

Bristow Middle School Student Handbook

2025-2026



This handbook belongs to:

Name: _____

Advisory Teacher: _____

William B. Bristow Middle School

855 Minnesota Avenue

Brentwood, CA 94513

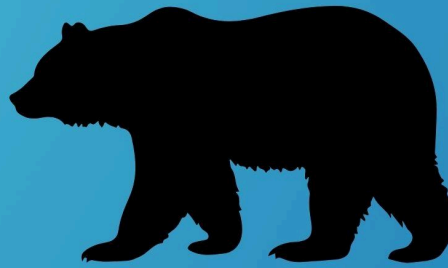
Phone: 925-513-6460

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<https://www.brentwood.k12.ca.us/o/bms>

Brentwood Union School District																			
2025-2026 STUDENT CALENDAR																			
JULY (3/2)					AUGUST (21/4)					SEPTEMBER (19/8)					OCTOBER (15/3)				
M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F
	1	2	3	4 H					1	1 H	2	3 *	4	5			1 Fall Break	2 Fall Break	3 Fall Break
7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6 *	7	8	8	9	10 *	11	12	6 Fall Break	7 Fall Break	8 Fall Break	9 Fall Break	10 Fall Break
14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13 *	14	15	15	16	17 *	18	19	13	14	15 *	16	17
21	22	23 NT	24 ✓	25 ✓	18	19	20 *	21	22	22 *	23 *	24 *	25 *	26 *	20	21	22 *	23	24
28 ✓+*	29 -*	30 *	31		25	26	27 *	28	29	29 Fall Break	30 Fall Break				27	28	29 *	30	31
NOVEMBER (13/4)					DECEMBER (15/4)					JANUARY (19/4)					FEBRUARY (18/6)				
M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F
					1	2	3 *	4	5				1 H	2 Winter Break					
3	4 PD	5 *	6	7	8	9	10 *	11	12	5	6	7 *	8	9	2	3	4 *	5	6
10	11 H	12 *	13	14	15	16	17 *	18	19 *	12	13	14 *	15	16	9 H	10	11 *	12	13
17	18	19 *	20	21 *	22 Winter Break	23 Winter Break	24 H	25 H	26 Winter Break	19 H	20	21 *	22	23	16 H	17	18 *	19	20
24 ^ NWD	25 ^ NWD	26 H	27 H	28 H	29 Winter Break	30 Winter Break	31 Winter Break			26	27	28 *	29	30	23	24	25 *	26 *	27 *
MARCH (12/3)					APRIL (21/5)					MAY (20/4)					JUNE (4/4)				
M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F
2	3	4 *	5	6			1 *	2	3					1	1 *	2 *	3 *	4 * -*	5
9	10	11 *	12	13 *	6 H	7	8 *	9	10	4	5	6 *	7	8	8	9	10	11	12
16 Spring Break	17 Spring Break	18 Spring Break	19 Spring Break	20 Spring Break	13	14	15 *	16	17	11	12	13 *	14	15	15	16	17	18	19 H
23 Spring Break	24 Spring Break	25 Spring Break	26 Spring Break	27 Spring Break	20	21	22 *	23	24	18	19	20 *	21	22	22	23	24	25	26
30	31				27	28	29 *	30		25 H	26	27 *	28	29	29	30			
KEY:										IMPORTANT DATES:									
* First / Last Student Day of School # 1 st Work Day for Instructional Aides H Holiday NT New Teacher Work Day PD Professional Development Day ✓ Teacher Work Day + Food Service Work Day * District-wide Adjusted Day ^ No Classes/Non-School Day NWD Non Work Day – 258 Day Employees										07/04 Independence Day 07/29 First Day of Classes 09/01 Labor Day 09/29-10/10 Fall Break 11/11 Veterans' Day 11/24-11/28 Thanksgiving Holiday 12/22-01/02 Winter Break 01/01 New Year's Day 01/19 Martin Luther King Birthday 02/09 Lincoln's Birthday 02/16 President's Day 03/16-03/27 Spring Break 04/06 District Holiday 05/25 Memorial Holiday 06/04 Last Day of School 06/19 Juneteenth Holiday									
180 student days										Board Adopted: 09/13/2023 Board Revised: 06/18/2025									

Bristow R.O.C.K.S. Expectations



I will treat all people and property with RESPECT.

I will take OWNERSHIP over my choices and success.

I will demonstrate good CHARACTER by doing the right thing.

I will set high expectations to better my KNOWLEDGE.

I will promote SAFETY with my words and actions.

Bristow Spirit Song:

CHEERS! TO OUR BRISTOW BE TRUE.

THE PRIDE OF BRENTWOOD SILVER AND BLUE.

*STANDING TALL THE BEARS YOU'LL SEE, HERE TO
SHOW OFF OUR LOYALTY.*

OUR SPIRIT SHOWS IN ALL THINGS WE DO.

THIS BRISTOW PRIDE WILL CARRY US THROUGH.

B-R-I-S-T-O-W WE'RE PROUD OF YOU. GO BEARS!

Academic Success & Incentives

Academic Success

The goal of Bristow Middle School is to provide an engaging and challenging learning experience for you as you work toward academic success. Commitment to this goal requires a team effort between you, your parents, and staff members.

Communication is vitally important to academic success. Teachers communicate through Canvas, Aeries, email and voicemail. Quarterly progress reports and report cards will be posted to provide families with grade updates. Use the school website to access Aeries Portal and/or Canvas to regularly monitor your progress.

Honor Roll / Honor Society

We will recognize eligibility for Honor Roll [GPA 3.30 – 3.69] and Honor Society [GPA 3.70 – 4.00] throughout the school year. Quarter grades factor in eligibility.

Student Recognition

School wide recognition of student achievement, citizenship, and accomplishments is an important part of establishing a positive learning environment. Recognition promotes pride in learning and gives you a sense of accomplishment in yourself and your school. Bristow Middle School provides many opportunities for you to be recognized for individual strengths and talents including the **P**ositively **A**wesome **W**onderful **S**tudent (PAWS) program that recognizes positive attitudes and behavior, and the R.O.C.K.S. student of the quarter program that recognizes students from each team who show **R**espect, take **O**wnership over their success, demonstrate good **C**haracter, enhance their **K**nowledge and are **S**afe.

School Sponsored Events & Activities

All students are provided the opportunity to attend socials and school sponsored activities throughout the school year. Socials are only open to Bristow students. You must meet the following criteria in order to attend:

- You must have your Bristow picture ID card to purchase a ticket and to enter the dance. Tickets are sold in advance, not at the door. Refunds will not be issued for unused tickets.
- You must attend school the entire day of the social, athletic game, or activity unless cleared by a doctor's note.
- All school rules apply at all socials, athletic games, and activities.
- No in/out privileges.
- Students must arrive within 30 minutes of the start time of the social or event. No entrance will be permitted after 30 minutes of the beginning of the social or activity.
- Students must be picked up no later than 30 minutes following the end of the social. Students picked up after this 30 minute time period may lose the privilege of attending the next social or activity.

Non-participation will be determined by Administration based on attendance, grades, and behavior.

Promotion and Retention

The Brentwood Union School District has adopted Board Policy on Social Promotion. Staff members from throughout the district have worked to establish grade level criteria for promotion between grades. Participation in End of Year Activities requires students to maintain minimum requirements.

<i>To be eligible for end of year activities, students must meet the following criteria:</i>		
1.5 GPA	No excessive absences or tardies	No excessive discipline incidents
End of Year Activities		
6th and 7th Grade		8th Grade
• End of Year Activities		• Field Trip • Promotion Dance
Administration reserves the right to withhold student participation based on overall behavior.		

The intent of the Promotion Policy is to help identify students who are struggling to meet grade level academic standards. Every effort is made to help you meet those standards through classroom instruction, intervention classes in reading and math, and after school classes.

Behavior

Dress Code

Bristow believes students should be comfortable at school. Students should express themselves in a manner consistent with their gender identity or expression, their religious or cultural observance, and with safety and appropriateness for an academic setting.

Basic Principle: Clothes must be worn to cover private parts (including posterior) and undergarments. All items in the categories below must meet that principle.

1. **Students *must* wear:**
 - Shirt (must extend to bottom garment and may not be sheer or see through)
 - Bottom: pants/sweatpants/shorts/skirt/leggings/dress
 - Shoes: activity specific shoe requirements are permitted (sports, PE)
2. **Students *may* wear:**
 - Religious headwear
 - Hats and beanies (at teachers discretion)
 - Hooded sweatshirts (hoods worn outdoors only)
 - Fitted pants, including leggings, yoga pants and skinny jeans
 - Ripped jeans as long as underwear is not exposed
 - Athletic attire including board shorts
 - Clothing with commercial or athletic logos provided they do not violate #3 below
3. **Students *cannot* wear:**
 - Images of violent images or language
 - Images or language depicting drugs, weapons, alcohol or likeness to any other illegal item or activity
 - Hate speech, profanity, pornography
 - Images that create a hostile or intimidating environment based on a protected class
 - Bathing suits
 - Costume masks, or headgear that obscures the face/identity
 - T-Shirts or tank tops that expose the chest, back or undergarments

Students wearing inappropriate clothing will be asked to wear replacement clothing for the day and can pick up their own clothing at the end of the school day. Parents may be notified and further disciplinary action taken.

Mobile Device Policy

No use of personal mobile devices (phones, smartwatches, tablets, airpods, recording devices, etc.) from arrival until the last bell are allowed. District Chromebooks are available to utilize for school-related activities. Students who need to call home may use phones located in the administrative office.

Students are expected to leave devices at home, or turn them off and place them in your backpack before entering campus. Devices must **remain out of sight and turned off during the entire school day**. Chromebooks are to be used for academic purposes only.

- **1st Violation:** Student will be given a warning. (Documented in Aeries)
- **2nd Violation:** Student will pick up the phone in the office at the end of the day and parent/guardian will be notified. (Documented in Aeries)
- **3rd Violation:** Parent/ Guardian will be notified and must pick up the mobile device. (Documented in Aeries)
- **4th Violation:** Student will attend a parent/guardian meeting with an administrator and may be required to check cell phone in at the office in a locked location for the school day. (Documented in Aeries)

BRISTOW MIDDLE SCHOOL WILL NOT BE LIABLE FOR THE LOSS OR THEFT OF ANY CELL PHONE OR OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICE.

Plagiarism

Students and parents need to be aware of the importance of academic honesty at Bristow Middle School. Academic honesty means not cheating, plagiarizing, using AI, or using information unethically in any way. You will be held accountable, parents notified and disciplinary action may be taken.

Behavior

All students have the right to be educated in a positive learning environment free from disruptions. We expect you to treat yourself and others (including their property) respectfully and to speak about yourself and others in ways that build up a sense of well-being. This means you should not display behavior that infringes upon the rights of others or interferes with the school program while on school grounds, going to or coming from school, at school activities, or using district transportation. This includes public displays of affections (PDA's). We expect you to immediately notify an adult on campus when you have a conflict. We expect you to follow requests from adults promptly.

If a staff member, district staff member, transportation staff member, school volunteer, or student believes they have knowledge of one of the following activities occurring on the way to or from school (including the bus), on campus, or at a school activity, they must contact a school administrator:

- Using force or violence
- Bullying or threatening
- Causing an injury
- Helping cause an injury
- Disrupt or defy authority
- Committing sexual assault
- Committing an obscene act
- Possessing weapon/imitation
- Possessing illegal substances
- Possessing tobacco/nicotine
- Possess drug paraphernalia
- Damaging/sealing property
- Hate Violence
- Horseplay

Items Not Allowed at School

- Weapons (including look alike weapons) – these may result in suspension or expulsion
- Controlled Substances (including all vape devices) – these may result in suspension or expulsion
- Mace/Pepper Spray – these may result in suspension or expulsion
- Explosive Devices – these may result in suspension or expulsion
- Gum or Sunflower Seeds – these lead to messes that are difficult or impossible to clean up
- Personal Electronics – example: headphones, gaming systems, sound machines, etc.
- Balloons – these obstruct instruction
- Toys – example: stuffed animals, Nerf guns, water guns, etc.
- Laser Pointers
- External Speakers – the school will provide all necessary amplification devices on campus
- Body piercing or use of razors or shavers - these are unsafe and unsanitary for the school

If you bring any of these items to school, they will be taken away, parents may be called, and you may be subject to further disciplinary action. ***Bristow will not be responsible for loss or theft of these items.*** Any offense in which a law is broken may be reported to the Brentwood Police Department.

Standard Operating Procedures

When investigating a report of misbehavior, administrators follow the *Standard Operating Procedures* set forth by the BUSD, LUHSD, and Brentwood Police Department. Administrators will:

- Conduct and document investigations
- Collaborate with law enforcement
- Secure and maintain evidence
- Communicate with appropriate parties

Search and Seizure

Because student safety is of utmost importance, school officials may search any student with reasonable cause or suspicion as stated in the BUSD Board Policy 5145.12(a).

Non-Discrimination Statement

The Brentwood Union School District (BUSD) is committed to ensuring equal, fair, and meaningful access to employment and education services. BUSD prohibits discrimination, intimidation, harassment, and bullying in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of actual or perceived age, ancestry, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or expression, genetic information, marital or parental status, medical condition, national origin, political affiliation, pregnancy and related conditions, race, religion, retaliation, sex (including sexual harassment), sexual orientation, Vietnam Era Veterans' status, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics or any other

basis prohibited by California state and federal non-discrimination laws respectively. Not all bases of discrimination will apply to both educational services and employment inquiries. Non-discrimination and civil rights inquiries should be directed to the district's Title IX Coordinator, Kirsten Jobb, Director of Student Services at 255 Guthrie Lane, Brentwood, CA 94513 or 925-513-6300. To file a complaint, please utilize the Uniform Complaint Process or call 925-513-6300.

Title IX Information

Federal law, Title IX, State law and Brentwood Union School District policy prohibit anyone at a school from discriminating against any student on the basis of sex, sexual orientation or gender. Males and females must be treated the same in all areas, including:

- Participation in athletics
- Enrollment in classes
- Counseling services
- Participation in extracurricular activities
- Treatment in the classroom
- Recognition and honors, special awards, scholarships

The Title IX Coordinator for BUSD is Kirsten Jobb, Director of Student Services. She can be reached at 925-513-6300, or by email at kjobb@brentwood.k12.ca.us. Further information about Title IX, including the process for filing a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights, can be found [here](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/tix_dis.html) or at https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/tix_dis.html.

Cyber Bullying

Cyber bullying includes the electronic creation or transmission or harassing communications, direct threats, or other harmful texts, sounds, or images. It also includes breaking into another person's electronic account and assuming that person's identity in order to damage that person's reputation.

Grounds for Suspension or Expulsion

Students who display inappropriate behavior may be subject to suspension as outlined in the California State Education Code 48900 and 48915. A Student may be suspended or expelled for acts which are related to school activity or attendance while on the school grounds, while going to or coming from school, during the lunch period whether on or off campus, and during or while going to or coming from a school sponsored activity. See Appendix A for Ed Code language.

Procedures

ID Cards

All students receive a picture ID card at the beginning of the year. Students must show IDs upon arrival to school and have their ID card in their possession when they are on campus. In addition to being used for general identification, this card is used to check out books from the Library and for school related activities on campus, sports equipment (lunch), and school sponsored events. ***You must bring the ID card to school socials and other school sponsored events.** * Keep track of your card. Replacement cost for an ID is \$10.00

Hall Passes

All students leaving a classroom during instructional time must have a pass. This includes walking to the: bathroom, office, counseling office, library, Student Services window, another classroom, etc. Passes must include: student name, date, time, destination, staff signature.

Attendance and Absences

All absences must be reported to the school office by a parent or guardian in a written note or with a phone call (925) 513-6461, within 72 hours.

Illness guidelines:

- If you become ill at school, come to the office so your parent/guardian can be contacted.
- Sign out in the school office with a parent/guardian on your emergency form. (Valid ID required)
- You are considered ill if:
 - You are unable to participate in routine activities or need more care than can be provided by the school staff.
 - You have a body temperature (< 100.4 F) that is accompanied by behavior changes, stiff neck, difficulty breathing, rash, sore throat, and/or other signs or symptoms of illness; or are unable to participate in routine activities.
 - You have a body temperature > 100.4 F.
- Students should be fever free (without fever reducing medications), diarrhea free (unless medical exam indicates that it is not due to a communicable disease), and vomiting free (unless determined to be caused by a non-communicable condition), within 24 hours of returning to school.

If you are frequently absent, you may be requested to bring a physician's note or may be referred to the School Attendance Review Board. Be advised that any excused or unexcused absences over ten days are considered excessive.

Work that is not already on Canvas may be requested during an absence beginning the third day by contacting the school by 11:00 am. Work will be left in the office for you to pick up after 3:15pm the following school day.

Students are expected to arrive at school and every class after a passing period on time. Students tardy to periods 2-8 will receive a lunchtime ROCKS reflection.

Independent Study

Students who are out from school for 2-15 consecutive school days can sign up for Site Based Independent Study. By signing up for independent study you will stay up to date on classroom assignments you will miss while you are gone. Please contact the front office a minimum of five school days in advance to coordinate independent study.

Medications

You must leave all medications, including non-prescription medicine, in the front office. Medications required to be carried with you at all times must include a physician note. All medications must have parental and physician authorization in writing. Forms are available in the front office.

Bicycle-Skateboard-Scooters

Bicycle and skateboard racks are available on the south end of the campus. Please supply your own lock. You will be required to carry your helmet and other accessories with you. Skateboards & scooters may be stored for the day in a classroom and must remain there from the time school starts through the end of the school day. The school provides supervision but cannot guarantee and ***will not be held responsible***

for damage or theft. Bikes will not be allowed to be stored in an area other than the bike racks and should not be stored overnight. You may not use bicycles, scooters, or skateboards on campus.

Personal Sports Equipment

Students may not bring their own personal sports equipment (basketballs, footballs, etc.) to school. Community sports equipment is provided for use by students before school and during lunch daily. Students must provide a student ID card for use of school sports equipment.

Lost School Property

All school property checked out to a student becomes your responsibility under all circumstances and must be returned or paid for before the end of the year. All checks should be made payable to Bristow Middle School. Returned checks are subject to a \$15.00 service charge.

Physical Education

Each student will be issued a lock and a locker for the school year. Students are not to give their combination to anyone nor switch or share lockers. **All clothing and personal items must be locked up at all times.** The school will not be responsible for lost or stolen items. Only school issued locks will be used in the locker rooms.

Students will be issued a small locker to store their clothes in when they are not in their PE period. During their PE period they may use a big locker to store their backpack and school clothes in. The big locker will be locked up while the small locker is empty and unlocked. They will return their PE clothes back to their small locker and lock it at the end of their PE period.

Locker Door Number: _____

Locker Combination: _____

Serial Number (Last 4 digits of middle number): _____



Directions for opening a combination lock

1. Turn right three times. Stop at first number.
2. Turn left one full turn passing the first number to stop at the second number.
3. Turn right and stop at the third number.
4. Pull down on lock.

Student Athletics/Team Sport Participation Requirements (DVMSL)

Students who participate in athletics/team sports need to be responsible young adults, who listen to and follow directions well. Your student's conduct at Bristow School is often characteristic of how they will behave in games/contests. The following requirements have been set in place to ensure that ALL participants have an educational, safe, and enjoyable season. If you have any questions about these requirements, ask for clarification from your student's coach or athletic director.

To qualify for the athletic program/team sports, the students MUST:

1. Have a 2.0 GPA or better from the previous reporting period and/or the current reporting period (quarter/semester/trimester). Students may not join the team without a 2.0 GPA, and may not join the team throughout that reporting period. If a reporting period falls during the season, a student may join the team, with the permission of the coach and athletic director, if their GPA has risen to a 2.0. If a reporting period falls during the season, and a student does not have a GPA of 2.0, they must be immediately removed from the team.
2. Have no more than 3 days of Off Campus Suspension or 3 days of On Campus Suspension in any reporting period. If a reporting period falls during the season, and a student is clear of suspensions in the new reporting period, they may join the team with the permission of the coach, athletic director and principal. Students who earn more than 3 days of suspension during the season must be immediately removed from the team for the remainder of the reporting period.
3. If an athlete is assigned to Friday School 1 or 2 times they may not participate for 2 games. If an athlete is assigned Friday School a 3rd time they will no longer be eligible to participate.

Community & Parent/Guardian Expectations

Parent Volunteers/Visitors to Campus

School Office hours are 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM Monday through Friday. For the safety of our campus, all visitors including those for classroom/school-sponsored student events between the hours of 7:30 AM-4:00 PM are required to sign in at the front office and be cleared through a valid ID. Additional identification and / or verifications may also be required. A staff member may accompany visitors while they are on school grounds. All visitors are required to follow registration procedures including wearing visitor identification badges while on school grounds (AR 1250). Classroom visitations must be made with the classroom teacher no less than 24 hours in advance. The employee will notify the Principal or designee at least 24 hours before the arrival of the visitor. If the front office does not receive notice of the school visitation, the visitor will not be allowed on campus. All visitors must exit through the office and sign out at the end of the visit.

Emergency Information

Please be sure to update emergency information when home or work phone numbers change - this also includes cell phones and emergency contacts. Updates can be made through the Aeries portal.

Campus Supervision

Student safety is a priority for Bristow Middle School. Morning campus supervision begins at 7:30. All students on campus are expected to be in the Gym Quad or in their Zero Period class between 7:45 and 8:30. Campus supervision at this time is intended to support students and siblings of students enrolled in Zero Period. Students not enrolled in Zero Period or with a sibling in Zero Period should not arrive on campus before 8:15, unless attending a homework help session with a teacher.

Deliveries to Campus

All personal deliveries to campus, including lunch, will be kept in the office. Parents may drop off food for **their child only**. Please note: No food deliveries from companies are allowed (no DoorDash/UberEats, etc.). No classroom deliveries or notifications will be made- students may pick up lunch or belongings during their lunch period. Flowers, balloons, and other similar large items are not allowed on campus.

Spectators at Athletic Events (DVMSL)

1. Spectators are required to maintain a high degree of sportsmanship during athletic contests.
2. Spectators must, at all times, remain in the designated seating areas while a contest is in progress.
3. No spectator is allowed to address an official, coach, or player before, during, or after an athletic contest. Spectators must accept the decision of the referee.
4. The actions of a spectator(s), detrimental to the playing of the game, may cause forfeiture of that contest.
5. If a spectator is ejected by an official or the supervisor on site, he/she must leave the school grounds or face forfeiture of the contest.

Additional Resources

Contra Costa Crisis Center

Need help? Need someone to talk to? Available 24/7, free and confidential.

- Crisis & Suicide Hotline
- Information & Referral Services
- Grief Counseling

Call “211” or text “HOPE” to 20121.

www.crisis-center.org

www.211cc.org



Say Something: Anonymous Reporting System

See it. Report it. Say Something Anonymous Reporting System allows you to submit secure & anonymous safety concerns to help identify and intervene upon at-risk individuals BEFORE they hurt themselves or others.

1-844-5-SAYNOW

Available on Google Play and App Store

National Suicide Hotline

1-800-273-8255

Teen Services/SAFE Place

1-800-718-4357

Tobacco Use Prevention Education (TUPE)

https://www.cccoe.k12.ca.us/departments/studentprograms/TUPE/for_parents__families

Appendix A

EDUCATION CODE 48900:

A student who has committed the following acts is subject to discipline by suspension or expulsion:

- (a)(1) Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person or
- (2) Willfully used force or violence upon the person of another, except in self defense.
- (b) Possess, sold, or otherwise furnished any firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object. Unless, in case of possession of any such object, the student had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certified school employee, which is concurred in by the principal or principal's designee.
- (c) Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, or otherwise furnished, or been under the influence of any controlled substance, listed in Chapter 2 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind.
- (d) Unlawfully offered, arranged or negotiated to sell any controlled substance, listed in Chapter 2 of the health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind, and then either sold, delivered, or otherwise furnished to any person another liquid, substance, or material and represented the liquid, substance, or material as a controlled substance, alcoholic beverage or intoxicant.
- (e) Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.
- (f) Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property.
- (g) Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property.
- (h) Possessed or used tobacco, or any products containing tobacco or nicotine products.
- (i) Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.
- (j) Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any drug paraphernalia, as defined in Section 11014.5 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (l) Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.
- (m) Possessed an imitation firearm.
- (n) Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault.
- (o) Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a pupil who is a complaining witness or witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for the purpose of either preventing that pupil from being a witness or retaliating against that pupil for being a witness, or both.
- (p) Arranged, negotiated, or sold SOMA
- (q) Engaged in or attempted to engage in hazing
- (r) Engaged in an act of bullying, including by means of an electronic act, directed specifically toward a pupil or school personnel
- (t) Aid or abet the infliction or attempted infliction of physical injury.

EDUCATION CODE 48900.2: SEXUAL HARASSMENT:

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

For the purpose of this chapter, the conduct described in Section 212.5 must be considered by a reasonable person of the same gender as the victim to be sufficiently severe or pervasive to have a negative impact upon the individual's academic performance or to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive education environment. This section shall not apply to pupils enrolled in kindergarten and grades 1 to 3, inclusive. (Add. Stats. 1992, Ch. 909).

EDUCATION CODE 48900.3: HATE VIOLENCE:

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

EDUCATION CODE 48900.4: HARASSMENT, THREATS, OR INTIMIDATION:

In addition to the grounds specified in Sections 48900 and 48900.2, a pupil enrolled in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive, may be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion if the superintendent or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has intentionally engaged in harassment, threats, or intimidation, directed against school district personnel or pupils, that is sufficiently severe or pervasive to have the actual and reasonably expected effect of materially disrupting class-work, creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment.

A pupil may not be suspended or expelled for any of the acts enumerated unless that act is related to school activity or school attendance occurring within a school under the jurisdiction of the superintendent or principal or occurring within any other school district. A pupil may be suspended or expelled for acts that are enumerated in this section and related to school activity or expelled for acts which are enumerated in this section and related to school activity or attendance that occur at any time, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

- (1) While on school grounds.
- (2) While going to or coming from school.
- (3) During lunch period whether on or off the campus.
- (4) During, or while going to or coming from, a school sponsored activity. It is the intent of the Legislature that alternatives to suspensions or expulsion be imposed against any pupil who is truant, tardy, or otherwise absent from school activities.

EDUCATION CODE 48900.5: REQUIRED OTHER MEANS OF CORRECTION/EXCEPTIONS:

"At the very minimum...students who are threatened with removal from school, depriving them of the fundamental right to a publicly financed education, are entitled to notice of the grounds for the removal and an opportunity to be heard." (Goss v. Lopez)

Suspension, including supervised suspension as described in Section 48911.1, shall be imposed only when other means of correction fail to bring about proper conduct. A school district may document the other means of correction used and place the documentation in the pupil's record, which may be accessed pursuant to Section 49069. However, a pupil, including an individual with exceptional needs, as defined in Section 560026, may be suspended, subject to Section 1415 of Title 20 of the United States code, for any of the reasons enumerated in Section 48900 upon a first offense, if the principal or superintendent of schools determines that the pupil violated subdivision (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) of section 48900 or that the pupil's presence causes a danger to persons.

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

1. A conference between school personnel, the pupil's parent or guardian, and the pupil.
2. Referrals to the school counselor, psychologist, social worker, child welfare attendance personnel, or other school support service personnel for case management and counseling.
3. Study teams, guidance teams, resource panel teams, or other intervention-related teams that assess the behavior, and develop and implement individualized plans to address the behavior in partnership with the pupil and his or her parents.
4. Referral for a comprehensive psychosocial or psycho educational assessment, including for purposes of creating an individualized education program, or a plan adopted pursuant to Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Sec. 794(a)).
5. Enrollment in a program for teaching prosocial behavior or anger management.
6. Participation in a restorative justice program.
7. A positive behavior support approach with tiered interventions that occur during the school day on campus.
8. After-school programs that address specific behavioral issues or expose pupils to positive activities and behaviors, including, but not limited to, those operated in collaboration with local parent and community groups.
9. Any of the alternatives described in Section 48900.6. (Amend. Stats. 2012, Ch. 425)

EDUCATION CODE 48900.6: DISCIPLINARY ACTION/COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Instead of disciplinary action prescribed by this article, the principal of a school, the principal's designee, or the superintendent of schools, or the governing board, may require a pupil to perform community service on school grounds during non-school hours. For the purposes of this section "community service" may include, but is not limited to, work performed on school grounds in the areas of outdoor beautification, campus betterment, and teacher or peer assistance programs. This section shall not apply to instance where suspension or expulsion is required by this article. (Add. Stats. 1995, Ch. 972).

EDUCATION CODE 48900.7: SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION FOR TERRORISTIC THREATS:

- a) In addition to the reasons specified in Sections 48900, 48900.2, 48900.3, and 48900.4, a pupil may be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion if the superintendent or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has made terroristic threats against school officials or school property, or both.
- b) For the purposes of this section, "terroristic threat" shall include any statement, whether written or oral, by a person who willfully threatens to commit a crime which will result in death, great bodily injury to another person, or property damage in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), with the specific intent that the statement is to be taken as a threat, even if there is no intent of actually carrying it out, which,

on its face and under the circumstances in which it is made, is so unequivocal, unconditional, immediate, and specific as to convey to the person threatened, a gravity of purpose and an immediate prospect of execution of the threat, and thereby causes that person reasonably to be in sustained fear for his or her own safety or for his or her immediate family's safety, or for the protection of school district property, or the personal property of the person threatened or his or her immediate family. (Add. Stats. 1997, Ch. 405)

EDUCATION CODE SECTION 48915:

- a. **Mandatory Recommendations, Permission Expulsions:** Except as provided in subdivisions (c) and (e), the principal or superintendent of schools shall recommend the expulsion of a pupil for any of the acts committed at school or at a school activity, unless the principal or superintendent finds that expulsion is inappropriate due to the particular circumstance.
 - (1)(A): Causing serious physical injury to another person, except in self-defense.
 - (1)(B): Possession of any knife, explosive, or other dangerous object of no reasonable use to the student.
 - (1)(C): Unlawful possession of any controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of the Health and Safety Code except for a first offense for the possession of not more than one avoirdupois ounce of marijuana or any other concentrated cannabis.
 - (1)(D): Robbery or extortion.
 - (1)(E): Assault or battery upon any school employee.
- b. **Dual finding required for 48915(a) and 48900(a), (b), (c), (d) and (e):** Upon recommendation by the principal, superintendent of schools, or by a hearing officer or administrative panel appointed pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 48918, the governing board may order a pupil expelled upon finding that the pupil committed an act listed in subdivision (a) or in subdivision (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) of section 48900. A decision to expel shall be based on a finding of one or both of the following: (1) Other means of correction are not feasible or have repeatedly failed to bring about proper conduct. (2) Due to the nature of the act, the presence of the pupil causes a continuing danger to the physical safety of the pupil or others.
- c. **Mandatory Expulsions (one year from date of expulsion):** The principal or superintendent of schools shall immediately suspend, and shall recommend expulsion of a student that he or she determines has committed any of the following acts at school or at a school activity off school grounds:
 - (1) Possessing, selling or otherwise furnishing a firearm. This subdivision does not apply to an act of possessing a firearm if the student has obtained prior written permission to possess the firearm from a certificated school employee, which is concurred in by the principal of the designee of the principal.
 - (2) Brandishing a knife at another person. As used in this section, "knife" means any dirk, dagger, or other weapon with a fixed, sharpened blade fitted primarily for stabbing, a weapon with a blade longer than 3 ½ inches, a folding knife with a blade (any size) that locks into place, or a razor with an unguarded blade.
 - (3) Unlawfully selling a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 of the Health and Safety Code.
 - (4) Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault.
 - (5) Possession of an explosive.