

# **MODESTO CITY SCHOOLS**

## **Board Policy**

**BP 6173.1**

### **INSTRUCTION**

#### **Education for Foster Youth**

The Governing Board recognizes that foster youth may face significant barriers to achieving academic success due to their family circumstances, disruption to their educational program, and their emotional, social, and other health needs that may be addressed with the provision of a safe, positive learning environment that is free from discrimination and harassment and that promotes students' self-esteem and academic achievement. The Superintendent or designee shall provide foster youth with full access to the District's educational program and implement strategies necessary for the improvement of the academic achievement of foster youth as identified in the District's local control and accountability plan (LCAP). The Superintendent or designee shall also develop strategies to build a foster youth's feeling of connectedness with school, including, but not limited to, strategies that promote positive discipline and conflict resolution, the development of resiliency and interpersonal skills, and the involvement of foster parents, group home administrators, and/or other caretakers in school programs and activities.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that placement decisions for foster youth are based on the students' best interests as defined in law and as specified in the accompanying administrative regulation. To that end, the Superintendent or designee shall designate a staff person as the District liaison for foster youth to help facilitate the enrollment, placement, and transfer of foster youth.

The Superintendent or designee and District liaison shall ensure that all appropriate staff, including, but not limited to, each principal, school registrar, and attendance clerk, receive training on the enrollment, placement, and transfer of foster youth and other related rights.

To address the needs of foster youth and help ensure the maximum utilization of available funds, the Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with local agencies and officials including, but not limited to, the county placing agency, social services, probation officers, and juvenile court officers. The Superintendent or designee shall explore the feasibility of entering into agreements with these groups to coordinate services and protect the rights of foster youth.

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At least annually and in accordance with the established timelines, the Superintendent or designee shall report to the Board on the outcomes for foster youth regarding the goals and specific actions identified in the LCAP, including, but not limited to, school attendance, student achievement test results, promotion and retention rates by grade level, graduation rates, and suspension/expulsion rates. As necessary, evaluation data shall be used to determine and recommend revisions to the LCAP for improving or increasing services for foster youth.

Annually, the Superintendent or designee shall report to the California Department of Education, in accordance with Education Code 51225.1, the number of foster youth graduating from the fourth or fifth year of high school who, for the prior school year, graduated with an exemption from District-established graduation requirements that are in addition to statewide coursework requirements.

#### *Legal Reference:*

##### **EDUCATION CODE**

*39807.5 Payment of transportation costs by parents/guardians; waiver for foster youth*

*42238.01-42238.07 Local control funding formula*

*42920-42926 Foster children educational services*

*48645-48647 Juvenile court schools*

*48850-48859 Education of foster youth and homeless students*

*48915.5 Recommended expulsion; foster youth with disabilities*

*48918.1 Notice of recommended expulsion*

*49061 Definitions; directory information*

*49069.5 Students in foster care; grades and credits*

*49076 Access to student records*

*51225.1 Exemption from district graduation requirements*

*51225.2 Course credits*

*51225.3 High school graduation requirements*

*52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan*

*56055 rights of foster parents pertaining to foster youth's education*

##### **HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE**

*120341 Foster youth; school placement and immunization records*

*1522.41 Training and certification of group home administrators*

##### **WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE**

*300 Children subject to jurisdiction*

*309 Investigation and release of child*

*317 Appointment of legal counsel*

*361 Limitations on parental or guardian control*

*366.27 Educational decision by relative providing living arrangements 602*

*Minors violating law; ward of court*

*726 Limitations on parental or guardian control*

*727 Order of care, ward of court*

*16000-16014 Foster care placement*

## **INSTRUCTION**

### **Education for Foster Youth**

#### *Legal Reference (cont.):*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

*4600-4670 Uniform complaint procedures*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

*1415 Procedural safeguards; placement in alternative educational setting*

*6311 State plan*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

*794 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

*670-679b Federal assistance for foster care programs*

*11431-11435 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act*

#### *Management Resources:*

##### CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*Foster Youth: Supports for Success, Governance Brief, May 2016*

*Our Foster Youth: What School Boards Can Do, May 2016*

*ALLIANCE FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS*

*Foster Youth Education Toolkit, December 2016*

*CALIFORNIA CHILD WELFARE COUNCIL*

*Partial Credit Model Policy and Practice Recommendations, September 2013*

*CITIES, COUNTIES AND SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP PUBLICATIONS*

*Our Children: Emancipating Foster Youth, A Community Action Guide*

*U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS*

*Ensuring Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care, Non-Regulatory Guidance, June 2016*

*CALIFORNIA FOSTER YOUTH EDUCATION TASK FORCE PUBLICATIONS*

*California Foster Youth Education Law Facts Sheets, January 2021*

##### WEB SITES

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

CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services: <https://legalservices.csba.org/>

Alliance for Children's Rights: <http://www.kids-alliance.org>

California Child Welfare Council: <http://www.chhs.ca.gov/Pages/CACChildWelfareCouncil.aspx>

California Department of Education, Foster Youth Services: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/pf/fy>

California Department of Social Services, Foster Youth Ombudsman Office:

<http://www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov>

California Foster Youth Education Task Force: <http://www.cfyetf.org>

California Youth Connection: <http://www.cal-youthconn.org/site/cyc>

Cities, Counties and Schools Partnership: <http://www.ccspartnership.org>

Foster Ed: <http://foster-ed.org>

National Center for Youth Law: <https://youthlaw.org>

#### *Cross References (cf.):*

*0200 – Goals For The School District (N/A)*

*0410 – Nondiscrimination in District Programs And Activities*

*0415 – Equity*

*0450 – Comprehensive Safety Plan*

*0460 – Local Control And Accountability Plan (N/A)*

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*Cross References (cf.) (Cont.):*

*0470 -COVID-19 Mitigation Plan*

*0500 – Accountability*

*1312.3 – Uniform Complaint Procedures*

*1400 – Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies And The Schools (N/A)*

*3100 – Budget (N/A)*

*3250 – Transportation Fees (N/A)*

*3260 – Fees And Charges*

*3515.4 – Recovery For Property Loss Or Damage*

*3540 – Transportation (N/A)*

*3541 – Transportation Routes And Services (N/A)*

*3553 – Free And Reduced Price Meals*

*4131/4231/4331 – Staff Development Certificated*

*5111 – Admission*

*5111.1 – District Residency*

*5113.1 – Chronic Absence And Truancy*

*5113.11 – Attendance Supervision*

*5116.1 – Intradistrict Open Enrollment*

*5117 – Interdistrict Attendance*

*5121 – Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement (N/A)*

*5123 – Promotion/Acceleration/Retention*

*5125 – Student Records*

*5125.2 – Withholding Grades, Diploma Or Transcripts*

*5131 – Conduct*

*5131.2 – Bullying*

*5131.6 – Alcohol And Other Drugs*

*5132 – Dress And Grooming*

*5137 – Positive School Climate*

*5138 – Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation (N/A)*

*5138 – Electronic Signaling or Communication Devices*

*5141.22 – Infectious Diseases*

*5141.26 – Tuberculosis Testing*

*5141.31 – Immunizations*

*5141.32 – Health Screening For School Entry*

*5141.6 – School Health Services (N/A)*

*5141.6 – Aid for Students in Need*

*5144.1 – Suspension and Expulsion/ Due Process*

*5144.2 – Suspension And Expulsion /Due Process (Student With Disabilities)*

*5145.3 – Nondiscrimination/Harassment*

*5145.6 – Parent/Guardian Notifications*

*5145.9 – Hate-Motivated Behavior*

*5147 – Dropout Prevention*

*5148.2 – Before/After School Programs*

*5148.3 – Preschool/Early Childhood Education*

*6000 – Concepts And Roles*

*6011 – Academic Standards*

*6020 – Parent Involvement (N/A)*

*6145 – Extracurricular And Cocurricular Activities*

## **INSTRUCTION**

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*Cross References (cf.) (Cont.):*

*6145.2 – Athletic Competition*

*6146.1 – High School Graduation Requirements*

*6146.3 – Reciprocity Of Academic Credit*

*6159 – Individualized Education Program*

*6159.2 – Nonpublic, Nonsectarian School And Agency Services For Special Education*

*6159.3 – Appointment Of Surrogate Parent for Special Education Students*

*6159.4 – Behavioral Interventions For Special Education Students (N/A)*

*6162.51 – State Academic Achievement Tests*

*6164.2 – Guidance/Counseling Services*

*6164.4 – Identification And Evaluation Of Individuals For Special Education*

*6164.6 – Identification and Education Under Section 504*

*6172 – Gifted And Talented Student Program (N/A)*

*6173 – Education For Children in a Transitional Living Situation/Homeless Children*

*6174 – Education For English Learners*

*6177 – Summer Learning Programs (N/A)*

*6179 – Supplemental Instruction for Remediation*

*6184 – Continuation Education*

*6190 – Evaluation of The Instructional Program (N/A)*

*9320 – Meetings And Notices*

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