used to market and sell fentanyl and other synthetic drugs. Please see the attached Fentanyl Facts sheet for more information.
17. **Further Information is Available** - Further information regarding our district schools, programs, policies, and procedures are available to any interested person upon request to our District Office.

The following documents are available in the District Office and /or online at www.bishopschools.org:

*Education Code section 48205 – Excused Absences

*Sexual Harassment Policy – BP 5145.7

Education Code Section 58501 – Notice of Alternative Schools

*Uniform Complaint Policy BP/AR 1312.3

*Williams Complaints – AR/Exhibit 1312.4

*[Foster Youth Education Rights](#) - [Education Code section 48853.5](#)