



2024-2025 Annual Parents' Rights Notification



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SVUSD CALENDAR: 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

MONTH	M	T	W	T	F	Workdays/Holidays	Days of Instruction	Cert Employee Workdays
July 2024	1	2	3	4	5	July 4: Independence Day Holiday	0	0
	8	9	10	11	12			
	15	16	17	18	19			
	22	23	24	25	26			
August	29	30	31			Aug 1: New Teacher Orientation Aug 7: Staff PD Day (Certificated Only) Aug 8: Teacher Work Day Aug 9: Welcome Back/Pupil Planning Day Classified PD Day Aug 12: First Day of School Aug 12-14: Early Release (K-12)	15	18
	5	6	7	8	9			
	12	13	14	15	16			
	19	20	21	22	23			
	26	27	28	29	30			
September	2	3	4	5	6	Sept 2: Labor Day Holiday	20	20
	9	10	11	12	13			
	16	17	18	19	20			
	23	24	25	26	27			
	30							
October		1	2	3	4	Oct 2-4: Rosh Hashanah Oct 11-12: Yom Kippur Oct 14: Indigenous Peoples' Day Non-Student Day Staff PD Day (all - Cert & Class) Oct 21-25: Student Conference Week (K-8)	22	23
	7	8	9	10	11			
	14	15	16	17	18			
	21	22	23	24	25			
	28	29	30	31				
November					1	Nov 11: Veteran's Day Holiday Nov 25-26: Non-Teacher/Student Days Nov 27-29: Thanksgiving Holiday	15	15
	4	5	6	7	8			
	11	12	13	14	15			
	18	19	20	21	22			
	25	26	27	28	29			
December	2	3	4	5	6	Dec 18-19: Minimum Days for 9-12 (Finals) Dec 20: Minimum Day for K-12 (9-12 Finals) Dec 23 - Jan 3: Winter Break Dec 24-25: Christmas Eve/Day Holidays Dec 25 - Jan 2: Hanukkah Dec 26 - Jan 1: Kwanzaa Dec 31 - Jan 1: New Year's Holiday	15	15
	9	10	11	12	13			
	16	17	18	19	20			
	23	24	25	26	27			
	30	31						
January 2025			1	2	3	Jan 1: New Year's Holiday Jan 20: Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday	19	19
	6	7	8	9	10			
	13	14	15	16	17			
	20	21	22	23	24			
	27	28	29	30	31			
February	3	4	5	6	7	Feb 14: Non-Student Day Certificated PD Day Classified Holiday Feb 17: President's Day Holiday	18	19
	10	11	12	13	14			
	17	18	19	20	21			
	24	25	26	27	28			
March	3	4	5	6	7	Mar 17-21: Student Conference Week (K-8) Mar 24-28: Spring Break	16	16
	10	11	12	13	14			
	17	18	19	20	21			
	24	25	26	27	28			
	31							
April		1	2	3	4	April 21: Emergency Day	21	21
	7	8	9	10	11			
	14	15	16	17	18			
	21	22	23	24	25			
	28	29	30					
May				1	2	May 23: Emergency Day May 26: Memorial Day Holiday May 27-29: Minimum Days for 9-12 (Finals) May 29: Last Day of School (Minimum Day for K-12, 9-12 Finals) May 30: Teacher Work Day, Graduation	19	20
	5	6	7	8	9			
	12	13	14	15	16			
	19	20	21	22	23			
	26	27	28	29	30			
June	2	3	4	5	6	June 19: Juneteenth Holiday	0	0
	9	10	11	12	13			
	16	17	18	19	20			
	23	24	25	26	27			
	30							
SVUSD CALENDAR: 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR (BOARD APPROVED 02/09/2023)							180	186

STARTING DATE FOR TEACHERS
Wednesday, August 7, 2024

STARTING DATE FOR STUDENTS
Monday, August 12, 2024

FOR TK-8 STUDENTS & STAFF

First Trimester Ends
November 1, 2024 (58 days)

Second Trimester Ends
February 13, 2025 (57 days)

Third Trimester Ends
May 29, 2025 (65 days)

FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS & STAFF

First Semester Ends
December 20, 2024 (87 days)

Second Semester Ends
May 29, 2025 (93 days)

WINTER BREAK
Dec 23, 2024 - Jan 3, 2025

SPRING BREAK
March 24-28, 2025

***** EMERGENCY DAYS *****
April 21, 2025
May 23, 2025

TEACHER WORKDAYS
August 8, 2024
May 30, 2025

PUPIL PLANNING DAY
August 9, 2024

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS
August 7, 2024 (Certificated)
August 9, 2024 (Classified)
October 14, 2024 (Cert & Class)
February 14, 2025 (Certificated)

CLASSIFIED HOLIDAYS
1. July 4, 2024
2. September 2, 2024
3. November 11, 2024
4-6. November 27-29, 2024
7-8. December 24-25, 2024
9. December 31, 2024
10. January 1, 2025
11. January 20, 2025
12. February 14, 2025
13. February 17, 2025
14. May 26, 2025
15. June 19, 2025

*** April 21 and May 23 are designated as Emergency School Closure Make-up Days. If we have an Emergency School Closure during the year, these days will be used to replace any missed days of instruction. If we do not have an Emergency School Closure during the year, or do not require all of the designated days, these will be "Non-Student/Non-Staff" Days. A decision on whether or not days will need to be made up will be announced no later than the first of the New Year.

ACADEMICS

ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMINATION FEES

EC §52244 & SVUSD Board Policy 6141.5

To the extent feasible, the district shall reduce the cost of AP examination fees for eligible low-income students. At the beginning of each school year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians of the availability of funds for this purpose and shall provide information on how income-eligible students may apply for funding. Please contact Sonoma Valley High School for information.

AVAILABILITY OF PROSPECTUS

EC §49063, EC §49091.14 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 5020

Each school must annually compile a prospectus of the curriculum to include titles, descriptions and instructional goals for every course offered by the school. Please contact the District's Educational Services Department at (707) 939-4895 for a copy of the prospectus.

CAL GRANT PROGRAMS

EC §69432.9 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 5125

A Cal Grant is money for college that does not have to be paid back. To qualify, a student must meet the eligibility and financial requirements as well as any minimum grade point average (GPA) requirements. Cal Grants can be used at any University of California, California State University or California Community College. Some independent and career colleges or technical schools in California also take Cal Grants.

In order to assist students in applying for financial aid, all students in grade 12 are automatically considered a Cal Grant applicant and each grade 12 student's GPA will be submitted to the California Student Aid Commission (CASC) electronically by a school or school district official. A student, or the parent/guardian of a student under 18 years of age, may complete a form to indicate that he/she does not wish for the school to electronically send CASC the student's GPA. If you do not wish to have your GPA submitted to CASC, please contact the school principal to complete the "opt out" form by no later than January 1st of your freshman year.

Until a student turns 18 years of age, only the parent/guardian may opt out the student. Once a student turns 18 years of age, only the student may opt himself/herself out, and can opt in if the parent/guardian had previously decided to opt out the student. The March 2 application deadline may be extended up to 30 calendar days when requested by students impacted by natural disaster, state of emergency, labor action, or any other commission approval of "qualifying event".

CALIFORNIA HEALTHY YOUTH ACT / SEX & HIV/AIDS INSTRUCTION (GRADES 7-12)

EC §51930 – EC §51939, SVUSD Board Policy 6142.1 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 6142.1

The California Healthy Youth Act requires school districts to provide pupils with integrated, comprehensive, accurate, and unbiased sexual health and HIV prevention education at least once in middle school and once in high school. It is intended to ensure that pupils in grades 7-12 are provided with the knowledge and skills necessary to: 1) protect their sexual and reproductive health from HIV, other sexually transmitted infections, and unintended pregnancy; 2) develop healthy attitudes concerning adolescent growth and development, body image, gender, sexual orientation, relationships, marriage, and family; and 3) have healthy, positive, and safe relationships and behaviors. It also promotes understanding of sexuality as a normal part of human development.

Parents or legal guardians have the right to:

1. Inspect the written and audiovisual educational materials to be used in comprehensive sexual health and HIV prevention education;
2. Request in writing to excuse their child from comprehensive sexual health or HIV prevention education, or research on student health behaviors and risks;
3. Request a copy of Education Codes §51930 through §51939, the California Healthy Youth Act;
4. Be informed whether the comprehensive sexual health or HIV/AIDS prevention education will be taught by district personnel or outside consultants; and
5. Receive notice by mail or another commonly used method of notification no fewer than 14 days before the instruction is delivered if arrangements for the instruction are made after the beginning of the school year;
6. When the district chooses to use outside consultants or to hold an assembly with guest speakers to teach comprehensive sexual health or HIV/AIDS prevention education, to be informed of:
 - a. The date of the instruction

- b. The name of the organization or affiliation of each guest speaker

Surveys: The district may administer to students in grades 7 through 12 anonymous, voluntary, and confidential research and evaluation tools to measure student health risks and behaviors, including tests and surveys about student attitudes or practices related to sex as long as parents/guardians are provided written notice and given an opportunity to request, in writing, that their child not participate. Parents/guardians shall be given an opportunity to review the research instrument and to request in writing that their child not participate.

CALIFORNIA PROFICIENCY PROGRAM EXAMINATION

EC §48412

The California Proficiency Program (CPP) Examination has replaced the California High School Proficiency Exam (CHSPE) established by California Education Code Section 48412. The CPP utilizes the State Board of Education approved GED® or HiSET® subtests for language arts and mathematics to measure proficiency. Eligible pupils who pass the CPP are awarded a California Certificate of Proficiency by the State Board of Education. A pupil who receives a Certificate of Proficiency may, with verified approval from the parent or legal guardian, leave high school early. The Certificate of Proficiency is equivalent to a high school diploma; however, it is not equivalent to completing all coursework required for regular graduation from high school. Once a student has taken the CPP, passed both language arts and mathematics subtests and exited high school, they may choose to take the remaining HiSET-Equivalency subtests in science and social studies to earn their California High School Equivalency Certificate, opening even more doors than the Certificate of Proficiency alone. Pupils planning to continue his or her studies in a college or university should contact the admissions office of the institution to find out if the Certificate of Proficiency will meet admission requirements.

A pupil is eligible to take the CPP only if he or she meets at least one criteria in each of the following requirements:

- Students must meet one of the following:
 - 16 years of age or older, or
 - Enrolled in grade 10 for one school year or longer, or
 - Will complete one school year of enrollment in grade 10 at the end of the semester during which the next regular examination will be conducted.
- Students must also be currently subject to California's compulsory education laws pursuant to EC Section §48200, which may be evidenced by one of the following:
 - Current enrollment in a California K-12 public high school; or
 - Current enrollment in a private school (Registered by filing a private school affidavit with the California Department of Education pursuant to EC §33190 and includes but is not limited to students at registered private schools operated by their parents to homeschool their children pursuant to EC §48222.); or
 - Current work permit issued by the Department of Industrial Relations Division to a student currently working in California; provided that the student is either receiving tutoring pursuant to EC §48224 or enrolled in an independent study program under EC §51745, to accommodate the student's work schedule.

For more information on the CPP, please visit CDE's website located at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tq/cp.asp>.

CAREER COUNSELING AND COURSE SELECTION

EC §221.5(d) & SVUSD Board Policy 6164.2

Commencing grade 7, school personnel shall assist pupils with course selection or career counseling, exploring the possibility of careers, or courses leading to careers based on the interest and ability of the pupil and not on the pupil's gender. Parents or legal guardians are notified so that they may participate in such counseling sessions and decisions.

COLLEGE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

EC §51229 & SVUSD Board Policy 6143

The State of California offers community colleges, California State Universities (CSU), and Universities of California (UC) for students who wish to continue their education after high school. In order to attend a community college, you need only be a high school graduate or 18 years of age. In order to attend CSU, you have to take specific high school courses, have the appropriate grades and test scores, and have graduated from high school. Parents/guardians and students may find the following list of website references helpful in learning about college admission requirements and high school courses that have been certified by the

University of California as satisfying the requirements for admission to the University of California and the California State University.

- www.cccco.edu
- www.assist.org
- www.californiacolleges.edu
- www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions
- www.csumentor.edu
- www.cde.ca.gov/ci/gq/hs/hsgtable.asp

COLLEGE & CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION

EC §51229, EC §48980(l) & SVUSD Board Policy 6143

The California Department of Education defines "career technical education" as 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. Career technical education may include agricultural education, apprenticeship opportunities, business and marketing coursework, health careers education, home economics, industrial and technology education, regional occupational programs, student organizations, technical preparation coursework, and work experience. More information related to the state's career technical education program can be found at www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct. Detailed information related to each high school's career technical education programs and course offerings can be located in the counseling office/department.

FEDERAL STUDENT AID (9-12)

EC §51225.7

Under state law, school districts are to ensure that students prior to entering 12th grade are entitled to information on how to properly complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the California Dream Act Application at least once. This information should be available in a timely manner as financial aid is awarded in order of submission according to deadlines, on a first-come, first-served basis. All family and student personal information will be protected according to state and federal privacy laws and regulations.

The Sonoma Valley Unified School District is required to confirm that high school seniors complete a pre-application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act application (CADAA). Students may alternatively complete an opt out form, which shall be collected and retained by the high school. For more information, contact your school counselor.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

EC §51225.3 & SVUSD Board Policy 6146.1

All students enrolled in grades 9-12 are required to earn a total of 220 units to qualify for graduation from any of the district's high schools.

Requirements include 40 credits in English, 30 credits in Mathematics, 30 credits in Social Science, 20 credits in Science (laboratory science, including biology and physical science), 20 credits in Physical Education, 20 credits in Language Other than English, 10 credits in Visual and Performing Arts, 50 credits in Electives (including Career Technical Education), and 5 credits in Senior Project (waived for 2023 seniors).

Alternative Credits toward Graduation

Because the prescribed course of study may not accommodate the needs of some students, the Board shall provide alternative means for the completion of prescribed courses in accordance with law. (Education Code §51225.3)

A foster youth, homeless student, former juvenile court school student, or child of a military family who transfers into the district any time after completing his/her second year of high school shall be required to complete all graduation requirements specified in Education Code §51225.3 but shall be exempt from any additional district-adopted graduation requirements, unless the Superintendent or designee makes a finding that the student is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate by the end of his/her fourth year of high school. Within 30 days of the transfer, any such student shall be notified of the availability of the exemption and whether he/she qualifies for it. (Education Code §51225.1)

Foster & Homeless Youth Exemption from Local Graduation Requirements

EC §48853, EC §49069.5, EC §51225.1, 51225.2 & EC §51225.3
SVUSD Administrative Regulation 6173.1

Foster and homeless youth are allowed educational rights, such as: immediate enrollment, to remain in school of origin, enrollment in local comprehensive school, partial credits, graduation with state minimum requirements with possible fifth year/exemption from local graduation requirements, and access to academic resources, services and extracurricular activities. A local educational agency must provide a

remedy to the affected pupil following the Uniform Complaint Procedures, including information regarding exemption from local graduation requirements, if educational rights are not allowed at the public high school. You may contact the school counselor or the District's Educational Services Department at (707) 939-4895.

Coursework and Graduation Requirements: Children of Military Families

If you are a military family, your child may qualify to be exempted from local graduation coursework requirements that are beyond the California state requirements. Please make an appointment with the school counselor to review your child's options for graduation. All coursework that was completed at another school outside of the Sonoma Valley Unified School District will be issued full or partial credit. Contact the school counselor or the District's Educational Services Department at (707) 939-4895.

Retroactive Grant of High School Diplomas: Departed/Deported Pupils (9-12)

EC §51430

The Board of Education of the Sonoma Valley Unified School District may award a diploma to any student who may have been deported outside the US, if in good standing after completing the second year of high school. Any transfer credits from outside the US will be considered as completion through online or foreign classes.

MINIMUM DAYS

EC §48980(c)

At the beginning of the first semester or quarter of the regular school term, the Board of Education shall notify parents/guardians of all pupils of the schedule of minimum days and pupil-free staff development days for the 2024-2025 school year. Please refer to the calendar on page 2 for the minimum days for the 2024-2025 school year.

PREGNANT / PARENTING STUDENTS

EC §221.51, EC §222-222.5 & SVUSD Board Policy 5146

The Board of Education of the Sonoma Valley Unified School District will treat both the pregnant teen mother and the teen father with the same accommodations, regardless of sex. The teen parents may not be excluded from any class or extracurricular activities, solely on the basis of pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or post-partum recovery. Physical and emotional ability to continue may only be determined by physician or nurse practitioner. Pregnant or parenting pupils may not be required to participate in pregnant minor programs or alternative programs, with the exception of personal choice.

Parental rights will be an option available in annual notifications or at semester term periods, welcome packets, orientation, online or in print, or in independent study packets as provided to all regular students from school districts or charter schools.

Parental leave for eight weeks for preparation of birth of infant, post-partum for mental and physical health needs of the teen parents and to bond with infants, or any additional medically approved time to protect the infant or parents is allowed. Any additional time due if deemed medically necessary, as prescribed by physician or nurse practitioner. The pregnant and parenting teens are not required to take all or part of the leave to which they are entitled. Leave will be approved by the district or charter school supervisor of attendance, as excused absence, with a unique code similar to independent study. However, no work is required during the leave. Upon return, the parenting teens are entitled to return to the school courses that were in will be worked out with the school counselor or administrator to achieve an opportunity to fully participate in all activities, as before leave. If needed, parenting teen may enroll for a fifth year of instruction if on course for graduation requirements. If parenting teens were enrolled in an alternative school setting, a return to that environment is to be available as needed to achieve graduation. A pupil shall not incur any academic penalties due to using these available accommodations. An illness for sick child does not require a doctor note for the custodial parenting teens; the mother or father will be excused by the attendance supervisor.

OBJECTION TO DISSECTING, HARMING, OR DESTROYING ANIMALS

EC §32255 & EC §32255.1

Any pupil with a moral objection to dissecting or otherwise harming or destroying an animal, or any part thereof, must inform his or her teacher of the objection. Objections must be substantiated by a note from the pupil's parent or guardian.

A pupil who chooses to refrain from participation in an education project involving the harmful or destructive use of an animal may receive an alternative education project, if the teacher believes that an adequate alternative education project is possible. The teacher may work with the

pupil to develop and agree upon an alternative education project so that the pupil may obtain the knowledge, information, or experience required by the course of study in question.

SEXUAL ABUSE / SEX TRAFFICKING PREVENTION / SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS PREVENTION

EC §51900.6 & EC §51950

Parents/guardians will be notified of any instruction which includes topics related to sexual abuse, sexual assault awareness prevention, or sex trafficking prevention education. Parents may submit a written request to excuse their child from participation in these classes.

SPECIAL EDUCATION – USE OF ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

EC §56040.3

Upon exiting the school district, students may continue to use the assistive technology devices provided by the school as determined by the IEP team offer for a maximum of two months until a replacement or comparable device is obtained.

Sonoma Valley Unified School District Graduation Requirements		University of California Admission Requirements For Freshman Entry		California State University Admission Requirements For Freshman Entry	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units	Courses	Units
Social Science (Three courses) United States History & Geography (10 units) World History, Culture & Geography (10 units) American Government (5 units) Economics (5 units)	30	(a) Social Science (Two years including:) • 1 year of World History, Cultures, or Historical Geography (may be a single yearlong course or two one-semester courses), and • 1 year of US History or one-half year of US History and one-half year of Civics or American Government.	20	(a) Social Science (Two years including:) 1 year of US History or 1 semester of US History and 1 semester of Civics or American Government AND 1 year of social science.	20
English (Four courses)	40	(b) English Four years of college-preparatory English that include frequent writing, from brainstorming to final paper, as well as reading of classic and modern literature. No more than one year of ESL-type courses can be used to meet this requirement.	40	(b) English (Four years including:) College preparatory English composition and literature	40
Mathematics (Three courses)	30	(c) Mathematics Three years of college-preparatory mathematics that include the topics covered in elementary and advanced algebra and two- and three-dimensional geometry; a fourth year of math is strongly recommended. A geometry course or an integrated math course with a sufficient amount of geometry content must be completed. Approved integrated math courses may be used to fulfill part or all of this requirement, as may math courses taken in the seventh and eighth grades if the high school accepts them as equivalent to its own courses.	30	(c) Mathematics (Three years including:) College preparatory math including or integrating topics covered in Algebra, Geometry, and Intermediate Algebra (4 years recommended)	30
Science* (Two courses) Laboratory Science, including Biology and Physical Science	20*	(d) Science Two years of college-preparatory science, including or integrating topics that provide fundamental knowledge in two of these three subjects: biology, chemistry, or physics. One year of approved interdisciplinary or earth and space sciences coursework can meet one year of the requirement. Computer Science, Engineering, Applied Science courses can be used in area D as an additional science (i.e., third year and beyond).	20	(d) Laboratory Science (Two years including:) Biological Science (10 units) Physical Science (10 units) Integrated science and interdisciplinary courses can meet this requirement. (3 years recommended)	20
Language Other than English (Two courses*) (20 credits of the same language)	20	(e) Language other than English Two years, or equivalent to the 2 nd level of high school instruction of the same language other than English are required. Courses should emphasize speaking and understanding, and include instruction in grammar, vocabulary, reading, composition and culture. American Sign Language and classical languages such as Latin and Greek, are acceptable, as are Native American languages. Courses taken in the seventh and eighth grades may be used to fulfill part or all of this requirement if the high school accepts them as equivalent to its own courses.	20	(e) Language other than English (Two years including:) Two years of the same language; American Sign Language and classical languages such as Latin and Greek are acceptable *Waiver of "Language other than English" – If you can demonstrate competency in a language other than English that is equivalent to or higher than that expected of students who have completed two years of language other than English study, you may be allowed a waiver for this language requirement.	20
Visual and Performing Arts	10	(f) Visual & Performing Arts (One yearlong course of visual and performing arts chosen from the following disciplines: dance, music, theater, visual arts or interdisciplinary arts – or two one-semester courses from the same discipline is also acceptable.)	10	(f) Visual/Performing Arts One year or two semester courses from the same discipline required including dance, music, theatre, visual arts or interdisciplinary arts.	10
Elective Courses (Including Career Technical Education)	50	(g) College Preparatory Electives One year (two semesters) chosen from courses specific to the elective (G) subject area or courses beyond those used to satisfy the requirements of the A-F subjects.	10	(g) College Preparatory Electives (additional year chosen from UC "a-g" list)	10
Physical Education	20	Required Testing (UC no longer considers SAT or ACT test scores as a factor in admissions decisions.)		Required Testing (CSU no longer considers SAT or ACT test scores as a factor in admissions decisions.)	
Senior Project (waived for 2023 seniors)	5				

*Ethnic Studies required beginning 2029-2030 (Class of 2030 Freshman course)

SPECIALIZED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Bilingual Education

EC §52173, 5 CCR §11303 & SVUSD Board Policy 6174

Parents shall be provided an opportunity for consultation prior to placement of their child in a program of bilingual education. A parent or guardian shall be notified or informed 1) in a simple, nontechnical description of purposes, method, and content of the program; 2) that they have the right and are encouraged to visit classes and to come to the school for a conference to explain the nature and objectives of bilingual education; 3) of their right not to have their child enrolled in such a program; and 4) the opportunity to participate in the school or school district advisory committee, or both. Written notice shall be provided in English and the primary language of the pupil. For more information, contact the District's Educational Services Department at (707) 939-4895.

English Learner Program

EC §52164.3, EC §52173.5, EC §310, EC §311, CCR Title 5 §11301

District procedures regarding designation of students as English Learners or Fluent English Proficient include home language survey, language assessments, notice of assessment results, and opportunity for reassessment. Program placement takes place with written parent notification, opportunity for parent consultation, and procedures for granting waivers for alternative programs. For more information, contact the District's Educational Services Department at (707) 939-4895.

English Learners Identification Notice

EC §313.2

Parents are to be notified by schools that in addition to the child's English proficiency status, for which they are notified using the English Language Proficiency for Assessments for California (ELPAC), and they are to be notified that their child is a "Long-term English Learner" or is an "English Learner at-risk of becoming a Long-term English Learner".

Criteria for Initial Placement

A student is determined to be an English learner if his or her overall English performance level on the Initial ELPAC is Novice or Intermediate. The recommended program placement is the Structured English Immersion Program (SEI). Parents may also request their child be placed in SVUSD's Dual Immersion program.

Criteria for Annual Placement

Annual placement recommendations are based on the results of the Summative ELPAC. Students continue in a Structured English Immersion placement as long as they score as level 2, 3, or 4 on the Summative ELPAC until they qualify for reclassification. Parents may also request the Dual Immersion program for their child.

Placement of Students

All English learners are placed in English-language classrooms unless parents request the dual immersion program.

Upon receiving notification that their child is identified as an English learner, parents may request a conference with the EL coordinator and/or principal. The purpose of the conference is to explain the ELPAC results, language acquisition programs, and the recommended program placement for the child. At this meeting parents may discuss any questions or concerns they may have. The conference is conducted in English or Spanish, and includes an interpreter if another language is spoken.

Students enter with varying levels of English language proficiency, therefore, each English learner receives language instruction that is best suited for his or her needs. The district and schools work closely with parents and guardians to explain the instructional programs and report student progress regularly.

Choices of Language Acquisition Programs

Site principals and EL Coordinators designees make recommendations for the English learner's language program placement based on ELPAC results. Parents may choose a Structured English Immersion or a Dual language placement for their English learner.

Structured English Immersion (SEI) Program Placement Criteria

Structured English Immersion or SEI is a classroom setting where English learners receive Integrated English Language Development (ELD) instruction to help them comprehend the subject matter being taught. Students additionally receive Designated English Language Development (ELD) lessons to help them acquire the English language. In SEI classrooms the instruction is nearly all in English with curriculum and presentation designed for children who are learning the language. Please refer to Chapter Two - Instructional Programs.

Dual Immersion Program

SVUSD offers a Dual Immersion program in English and Spanish, at Flowery School and Adele Harrison Middle School. In the Dual Immersion

program, English learners receive designated ELD instruction targeted to their English proficiency level. Additionally, academic subjects are taught in Spanish or English in accordance with the program structure. If a parent/guardian requests participation in the district's Dual Immersion program, the student must meet district entry criteria for that program and remain in the program through eighth grade.

Program Placement vs. Classroom Placement

One classroom setting may provide different students in the class with different levels of language support. More than one language program may exist within a given classroom. For example, a classroom may provide native speakers of English with a mainstream program of instruction, while providing English learners enrolled in the class with a program of Structured English Immersion. When more than one program exists within a classroom, students are clearly identified as to the program to which they are assigned, and they receive the services appropriate to that program. This requires differentiation of instruction and of activities within the classroom, and careful monitoring to ensure that the guidelines for each program are followed. Please refer to Chapter 2-Instructional Programs.

Parental Discretion

Parents of English learners have a right to decline or opt their children out of the school district's language acquisition program or opt out of particular English learner service(s) within a language acquisition program. To opt their child out, the parent must complete a Parent Request for Non-Participation in District Programs/Services for English Learners request form. This form is requested from the District's Office of Educational Services.

Even when parents decline services for their child, the District remains obligated to provide the student meaningful instruction until the student is reclassified, inform the parent when progress is not made, and offer the parent programs and services to consider at that time.

Transfer Students

In order to ensure appropriate placement, each student's relevant assessment, academic progress, and placement information is entered into the student data system (PowerSchool) within thirty (30) calendar days of enrollment by the school office manager, registrar or clerk.

Foster Youth

EC §48204, EC §48645.5, EC §48853, EC §48853.5 & WIC §317 & §16010
SVUSD Administrative Regulation 6173.1

Requires school district educational liaisons to ensure pupils in foster care receive stable school placements which are in the best interest of the child. If you have any questions, please contact the District's Educational Services Department at (707) 939-4895.

Homeless Youth

42 USC §11432, EC §48853, EC §49069, EC §51225.1, EC §51225.2 & SVUSD Administration Regulation 6173

Homeless youth are ensured school placements in their best interest, and parents are provided meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children.

Circumstances for eligibility include living in a shelter, a motel, hotel, a house or apartment with more than one family because of economic hardship or loss, in an abandoned building, in a car, at a campground, or on the street, in temporary foster care or with an adult who is not your parent or guardian, in substandard housing, or with friends or family because you are a runaway, unaccompanied, or migrant youth. Homeless youth have the right to immediate enrollment in school of origin or school where currently residing without proof of residency, immunization records or tuberculosis skin-test results, school records, or legal guardianship papers. Homeless youth have the right to education and other services (e.g., to participate fully in all school activities and programs for which child is eligible, to qualify automatically for nutrition programs, to receive transportation services, and to contact the District's Homeless Liaison, the Coordinator of Student Services, to resolve disputes that arise during enrollment. Homeless youth can be assisted by the District's Coordinator of Student Services at (707) 935-6087.

Homeless Youth: Right to Apply for Financial Aid

Students experiencing homelessness have a right to apply for financial aid to seek education beyond high school. Every district and charter school must appoint a homeless liaison to assist students and families. Please contact the District's Homeless Liaison, the Coordinator of Student Services, at (707) 935-6087 for more information of services and policies related to homeless education rights.

Migrant Education

The Migrant Education Program is federally funded under Title I (C). Eligibility is determined by an oral interview. A family is eligible if either parent or guardian changes residence and crosses school boundaries in search of employment in agriculture, fishing, lumber or dairy and the student accompanies or joins the parents later. Eligibility is for a three-year

period. Migrant Education funds/services actively solicit parent involvement in planning, operation, and evaluation of its program through a parent advisory council. For more information, contact the District's Educational Services Department at (707) 939-4895. (EC §54444.2)

Extended School Year – Migrant Education

Students who are identified as a "migrant child" in grades TK-6 may be allowed to enroll in two public schools during summer, winter, or other intersessions – both the school in which they last attended and the next intended school to be entered upon the migration with parents from one agricultural work site to another.

Migrant Education & Newly Arrived Immigrant Pupils

EC §54444.2 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 6171

The Migrant Education Program is federally funded under Title 1 Part C. Eligibility is determined by an oral interview. Students age 3 to 21 years shall be eligible for the district's migrant education program if they, their parents/guardians, or their spouses are migratory agricultural workers or fishers who, in the preceding 36 months, moved into the district due to economic necessity and engaged in new temporary or seasonal employment or personal subsistence in agriculture or fishing. If such employment was not secured soon after the move, students may be considered migrant students if they, their parents/guardians, or their spouses actively sought such new employment and have a recent history of moves for temporary or seasonal agricultural or fishing employment.

A student who ceases to be a migrant student during a school term shall be eligible for services until the end of the term. If comparable services are not available through other programs, a student who is no longer migratory may continue to receive services for one additional school year. Students who were eligible for services in secondary school may continue to be served through credit accrual programs until graduation.

Graduation Requirements

Your child is eligible for a state minimum coursework diploma, which will limit the entrance to higher education to community college. However, if you should choose an option for a 5th year of high school, your child may earn a diploma according to our board approved graduation guidelines that may make your child eligible for UC or CSU applications. These two options of minimum state or local graduation requirements with a 5th year of school are for students who are from a migrant family, eligible for a newcomer program, or who have not been advised within the first 30-days upon transfer in their 3rd or 4th year of high school. Contact our counseling office to determine eligibility. Students and parents of migratory children shall not request a transfer solely to qualify for this exemption.

Migrant Education funds/services actively solicit parent involvement in planning, operation, and evaluation of its program through a parent advisory council. Contact the District's Educational Services Department at (707) 939-4895.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

EC §56301, 29 USC §794, 34 CFR §104.32 & §504 Rehabilitation Act

Section 504 Accommodations for Students

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 provides equal access to education by providing accommodations for students with identified disabilities that substantially limit one or more major life activities even if they are not eligible for special education services. Further, Section 504 prohibits discrimination against students with disabilities in district programs, gives parents/guardians rights to examine relevant records, to participate in an impartial hearing including the opportunity for representation by counsel and a review procedure.

It is the policy of the district to provide a free, appropriate public education to each student with disabilities. Parents/guardians who believe their student may have a disability are to contact the principal of the school to initiate a referral to the Student Success Team (SST) for review. For more information, contact the District's Special Education Department at (707) 935-6004.

Special Education

Special education services are available to meet the needs of students who have been assessed, found to have a disability and to be eligible for services from ages 3-22 years. Early intervention services are available for "at risk infants and toddlers" under 3 years of age.

It is the policy of our district to provide a free, appropriate public education to each student with disabilities. Parents/guardians who believe their student may have a disability are to contact the principal of the school to initiate a referral to the Student Success Team for review. If the child is younger than age 5, contact the District's Special Education Department at (707) 935-6004.

Procedural Safeguards

The procedural safeguards will be made available in written form which is 1) understandable to the general public; and 2) provided in the native language of the parent or other mode of communication used by the

parent, unless it is clearly not feasible to do so. A copy of the procedural safeguards is located on the website.

Copies of parents' rights regarding identification, referral, assessment, instructional planning, implementation, review, and procedures for initiating referrals for assessment are available at the student's school site. For more information, contact the District's Special Education Department at (707) 935-6004.

With regards to special education matters, parents shall be given a copy of their rights and procedural safeguards annually, except that a copy also shall be given to the parents:

- Upon initial referral or parental request for assessment.
- Upon receipt of the first state complaint under Section 56500.2 in a school year.
- Upon receipt of the first due process hearing request under Section 56502 in a school year.
- When a decision is made to make a removal that constitutes a change of placement of an individual with exceptional needs because of a violation of a code of pupil conduct in accordance with Section 300.530(h) of Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations.
- Upon request by a parent.

Child Find Systems

The district is a member of the Sonoma County SELPA which has established written policies and procedures including continuous child find systems including children with disabilities who are migrant, homeless, or wards of the state, and children with disabilities attending private schools. Policies and procedures include written notification to all parents of their rights regarding identification, referral, assessment, instructional planning, implementation, review, and procedures for initiating referral for assessment.

ATTENDANCE

ABSENCES FOR CONFIDENTIAL MEDICAL SERVICES

EC §46010.1, SVUSD Board Policy 5113 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 5113

The Board of Education of each school district shall, each academic year, notify pupils in grades 7 to 12, inclusive, and the parents/guardians of all pupils enrolled in the district, that school authorities may excuse any pupil from the school for the purpose of obtaining confidential medical services without the consent of the pupil's parent/guardian.

AVOIDING ABSENCES, CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM, EXCUSED ABSENCES, AND TRUANCY CONSEQUENCES

EC §46014, EC §48205, SVUSD Board Policy 5113 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 5113

Avoiding Absences

Sonoma Valley Unified School District urges parents to make sure their children attend school regularly and to schedule medical, dental, counseling and other appointments after school, on the weekend if possible or during school holidays. The district also asks that travel or other absences be avoided during the time that school is in session.

The higher the district's daily attendance rate, the more a student will learn and the greater the amount of funding that the district will receive from the state for classroom instruction and academic programs. The school calendar is designed to minimize problems for families which plan vacations around traditional holiday periods, and thereby minimize student absences.

Following an absence, a student is required to bring a written excuse from home when returning to school. Illnesses, and doctor and dental appointments are considered excused absences. Absences without a written excuse are recorded as unexcused.

Chronic Absenteeism

A student is considered a chronic absentee when he/she is absent on 10% or more of the school days in one school year, from the date of enrollment to the current date. Chronic absenteeism includes all absences – excused and unexcused – and is an important measure because excessive absences negatively impact academic achievement and student engagement.

Excused Absences

Subject to any applicable limitation, condition, or other requirement specified in law, a student's absence shall be excused for the following reasons:

1. Personal illness, including absence for the benefit of the student's mental or behavioral health.
2. Quarantine under the direction of a county or city health officer.

3. Medical, dental, optometrical, or chiropractic appointment.
4. For the purpose of attending the funeral services or grieving the death of either a member of the pupil's immediate family, or of a person that is determined by the pupil's parent or guardian to be in such close association with the pupil as to be considered the pupil's immediate family, so long as the absence is not more than five days per incident.
5. Jury duty in the manner provided for by law.
6. Illness or medical appointment of a child to whom the student is the custodial parent.
7. Upon advance written request by the parent/guardian and the approval of the principal or designee, justifiable personal reasons including but not limited to:
 - a. Appearance in court
 - b. Attendance at a funeral service
 - c. Observation of a religious holiday or ceremony
 - d. Attendance at religious retreats for no more than one school day per semester
 - e. Attendance at an employment conference
 - f. Attendance at an educational conference on the legislative or judicial process offered by a nonprofit organization
8. Service as a member of a precinct board for an election pursuant to Elections Code §12302.
9. To spend time with an immediate family member who is an active duty member of the uniformed services, as defined in Education Code §49701, and has been called to duty for deployment to a combat zone or a combat support position or is on leave from or has immediately returned from such deployment. Such absence shall be granted for a period of time to be determined at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee.
10. Attendance at the student's naturalization ceremony to become a United States citizen.
11. Participation in a cultural ceremony or event which relates to the habits, practices, beliefs, and traditions of a certain group of people.
12. For a middle school or high school pupil, engagement in a civic or political event, provided that the student notifies the school ahead of the absence. Unless otherwise permitted by the Superintendent or designee, students shall be limited to one such school day-long absence per school year
13. For any of the following purposes, if an immediate family member of the pupil passes away or someone closely associated with the pupil is deemed to be in such close association with them as to be considered immediate family by the pupil's parent or guardian, the pupil is allowed an absence of up to three days per incident.
 - A. Access services from a victim services organization
 - B. Access grief support
 - C. Participation in safety planning as it relates to the death of the pupil's immediate family
14. Work in the entertainment or allied industry.
Work for a student who holds a work permit authorizing work in the entertainment or allied industries for a period of not more than five consecutive days. For this purpose, student absence shall be excused for a maximum of up to five absences per school year.
15. Participation with a nonprofit performing arts organization in a performance for a public school audience.
A student may be excused for up to five such absences per school year provided that the student's parent/guardian provides a written explanation of such absence to the school.
16. Other reasons authorized at the discretion of the principal or designee based on the student's specific circumstances.

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

Absence from school shall be excused only for health reasons, family emergencies, and justifiable personal reasons, as permitted by law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

Student absence for religious instruction or participation in religious exercises away from school property may be considered excused subject to law and administrative regulation.

Inasmuch as school attendance and class participation are integral to students' learning experiences, parents/guardians and students shall be encouraged to schedule medical and other appointments during non-school hours.

Students shall not be absent from school without their parents/guardians' knowledge or consent, except in cases of medical emergency or, as authorized pursuant to Education Code §46010.1, for a confidential medical appointment.

For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

- (1) A "civic or political event" includes, but is not limited to, voting, poll working, strikes, public commenting, candidate speeches, political or civic forums or town halls.
- (2) "Cultural" means relating to the habits, practices, beliefs, and traditions of a certain group of people.

"Immediate family" means the parent or guardian, brother or sister, grandparent, or any other relative living in the household of the pupil.

Tardiness

Children should be encouraged to be prompt as part of developing good habits. They are expected to be at school on time. If a child is late, the child should bring an excuse from home to the school office. A student will be classified as truant if they are tardy or absent for more than a 30-minute period during a school day without a valid excuse on three occasions in one school year.

Tuancy Definitions

A student is considered truant after three absences or three tardies of more than 30 minutes each time or any combination thereof and the absences or tardies are unexcused. After a student has been reported as a truant three or more times in a school year and the district has made a conscientious effort to meet with the family, the student is considered a habitual truant. A student who is absent from school without a valid excuse for 10% or more of the schooldays in one school year, from the date of enrollment to the current date, is considered a chronic truant. Unexcused absences are all absences that do not fall within EC §48205.

Arrest of Truants/School Attendance Review Boards

The school attendance supervisor, administrator or designee, a peace officer, or probation officer may arrest or assume temporary custody during school hours, of any minor who is found away from his/her home and who is absent from school without valid excuse within the county, city or school district. A student who is a habitual truant may be referred to a School Attendance and Review Board (SARB).

Truant Consequences

Any student who is identified as "Truant" may be assigned as a ward of the court, if the available community resources do not resolve the students' continued problem of truancy, by a Probation Officer or Deputy District Attorney.

OPEN CAMPUS PRIVILEGES FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

EC §44808.5 & SVUSD Board Policy 5112.5

In order to give students an opportunity to demonstrate responsibility, independent judgment, and positive citizenship, the Governing Board establishes an open campus at the high school in grades 11 and 12 in which students shall have the privilege of leaving campus during lunch.

The principal or designee shall ensure that students granted this privilege meet any eligibility requirements established by the district.

The district shall send written notification to parents/guardians about the open campus policy at the beginning of the school year along with the parental notification required by Education Code 48980. Such notification shall include the language prescribed by Education Code 44808.5.

Students shall not leave school grounds at any other time during the school day without express permission of school authorities. Students who leave school without authorization shall be considered to have an unexcused absence and be subject to disciplinary action.

The principal or designee may revoke the open campus privilege for individual students for disciplinary reasons.

Handbooks shall fully explain all rules and disciplinary procedures involved in the maintenance of the closed campus.

ENROLLMENT

ATTENDANCE OPTIONS

EC 35160.5(b), EC §48200, EC §48204(b)(1), EC§ 46600, EC§ 48980(g), USC Title 20 §7912 & SVUSD Board Policies 5111.1, 5116, 5116.1, 5117 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 5111.1, 5116, 5116.1, 5117

Compulsory Education law states that students must enroll in school in the school district in which the residence of either the parent or legal guardian is located. If a parent is seeking a change in a public district outside of the residential district, then an interdistrict permit is required. Exceptions are for charter school, home school or other private school enrollments, and other online charter school options.

An interdistrict agreement is signed by both the releasing and accepting districts. When denied, there are appeal processes according to the local district policies. The education rights holder may appeal to their County Office of Education for an appeal process within 30 days of a final denial from either district.

Interdistrict Enrollment/Transfer Requests

Parents/guardians of students living outside the boundary of the Sonoma Valley Unified School District may apply for an Interdistrict Transfer. The parent or legal guardian of a pupil may seek release from the home district to attend a school in any other school district. School districts may enter into agreements for the interdistrict transfer of one or more pupils for a period of up to five years. The agreement must specify the terms and conditions for granting or denying transfers, and may contain standards of reapplication and specify the terms and conditions under which a permit may be revoked. Unless otherwise specified in the agreement, a pupil will not have to reapply for an interdistrict transfer, and the school board of the district of enrollment must allow the pupil to continue to attend the school in which he/she is enrolled. A student who has completed grade 10 by June 30, may remain enrolled within the district of enrollment through grades 11 and 12 without any revocation from the desired district, and must be treated the same as any other resident student.

Regardless of whether an agreement exists or a permit is issued, the school district of residence cannot prohibit the transfer of a pupil who is a child of an active military duty parent to a school district of proposed enrollment if that district approves the application for transfer. Nor may a district prohibit an interdistrict permit release when no intradistrict permit options are available to a victim of bullying. A "victim of an act of bullying" means a pupil that has been determined to have been a victim of bullying by an investigation pursuant to the complaint process described in Section 234.1 and the bullying was committed by any pupil in the school district of residence, and the parent of the pupil has filed a written complaint regarding the bullying with the school, school district personnel, or a local law enforcement agency. "Bullying" means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal communication made in writing or by means of an electronic act directed toward one or more pupils that results in placing a reasonable person in fear of harm of self or property. It may cause a substantially detrimental effect on physical or mental health, interfere with academic performance or the ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school, and may be done in person or online. Bullying may be exhibited in the creation or transmission of bullying online, on or off the school site, by telephone or other device in a message, text, sound, video, or image in a post on a social network internet website or burn page that creates a credible impersonation of another student knowingly and without consent for the purpose of bullying. Sharing or forwarding messages contributes to the act of bullying.

A pupil who has been determined by personnel of either the home or receiving district to have been the victim of an act of bullying, as defined in EC 48900(r), shall, at the request of the parent or legal guardian, be given priority for interdistrict attendance under any existing agreement or, in the absence of an agreement, be given additional consideration for the creation of an interdistrict attendance agreement.

Requests are based on the district's enrollment and staffing needs. Preferences will be given to pupils whose parents are enlisted in the military. Parents/guardians should contact the District's Educational Services Department at (707) 939-4895 for further information.

Intradistrict Enrollment/Transfer Requests

Parents/guardians of students living within the Sonoma Valley Unified School District who moved to the attendance area of a different school within the district may apply for an Intradistrict Transfer. These requests are based on enrollment and staffing needs. Parents of high school athletes should check on CIF sports eligibility rules before pursuing open enrollment. Transportation to any other school is the responsibility of the parent. No pupil who currently resides in the attendance area of a school can be displaced by pupils transferring from outside the attendance area. Students who are a victim of bullying shall be allowed an intradistrict permit to transfer if space is available at the same grade level. If there is no "intradistrict" space to attend, the student may seek an "inter-district" permit to another district without any delay in release from the home district, but it does not guarantee entrance to an outside district. The process to enter another school district will be according to the desired district's transfer policies. A "victim of an act of bullying" means a pupil that has been determined to have been a victim of bullying by an investigation pursuant to the complaint process described in Section 234.1 and the bullying was committed by any pupil in the school district of residence, and the parent of the pupil has filed a written complaint regarding the bullying with the school, school district personnel, or a local law enforcement agency. "Bullying" means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal communication made in writing or by means of an electronic act directed toward one or more pupils that results in placing a reasonable person in fear of harm of self or property. It may cause a substantially detrimental effect on physical or mental health, interfere with academic performance or the ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school, and may be done in person or online. Bullying may be exhibited in the creation or transmission of bullying online, on or off the school site, by telephone or other device in a message, text, sound, video, or image in a post on a social network internet website or

burn page that creates a credible impersonation of another student knowingly and without consent for the purpose of bullying. Sharing or forwarding messages contributes to the act of bullying. Contact the school office for further information.

Persistently Dangerous Schools

The Sonoma Valley Unified School District's Board of Education has adopted a policy stating that students who attend a district school designated by the California Department of Education as a persistently dangerous school must be granted priority to attend a safe public school.

Residency Requirements

A minor between the ages of 6 and 18 years is subject to compulsory education and, unless exempted, must enroll in school in the school district in which the residence of either the parent or legal guardian is located.

A student shall be deemed to have complied with district residency requirements for enrollment in the district if he or she meets any of the following criteria: The student's parent/guardian resides within district boundaries; the student is placed within district boundaries in a regularly established licensed children's institution, a licensed foster home, or a family home pursuant to a court-ordered commitment or placement; the student is admitted through an interdistrict attendance option; the student is an emancipated minor residing within district boundaries; the student lives with a caregiving adult within district boundaries and the caregiving adult submits an affidavit to that effect; the student resides in a state hospital located within district boundaries; the student is confined to a hospital or other residential health facility within district boundaries for treatment of a temporary disability; the student's parent/guardian resides outside district boundaries but is employed within district boundaries and lives with the student at the place of employment for a minimum of three days during the school week; the student's parent/guardian, while on active military duty pursuant to an official military order, is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation within the state; the student's parent/guardian was a resident of California who departed the state against his/her will to a transfer by a government agency that had custody of the parent/guardian, a lawful order from a court or government agency authorizing his/her removal, or removal or departure pursuant to the federal Immigration and Nationality Act, and the student lived in California immediately before moving out of state as a result of his/her parent/guardian's departure.

Students in military and migrant families may remain in their school of origin and shall have waived residency restrictions due to the frequency of movement of their families. Connect with the school office for more information on the protections afforded these students per California laws.

District residency status may be granted to a student if at least one of his/her parents/guardians is physically employed within district boundaries for a minimum of 10 hours during the school week.

Residency Investigations

When the Superintendent or designee reasonably believes that a student's parent/guardian has provided false or unreliable evidence of residency, he/she may make reasonable efforts to determine that the student meets district residency requirements. An investigation may be initiated when the Superintendent or designee is able to identify specific, articulable facts supporting the belief that the parent/guardian has provided false or unreliable evidence of residency.

The Superintendent or designee may assign a trained district employee to conduct the investigation. The investigation may include the examination of records, including public records, and/or interviews of persons who may have knowledge of the student's residency.

If necessary, the Superintendent or designee may employ the services of a private investigator to conduct the investigation. Before hiring a private investigator, the Superintendent or designee shall make other reasonable efforts to determine whether the student resides in the district.

The investigation shall not include the surreptitious collection of photographic or videographic images of persons or places subject to the investigation. However, the use of technology is not prohibited if done in open and public view.

Any employee or contractor engaged in the investigation shall truthfully identify himself/herself as an investigator to individuals contacted or interviewed during the course of the investigation.

INSTRUCTION FOR PUPILS WITH A TEMPORARY DISABILITY

EC §48206.3, EC §48207, EC §48208 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 6183

A student with a temporary disability which makes school attendance impossible or inadvisable shall be entitled to receive individual instruction at home or in a hospital or other residential health facility, excluding state hospitals.

Temporary disability means a physical, mental, or emotional disability incurred while a student is enrolled in regular day classes or an alternative

education program, and after which the student can reasonably be expected to return to regular day classes or the alternative education program in which the student is enrolled. Temporary disability does not include a disability that would qualify a student for special education pursuant to Education Code §56026.

It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to notify the school district in which the hospital or other residential health facility is located of the presence of a pupil with a temporary disability. Upon receipt of the notification, the district will within five working days determine whether the pupil will be able to receive individualized instruction and, if so, provide the instruction within five working days or less.

INVOLUNTARY TRANSFER

EC §48980(m) & EC §48929

A school administrator may recommend an involuntary transfer of a student if convicted of a violent crime and if the victim attends the same school. Parents must be notified in writing and have the right to a meeting with the administration. The school will first attempt to resolve a conflict prior to transferring. Periodic reviews will be considered for returning to the school site if there is no ongoing danger to either student or others on campus. The school board makes the final decision.

NOTICE OF ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS

EC §58501, SVUSD Board Policy 6158 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 6158

California state law authorizes all school districts to provide for alternative schools. Education Code §58500 defines alternative school as a school or separate class group within a school which is operated in a manner designed to:

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

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

Sonoma Valley Unified School District Alternative Schools:

- Creekside High School

VICTIM OF VIOLENT CRIME

USC Title 20 §7912a & SVUSD Board Policy 5116.1

A student who becomes a victim of a violent criminal offense while in or on the grounds of a school that the student attends has the right to transfer to another school within the district. The district has 14 calendar days to offer students the option to transfer. For more information, please contact the school principal or the District's Educational Services Department at (707) 939-4895.

HEALTH

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICINE DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

EC §49414.7, EC §49423, EC §49423.1 & EC §49480, SVUSD Board Policy 5141.21 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 5141.21

The parent or legal guardian of any pupil taking medication on a regular basis must inform the school nurse or the school site administrative assistant of the medication being taken, the current dosage, and the name of the supervising physician. With the consent of the parent or legal guardian, the school nurse may communicate with the physician and may counsel with the school personnel regarding the possible effects of the medication on the pupil.

Administration of Prescribed Medication for Pupils

When allowed by law, medication prescribed to a student by an authorized health care provider may be administered by a school nurse or, when a school nurse or other medically licensed person is unavailable and the physician has authorized administration of medication by unlicensed personnel for a particular student, by other designated school personnel with appropriate training. School nurses and other designated school personnel shall administer medications to students in accordance with law, Board policy, administrative regulation, and, as applicable, the written statement provided by the student's parent/guardian and authorized health care provider. Such personnel shall be afforded appropriate liability protection.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that school personnel designated to administer any medication receive appropriate training and, as necessary, retraining from qualified medical personnel before any medication is administered. At a minimum, the training shall cover how and when such medication should be administered, the recognition of symptoms and treatment, emergency follow-up procedures, and the proper documentation and storage of medication. Such trained, unlicensed designated school personnel shall be supervised by, and provided with immediate communication access to, a school nurse, physician, or other appropriate individual.

Administration of Epilepsy Medication

If a pupil with epilepsy has been prescribed an emergency anti-seizure medication by his or her health care provider, the pupil's parent or guardian may request the pupil's school to have one or more of its employees receive training in the administration of an emergency anti-seizure medication in the event that the pupil suffers a seizure when a nurse is not available.

Emergency Treatment for Anaphylaxis

Anaphylaxis is a severe and potentially life-threatening allergic reaction that can occur after encountering an allergic trigger, such as food, medicine, an insect bite, latex or exercise. Symptoms include narrowing of the airways, rashes or hives, nausea or vomiting, a weak pulse and dizziness. It is estimated that approximately 25% of the anaphylactic reactions occur during school hours to students who had not previously been diagnosed with a food or other allergy. Without immediate administration of epinephrine followed by calling emergency medical services, death can occur. Being able to recognize and treat it quickly can save lives. Recent changes to EC §49414 now require school districts to provide epinephrine auto-injectors to school nurses and trained personnel and authorizes them to use epinephrine auto-injectors for any student who may be experiencing anaphylaxis, regardless of known history.

ANNUAL HEALTH SCREENINGS

EC §49452, EC §49452.5, SVUSD Board Policy 5141.3 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 5141.3

Annual vision and hearing screenings are conducted in kindergarten, second, fifth, and eighth grade. Parent or teacher referrals or students receiving special education services may be included in these screenings as required by law unless the parent/guardian files a written objection. Notification will be sent to the parent/guardian of a student for any noted condition discovered through the screenings.

CANCER PREVENTION ACT – HPV VACCINATION

EC §48980.4

For all pupils advancing to the eighth grade, 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, recommend full human papillomavirus (HPV) immunization before admission or advancement to the eighth grade level.

CHILD ABUSE NEGLECT & REPORTING

Penal Code §11164, SVUSD Board Policy 5141.4 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 5141.4

The staff of the Sonoma Valley Unified School District are required by law to report cases of child abuse and neglect whenever staff have a reasonable suspicion. Staff may not investigate to confirm the suspicion. Both the staff name and the report itself are confidential and cannot be disclosed except to authorized agencies.

Child abuse or neglect includes the following:

1. A physical injury or death inflicted by other than accidental means on a child by another person
2. Sexual abuse of a child, including sexual assault or sexual exploitation, as defined in Penal Code 11165.1
3. Neglect of a child as defined in Penal Code 11165.2

4. Willful harming or injuring of a child or the endangering of the person or health of a child as defined in Penal Code 11165.3
5. Unlawful corporal punishment or injury as defined in Penal Code 11165.4

Child abuse or neglect does not include:

1. A mutual affray between minors
2. An injury caused by reasonable and necessary force used by a peace officer acting within the course and scope of his/her employment
3. An injury resulting from the exercise by a teacher, vice principal, principal, or other certificated employee of the same degree of physical control over a student that a parent/guardian would be privileged to exercise, not exceeding the amount of physical control reasonably necessary to maintain order, protect property, protect the health and safety of students, or maintain proper and appropriate conditions conducive to learning
4. An injury caused by a school employee's use of force that is reasonable and necessary to quell a disturbance threatening physical injury to persons or damage to property, to protect himself/herself, or to obtain weapons or other dangerous objects within the control of a student
5. Physical pain or discomfort caused by athletic competition or other such recreational activity voluntarily engaged in by a student
6. Homelessness or classification as an unaccompanied minor

CONCUSSION AND HEAD INJURIES

EC §49475

A concussion is a brain injury that can be caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head, or by a blow to another part of the body with the force transmitted to the head. Even though most concussions are mild, all concussions are potentially serious and may result in complications including prolonged brain damage and death if not recognized and managed properly. A school district that elects to offer athletic programs must immediately remove from a school-sponsored athletic activity for the remainder of the day an athlete who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury during that activity. The athlete may not return to that activity until he or she is evaluated by, and receives written clearance from, a licensed health care provider. On a yearly basis, a concussion and head injury information sheet must be signed and returned by the athlete and the athlete's parent or guardian before the athlete's initiating practice or competition. This requirement does not apply to an athlete engaging in an athletic activity during the regular school day or as part of a physical education course.

CONFIDENTIALITY OF MEDICAL INFORMATION ACT

SB 1184

School linked service coordinators will have access to healthcare information and will serve with confidentiality. Information shared will be between health professionals with the same safeguards afforded with HIPPA requirements.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES: OPIOIDS

EC §49476

The athletic departments of the Sonoma Valley Unified School District will provide facts regarding the risks and side effects of opioid use each school year to athletes. Parents and student athletes must sign acknowledgement of receipt of the document annually.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL-FREE SCHOOLS

SVUSD Board Policy 3513.4(a)

The Governing Board recognizes the need to keep district schools free of drugs and alcohol in order to create a safe and healthy environment conducive to learning and promote student health and well-being. The Board prohibits the possession, use, or sale of drugs and alcohol at any time in district-owned or leased buildings, on district property, and in district vehicles, unless otherwise permitted by law.

The following substances are prohibited on all district property:

1. Any substance which may not lawfully be possessed, used, or sold in California
2. Cannabis or cannabis products
3. Alcoholic beverages, unless approved by the Superintendent or designee for limited purposes specified in Business and Professions Code 25608

Prescription medication, except for prescribed cannabis, may be administered at school in accordance with law, district policy and regulations, and written statements by the parent/guardian and the student's authorized health care provider as applicable.

Information about the district's drug- and alcohol-free schools policy and the consequences for violations shall be communicated clearly to employees, parents/guardians, students, and the community.

Enforcement/Discipline

The Superintendent or designee shall take appropriate action to eliminate the possession, use, or sale of alcohol and other drugs and related paraphernalia in district facilities, on district property, in district vehicles, or at school-sponsored activities. As appropriate, he/she may direct anyone violating this policy to leave school property and/or refer the matter to law enforcement.

Students and employees who violate the terms of this policy may be subject to discipline and/or referred to assistance programs in accordance with law and Board policy.

ENTRANCE HEALTH SCREENING

HSC §124085, HSC §124100, HSC §124105 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 5141.32

State law requires that the parent or legal guardian of each pupil provide the school within 90 days after entrance to first grade documentary proof that the pupil has received a health screening examination by a doctor within the prior 18 months. Pupils may be excluded up to 5 days from school for failing to comply or not providing a waiver. Free health screening is available for eligible students through the Child Health Disabilities Prevention Program.

IMMUNIZATIONS

EC §49403, EC §48216, HSC §120325, HSC §120335, HSC §120365, HSC §120370, HSC §120375 & SVUSD Board Policy 5141.31

The Superintendent or designee shall provide parents/guardians, upon school registration, a written notice summarizing the state's immunization requirements.

The Superintendent or designee shall not unconditionally admit any student to a district elementary or secondary school, preschool, or child care and development program for the first time nor, after July 1, 2016, admit or advance any student to grade 7 unless the student has been fully immunized. The student shall present documentation of full immunization, in accordance with the age/grade and dose required by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), against the following diseases: (Health and Safety Code 120335; 17 CCR 6020):

- Measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR)
- Diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (whooping cough) (DTP, DTaP, or Tdap)
- Poliomyelitis (polio)
- Hepatitis B
- Varicella (chickenpox)
- Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib meningitis)
- Any other disease designated by the CDPH

Free- or low-cost immunizations for children are available. Please contact the Sonoma Valley Community Health Center at (707) 939-6070 for more information.

MEDICAL SERVICES INFORMATION

EC §49471 & EC §49472

Medical Services

Sonoma Valley Unified School District does not provide insurance to cover student accidents or injuries while the student is at school, going to or from school, or while attending school-sponsored activities. Insurance for students may be purchased by parents/guardians through a separate program at school.

Health Insurance Coverage for Athletes

Under state law, school districts are required to ensure that all members of school athletic teams have accidental injury insurance that covers medical and hospital expenses. This insurance requirement can be met by the school district offering insurance or other health benefits that cover medical and hospital expenses.

Low- or no-cost insurance for students is available through Medi-Cal for those who qualify. Parents/guardians may call (800) 880-5305 for information or an application.

Medical Attention at School for Accidents/Injuries

An emergency card will be used to contact parents/guardians in the event of a medical emergency. The school will act in the absence of parent contact to ensure appropriate medical treatment is provided even if the parent/guardian cannot be reached. The school may make available medical or hospital services for students while at or on the way to or from any school activity. Specific direction regarding emergency care must be noted on emergency cards.

MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS

EC §35292.6, AB 230

On or before the start of the 2024-25 school year, a public school, including a school operated by a school district, county office of education, or charter school, maintaining any combination of classes from grades 3 to 12, inclusive, shall stock the school's restrooms at all times with an adequate supply of menstrual products, available and accessible, free of cost, in all women's restrooms and all-gender restrooms, and in at least one men's restroom.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES NOTIFICATION

EC §49428

In accordance with AB 2022, the Sonoma Valley Unified School District wants to ensure that parents, guardians, and students are informed about resources available for anyone who believes they are in a mental health crisis. We encourage parents/guardians and students to talk with any adult in the school district if they are concerned about themselves or another student and possible mental health needs.

In order to initiate access to available pupil mental health services, you may contact the school counselor at your school site, or you may contact the following mental health provider: Sonoma County Behavioral Health at (707) 565-6900.

The Sonoma Valley Unified School District will notify parents at least twice per year. This is one time through our Annual Notifications, and we will also notify you again a second time during the school year by mail or by other commonly used method of notification.

ORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT

EC §49452.8 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 5141.6

Record of a dental assessment done by a dental professional is required for all kindergarteners and first graders attending public school for the first time. Dental assessments must be completed in the 12 months prior to entry or by May 31 of the pupil's first school year.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

EC §49451, 20 USC 1232h, SVUSD Board Policy 5141.3 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 5141.3

A parent or guardian may file annually with the school principal a written statement, signed by the parent or legal guardian, withholding consent to a physical examination of the pupil. However, whenever there is good reason to believe that the pupil is suffering from a recognized contagious or infectious disease, the pupil shall be sent home and shall not be permitted to return until school authorities are satisfied that the contagious or infectious disease no longer exists.

PUPIL SAFETY – SYNTHETIC DRUG USE AND OPIOID OVERDOSE

EC §48985.5 & EC §49414.3

Synthetic drugs that are not prescribed by a physician, such as fentanyl or opioids, are extremely dangerous, and there is the possibility that dangerous synthetic drugs can be found in counterfeit pills.

The Superintendent or designee shall make naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist available for emergency medical aid to any person suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering, from an opioid overdose.

SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST PREVENTION ACT

EC §33479 et seq.

The senate bill requires a pupil in any public school, including a charter school, or private school that elects to conduct athletic activities, and the pupil's parent or guardian, to sign and return an acknowledgement of receipt of an information sheet on sudden cardiac arrest symptoms and warning signs each school year before the pupil participates in an athletic activity.

SUICIDE PREVENTION

EC §215 & SVUSD Board Policy 5141.52

The Governing Board recognizes that suicide is a leading cause of death among youth and that school personnel who regularly interact with students are often in a position to recognize the warning signs of suicide and to offer appropriate referral and/or assistance. To attempt to reduce suicidal behavior and its impact on students and families, the Superintendent or designee shall develop measures and strategies for suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention.

In developing measures and strategies for use by the district, the Superintendent or designee may consult with school health professionals,

school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, administrators, other staff, parents/guardians, students, local health agencies, mental health professionals, and community organizations.

Such measures and strategies shall include, but are not limited to:

1. Staff development on suicide awareness and prevention for teachers, school counselors, and other district employees who interact with students in the secondary grades
2. Instruction to students in problem-solving and coping skills to promote students' mental, emotional, and social health and well-being, as well as instruction in recognizing and appropriately responding to warning signs of suicidal intent in others
3. Methods for promoting a positive school climate that enhances students' feelings of connectedness with the school and that is characterized by caring staff and harmonious interrelationships among students
4. The provision of information to parents/guardians regarding risk factors and warning signs of suicide, the severity of the youth suicide problem, the district's suicide prevention curriculum, basic steps for helping suicidal youth, and/or school and community resources that can help youth in crisis
5. Encouragement for students to notify appropriate school personnel or other adults when they are experiencing thoughts of suicide or when they suspect or have knowledge of another student's suicidal intentions
6. Crisis intervention procedures for addressing suicide threats or attempts
7. Counseling and other postvention strategies for helping students, staff, and others cope in the aftermath of a student's suicide

As appropriate, these measures and strategies shall specifically address the needs of students who are at high risk of suicide, including, but not limited to, students who are bereaved by suicide; students with disabilities, mental illness, or substance use disorders; students who are experiencing homelessness or who are in out-of-home settings such as foster care; and students who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning youth.

TOBACCO FREE CAMPUS

HSC §104420, HSC §104495 & SVUSD Board Policy 3513.3

The Board of Education recognizes that smoking and other uses of tobacco and nicotine products constitute a serious public health hazard and are inconsistent with district goals to provide a healthy environment for students and staff.

The Board prohibits the use of tobacco products at any time in district-owned or leased buildings, on district property, and in district vehicles.

This prohibition applies to all employees, students, and visitors at any school-sponsored instructional program, activity, or athletic event held on or off district property. Any written joint use agreement governing community use of district facilities or grounds shall include notice of the district's tobacco-free schools policy and consequences for violations of the policy.

Smoking means inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying of any lighted or heated cigar, cigarette, pipe, tobacco, or plant product intended for inhalation, whether natural or synthetic, in any manner or form, and includes the use of an electronic smoking device that creates aerosol or vapor or of any oral smoking device for the purpose of circumventing the prohibition of smoking.

Tobacco products include:

1. Any product containing, made, or derived from tobacco or nicotine that is intended for human consumption, whether smoked, heated, chewed, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, snorted, sniffed, or ingested by any other means, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, little cigars, chewing tobacco, pipe tobacco, or snuff
2. An electronic device that delivers nicotine or other vaporized liquids to the person inhaling from the device, including, but not limited to, an electronic cigarette, cigar, pipe, or hookah
3. Any component, part, or accessory of a tobacco product, whether or not sold separately

This policy does not prohibit the use or possession of prescription products and other cessation aids that have been approved by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Food and Drug Administration, such as nicotine patch or gum.

Smoking or use of any tobacco-related products and disposal of any tobacco-related waste are prohibited within 25 feet of any playground, except on a public sidewalk located within 25 feet of the playground. (Health and Safety Code 104495). In addition, any form of intimidation, threat, or retaliation against a person for attempting to enforce this policy is prohibited.

SAFETY

ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN

CFR Title 40 §763.93 & SVUSD Board Policy 3514

The district has developed an asbestos management plan for each school, including all buildings that they lease, own, or otherwise use as school buildings in accordance with CFR Title 40 §763.93. A copy of the complete, updated management plan for asbestos-containing material in school buildings may be reviewed in the Director of Maintenance & Operations office located at 17851 Railroad Avenue, Sonoma, CA 95476.

CALIFORNIA YOUTH FOOTBALL ACT

HSC §124241

Under state law, students who participate in football games in grades 6-12 must have a licensed medical professional present during the game, whether playing at a home game or away at another school. This does not include Physical Education classes or intramural football games outside of extra-curricular athletics offered at the middle or high school.

PESTICIDE PRODUCTS

EC §17612, EC §48980.3 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 3514.2

To obtain a copy of all pesticide products and expected use at the school facility during the year, and to receive notification of individual pesticide application at the school at least 72 hours before the application, please contact the Maintenance and Operations Department at (707) 935-6090.

SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS

PC 25100-25125, PC 25200-25220, PC 25105, PC 25205; CC 1714.3

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform and to remind parents and legal guardians of all students in the Sonoma Valley Unified School District of their responsibilities for keeping firearms out of the hands of children as required by California law. There have been many news reports of children bringing firearms to school. In many instances, the child obtained the firearm(s) from his or her home. These incidents can be easily prevented by storing firearms in a safe and secure manner, including keeping them locked up when not in use and storing them separately from ammunition.

To help everyone understand their legal responsibilities, this memorandum spells out California law regarding the storage of firearms. Please take some time to review this memorandum and evaluate your own personal practices to assure that you and your family are in compliance with California law.

- With very limited exceptions, California makes a person criminally liable for keeping any firearm, loaded or unloaded, within any premises that are under their custody and control where that person knows or reasonably should know that a child is likely to gain access to the firearm without the permission of the child's parent or legal guardian, and the child obtains access to the firearm and thereby (1) causes death or injury to the child or any other person; (2) carries the firearm off the premises or to a public place, including to any preschool or school grades kindergarten through twelfth grade, or to any school-sponsored event, activity, or performance; or (3) unlawfully brandishes the firearm to others.¹
 - Note: The criminal penalty may be significantly greater if someone dies or suffers great bodily injury as a result of the child gaining access to the firearm.
- With very limited exceptions, California also makes it a crime for a person to negligently store or leave any firearm, loaded or unloaded, on their premises in a location where the person knows or reasonably should know that a child is likely to gain access to it without the permission of the child's parent or legal guardian, unless reasonable action is taken to secure the firearm against access by the child, even where a minor **never** actually accesses the firearm.²
- In addition to potential fines and terms of imprisonment, as of January 1, 2020, a gun owner found criminally liable under these California laws faces prohibitions from possessing, controlling, owning, receiving, or purchasing a firearm for 10 years.³
- Finally, a parent or guardian may also be civilly liable for damages resulting from the discharge of a firearm by that person's child or ward.⁴

Note: Your county or city may have additional restrictions regarding the safe storage of firearms.

Thank you for helping to keep our children and schools safe. Remember that the easiest and safest way to comply with the law is to keep firearms in a locked container or secured with a locking device that renders the firearm inoperable.

¹ See California Penal Code sections 25100 through 25125 and 25200 through 25220.

² See California Penal Code section 25100(c).

³ See California Civil Code Section 29805.

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY (K-8)

EC §39831.5, SVUSD Board Policy 5131.1 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 5131.1

All pupils in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1 to 6, shall receive written information on school bus safety (i.e., a list of school bus stops near each pupil's home, general rules of conduct at school bus loading zones, red light crossing instructions, school bus danger zone, and walking to and from school bus stops). Prior to departure on a school activity trip, all pupils riding on a school bus or school activity bus shall receive safety instruction that includes, but is not limited to, location of emergency exits, and location and use of emergency equipment. Instruction also may include responsibilities of passengers seated next to an emergency exit.

SCHOOL SAFETY: BULLYING

EC §22589, EC §234.4, EC §32283.5 & SVUSD Board Policy 5131.2

The Sonoma Valley Unified School District is committed to the prohibition of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying. Annual training will be provided to all staff who work with students, to prevent bullying and cyberbullying. If you or your child should experience any bullying on campus, at school events, or on the way to or from school, please contact the District's Educational Services Department at (707) 939-4895 to assist you in identifying and stopping this behavior.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

EC §48980(g)

SVUSD Board Policy 5145.7 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 5145.7

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

The district strongly encourages students who feel that they are being or have been sexually harassed on school grounds or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity by another student or an adult, or who have experienced off-campus sexual harassment that has a continuing effect on campus, to immediately contact their teacher, the principal, the district's Title IX Coordinator, or any other available school employee. Any employee who receives a report or observes an incident of sexual harassment shall notify the Title IX Coordinator.

Once notified, the Title IX Coordinator shall ensure the complaint or allegation is addressed through AR 5145.71 - Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures or BP/AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures, as applicable. Because a complaint or allegation that is dismissed or denied under the Title IX complaint procedure may still be subject to consideration under state law, the Title IX Coordinator shall ensure that any implementation of AR 5145.71 concurrently meets the requirements of BP/AR 1312.3.

The Title IX Coordinator shall offer supportive measures to the complainant and respondent, as deemed appropriate under the circumstances.

The Superintendent or designee shall inform students and parents/guardians of the district's sexual harassment policy by disseminating it through parent/guardian notifications, publishing it on the district's web site, and including it in student and staff handbooks. All district staff shall be trained regarding the policy.

Instruction/Information

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

1. What acts and behavior constitute sexual harassment, including the fact that sexual harassment could occur between people of the same sex and could involve sexual violence
2. A clear message that students do not have to endure sexual harassment under any circumstance
3. Encouragement to report observed incidents of sexual harassment even where the alleged victim of the harassment has not complained
4. A clear message that student safety is the district's primary concern, and that any separate rule violation involving an alleged victim or any

other person reporting a sexual harassment incident will be addressed separately and will not affect the manner in which the sexual harassment complaint will be received, investigated, or resolved

5. A clear message that, regardless of a complainant's noncompliance with the writing, timeline, or other formal filing requirements, every sexual harassment allegation that involves a student, whether as the complainant, respondent, or victim of the harassment, shall be investigated and prompt action shall be taken to stop any harassment, prevent recurrence, and address any continuing effect on students
6. Information about the district's procedure for investigating complaints and the person(s) to whom a report of sexual harassment should be made
7. Information about the rights of students and parents/guardians to file a civil or criminal complaint, as applicable, including the right to file a civil or criminal complaint while the district investigation of a sexual harassment complaint continues
8. A clear message that, when needed, the district will take interim measures to ensure a safe school environment for a student who is the complainant or victim of sexual harassment and/or other students during an investigation and that, to the extent possible, when such interim measures are taken, they shall not disadvantage the complainant or victim of the alleged harassment

Disciplinary Actions

Upon completion of an investigation of a sexual harassment complaint, any student found to have engaged in sexual harassment or sexual violence in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action. For students in grades 4-12, disciplinary action may include suspension and/or expulsion, provided that, in imposing such discipline, the entire circumstances of the incident(s) shall be taken into account.

Upon investigation of a sexual harassment complaint, any employee found to have engaged in sexual harassment or sexual violence toward any student shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, in accordance with law and the applicable collective bargaining agreement.

Record-Keeping

In accordance with law and district policies and regulations, the Superintendent or designee shall maintain a record of all reported cases of sexual harassment to enable the district to monitor, address, and prevent repetitive harassing behavior in district schools.

Coordinator/Compliance Officer (AR 5145.7)

The district designates the following individual(s) as the responsible employee(s) to coordinate its efforts to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 in accordance with AR 5145.71 - Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures, as well as to oversee investigate, and/or resolve sexual harassment complaints processed under AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures. The Title IX Coordinator(s) may be contacted at:

Human Resources Director
Sonoma Valley Unified School District
17850 Railroad Avenue
Sonoma, CA 95476
(707) 935-6008

STUDENT CONDUCT & DISCIPLINE

EDUCATIONAL EQUITY: IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP STATUS

EC §66251, EC §66260.6, EC §66270, EC §66270.3, EC §200, EC §220 & EC §234.1 (adding Article 5.7 to EC §234.7)

Government Instruction Conferences

The Sex Equity in Education Act exempts any discrimination based on male or female identity for pupils who seek to participate in state or national conferences, therefore, furthering California's goal of providing an equal educational opportunity to all students by prohibiting the use of public resources when a program discriminates based on gender.

Immigration and Citizenship Status

The Equity in Higher Education Act, states that all persons, regardless of their disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or any other specified characteristic such as hairstyles, equal rights and opportunities and adds this opportunity to apply for financial aid for higher education to also be equitable, and an application may not be denied of a student based on their immigration status. This does not guarantee any final eligibility, but simply an ability to apply for financial aid just like any other student, without discrimination.

SAFE PLACE TO LEARN ACT

EC §234, EC §234.1 & SVUSD Board Policy 5131.2

The Sonoma Valley Unified School District is committed to maintaining a learning environment that is free from discrimination, harassment, violence, intimidation, and bullying based on actual or perceived characteristics set forth in Section 422.55 of the Penal Code and Section 220 of the Education Code, and disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. All school personnel who witness an act of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying must take immediate steps to intervene when safe to do so. Any student who engages in acts of discrimination, harassment, violence, intimidation, or bullying related to school activity or school attendance occurring within a school of the school district may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. To report an incidence and/or to receive a copy of the district's anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, anti-intimidation, and anti-bullying policies, please contact the school principal.

For more information or to read the board policy or administrative regulation, go to the district's website at www.sonomaschools.org.

SCHOOL RULES

EC §35291 & SVUSD Board Policy 5144

Each school district may prescribe procedures to provide written notice to pupils and parents/guardians regarding school rules and procedures. School sites may adopt rules and procedures established by school committees with specific membership and filed with the Board of Education. Parents/guardians will be notified regarding the availability of site and district rules as well as procedures pertaining to discipline.

PARENTS' RIGHTS

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

EC §8482.6, EC §8483, EC §8483.1 & 20 USC 11434a

The After School Education and Safety Program (through the Boys and Girls Club and/or YMCA) serves pupils in TK - 8 at participating schools. Programs that charge family fees shall not charge for a child who is homeless or in foster. The homeless and foster students are also moved to the top of the waiting list. This is how to request priority enrollment, please contact the school office for more information related to this program.

CALIFORNIA LONGITUDINAL PUPIL ACHIEVEMENT DATA SYSTEM

EC §60900.5 & Privacy & Confidentiality Procedures, Paragraph 3.2

This district is participating with the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) in the electronic transfer of student data for state reporting to the California Department of Education (CDE), and which CDE shares with the California Colleges Guidance Initiative (CCGI). CCGI currently receives enrollment data for all public-school students enrolled in grades six through twelve from CDE. All data shared will be used to provide pupils and families with direct access to online tools and resources and will enable a pupil to transmit information shared with the CCGI to both of the following:

1. Postsecondary educational institutions for purposes of admissions and academic placement
2. The Student Aid Commission for purposes of determining eligibility for, and increasing uptake of, student financial aid

All data maintained by the CALPAD system is in compliance with federal and state privacy and confidentiality requirements. Parents have the right to inspect student information maintained by CALPADS. Contact the District's Educational Services Department at (707) 939-4895 to initiate this procedure or obtain more information.

COMPETITIVE ATHLETICS

EC §221.9

All elementary and secondary schools that offer competitive athletics shall publicly make available at the end of the school year the following information:

1. The total enrollment of the school, classified by gender.
2. The number of pupils enrolled at the school who participate in competitive athletics, classified by gender.
3. The number of boys' and girls' teams, classified by sport and by competition level.

Schools shall make the information identified above publicly available by posting it on the school's website. "Competitive athletics" means sports where the activity has coaches, a governing organization, and practices,

and competes during a defined season, and has competition as its primary goal. For more information, please contact the school site principal.

COMPETITIVE ATHLETICS SEEKING HIGHER EDUCATION ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

EC §67455

Under state law, students who witness or are the victim of any wrongdoing condoned by the higher education athletic organization, have a right to make a report, file, or otherwise assist the report of any violation of student athlete rights involving the program, participants, or staff. This right to make such reports is guaranteed by the **"Student Athlete Bill of Rights"** and may not result in retribution or removal of any benefits if the report has been made in good faith and truthfulness.

DISCLOSURE OF STUDENT INFORMATION

EC §49073 7, EC §51513, EC §51514, 20 USC 1232(h) & SVUSD Board Policy 5125.1

Directory Information

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that the Sonoma Valley Unified School District, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, the Sonoma Valley Unified School District may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the District to include the type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include a playbill showing your student's role in a drama production; the annual yearbook; honor roll or other recognition lists; graduation programs; and sports activity sheets such as for wrestling showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information means information contained in a student record that would generally not be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released and which can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks.

No information may be released to a private profit-making entity except for representatives of the news media and prospective employers, in accordance with Board policy. Private schools and colleges may be given the names and addresses of 12th-grade students and students who are no longer enrolled provided that they use this information only for purposes directly related to the institution's academic or professional goals.

Directory information may be disclosed without prior consent from the parent or legal guardian unless the parent or legal guardian submits a written notice to the school to deny access to his/her pupil's directory information. Directory information regarding a pupil identified as a homeless child or youth shall not be released unless a parent, or eligible pupil guardian, has provided written consent that directory information may be released.

Disclosure of Student Information for Marketing Purposes 20 USC 1232(h)

Requires notification to parents of pupils that an activity involving the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from pupils for the purpose of marketing or selling that information may be scheduled. If you would like to opt your pupil out from participation in this activity, please contact the school office for assistance.

Student Images or Photo Use

As part of the District's effort to keep the community fully informed, there may be occasions in which the District will need to use images and/or pictures of your student individually or in a group photo. All of the uses of photos, video images, and student work would be for non-commercial purposes and may include use in:

- School newsletters (print and electronic)
- Newspapers, publications
- School site and/or district websites
- Televised board meetings or other televised events

Surveys

Prohibits the use of tests, questionnaires, surveys or examinations containing any questions about the pupil's personal beliefs or practices in sex, family life, morality, and religion, unless the parent or guardian is notified in writing that the test, questionnaire, survey, or examination is to be administered and the parent or guardian consents in writing.

Students will not be given a survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals sensitive personal information (i.e., political affiliations or beliefs, mental or psychological problems, sex behavior or attitudes, illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior, critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondent has close family relationships, legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, religious practices, affiliations or beliefs, or income) without the prior written consent of the parent.

Parents/guardians may inspect surveys created by a third party used to collect personal information.

FREE/REDUCED PRICE MEALS

EC §49510, EC §49391, EC §49392 & SVUSD Board Policy 3553

Free or reduced-price lunches are available at school for pupils whose parents or legal guardians qualify, based on annual household income, and complete the required application form. Application forms may be obtained through the school site.

NONDISCRIMINATION IN DISTRICT

EC §221.8, CFR Title 34 §106.9, SVUSD Board Policies 0410 & 5145.3

The Governing Board desires to provide a safe school environment that allows all students equal access and opportunities in the district's academic, extracurricular, and other educational support programs, services, and activities. The Board prohibits, at any district school or school activity, unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying, targeted at any student by anyone, based on the student's actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, ethnicity, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

This policy shall apply to all acts related to school activity or to school attendance occurring within a district school, and to acts which occur off campus or outside of school-related or school-sponsored activities but which may have an impact or create a hostile environment at school.

Unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, may result from physical, verbal, nonverbal, or written conduct based on any of the categories listed above. Unlawful discrimination also includes the creation of a hostile environment through prohibited conduct that is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it affects a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity; creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment; has the effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with a student's academic performance; or otherwise adversely affects a student's educational opportunities.

Unlawful discrimination also includes disparate treatment of students based on one of the categories above with respect to the provision of opportunities to participate in school programs or activities or the provision or receipt of educational benefits or services.

The Board also prohibits any form of retaliation against any individual who reports or participates in the reporting of unlawful discrimination, files or participates in the filing of a complaint, or investigates or participates in the investigation of a complaint or report alleging unlawful discrimination. Retaliation complaints shall be investigated and resolved in the same manner as a discrimination complaint.

The Superintendent or designee shall facilitate students' access to the educational program by publicizing the district's nondiscrimination policy and related complaint procedures to students, parents/guardians, and employees. He/she shall provide training and information on the scope and use of the policy and complaint procedures and take other measures designed to increase the school community's understanding of the requirements of law related to discrimination. The Superintendent or designee shall regularly review the implementation of the district's nondiscrimination policies and practices and, as necessary, shall take action to remove any identified barrier to student access to or participation in the district's educational program. He/she shall report his/her findings and recommendations to the Board after each review.

Regardless of whether a complainant complies with the writing, timeline, and/or other formal filing requirements, all complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, shall be investigated and prompt action taken to stop the discrimination, prevent recurrence, and address any continuing effect on students.

Students who engage in unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, in violation of law, Board policy, or administrative regulation shall be subject to appropriate consequence or discipline, which may include suspension or expulsion when the behavior is severe or pervasive as defined in Education Code 48900.4. Any employee who permits or engages in prohibited discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

Record-Keeping

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a record of all reported cases of unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment,

intimidation, or bullying, to enable the district to monitor, address, and prevent repetitive prohibited behavior in district schools.

Coordinator/Compliance Officer (AR 5145.3)

The district designates the individual(s) identified below as the employee(s) responsible for coordinating the district's efforts to comply with applicable state and federal civil rights laws and to answer inquiries regarding the district's nondiscrimination policies. The individual(s) shall also serve as the compliance officer(s) specified in AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures as the responsible employee to handle complaints alleging unlawful discrimination targeting a student, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, based on the student's actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, ethnicity, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, or any other legally protected status or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. The coordinator/compliance officer(s) may be contacted at:

Director of Human Resources
Sonoma Valley Unified School District
17850 Railroad Avenue
Sonoma, CA 95476
(707) 935-6000

Non-discrimination policies also apply to all acts of the governing board and the district superintendent in enacting the local educational agency's policies and procedures.

OPEN MEETINGS: PUBLIC COMMENTS, TRANSLATION

GC §54954.3

The Board of Education of the Sonoma Valley Unified School District allows members of the public who speak a language other than English twice the allotted amount of time at public meetings in order to be provided translation services.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

EC §11503, 20 USC §6318 & SVUSD Board Policy 6020

The Governing Board recognizes that parents/guardians are their children's first and most influential teachers and that sustained parent/guardian involvement in the education of their children contributes greatly to student achievement and a positive school environment. The Superintendent or designee shall work with parents/guardians and family members to jointly develop and agree upon policy and strategies to meaningfully involve parents/guardians and family members in district and school activities at all grade levels; advisory, decision-making, and advocacy roles; and activities to support learning at home.

Parents/guardians shall be notified of their rights to be informed about and to participate in their children's education and of the opportunities available to them to do so.

The district's local control and accountability plan (LCAP) shall include goals and strategies for parent/guardian involvement and family engagement, including district efforts to seek parent/guardian input in district and school site decision making and to promote parent/guardian participation in programs for English learners, foster youth, students eligible for free and reduced-price meals, and students with disabilities.

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly evaluate and report to the Board on the effectiveness of the district's parent/guardian and family engagement efforts, including, but not limited to, input from parents/guardians, family members, and school staff on the adequacy of involvement opportunities and on barriers that may inhibit participation.

Title I Schools

The Superintendent or designee shall involve parents/guardians and family members in establishing district expectations and objectives for meaningful parent/guardian and family engagement in schools supported by Title I funding, developing strategies that describe how the district will carry out each activity listed in 20 USC 6318, as contained in the accompanying administrative regulation, and implementing and evaluating such programs, activities, and procedures. As appropriate, the Superintendent or designee shall conduct outreach to all parents/guardians and family members.

When the district's Title I, Part A allocation exceeds the amount specified in 20 USC 6318, the Board shall reserve at least one percent of the funding to implement parent/guardian and family engagement activities and shall distribute at least 90 percent of those reserved funds to eligible schools, with priority given to high-need schools as defined in 20 USC 6631. The Superintendent or designee shall involve parents/guardians and family members of participating students in decisions regarding how the district's

Title I funds will be allotted for parent/guardian and family engagement activities.

Expenditures of such funds shall be consistent with the activities specified in this policy and shall include at least one of the following:

1. Support for schools and nonprofit organizations in providing professional development for district and school staff regarding parent/guardian and family engagement strategies, which may be provided jointly to teachers, principals, other school leaders, specialized instructional support personnel, paraprofessionals, early childhood educators, and parents/guardians and family members
2. Support for programs that reach parents/guardians and family members at home, in the community, and at school
3. Dissemination of information on best practices focused on parent/guardian and family engagement, especially best practices for increasing the engagement of economically disadvantaged parents/guardians and family members
4. Collaboration, or the provision of subgrants to schools to enable collaboration, with community-based or other organizations or employers with a record of success in improving and increasing parent/guardian and family engagement
5. Any other activities and strategies that the district determines are appropriate and consistent with this policy.

If the district also receives funds under federal Title IV, Part E, to coordinate and enhance family engagement programs, the Superintendent or designee shall inform parents/guardians and organizations of the existence of Title IV.

The district's Board policy and administrative regulation containing parent/guardian and family engagement strategies shall be incorporated into the district's LCAP in accordance with 20 USC 6312.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that each school receiving Title I funds develops a school-level parent/guardian and family engagement policy in accordance with 20 USC 6318.

District and school-level parent/guardian and family engagement policies and administrative regulations shall be distributed to parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs and shall be available to the local community. Parents/guardians shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents/guardians can understand.

Non-Title I Schools

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement strategies applicable to each school that does not receive federal Title I funds to encourage the involvement and support of parents/guardians in the education of their children, including, but not limited to, strategies describing how the district and schools will address the purposes and goals described in Education Code 11502.

PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT – SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY

EC §11500-11503 & SVUSD Board Policy 6171

To participate in the district offerings of parent education and to provide parental input to the local training programs for parents, please contact the District's Educational Services Department at (707) 939-4895 for more information on how you may contribute.

PARENTS OF ENGLISH LEARNERS

EC §51101.1

The district shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that all parents and guardians of pupils who speak a language other than English are properly notified in English and in their home language, pursuant to Section 48985, of the rights and opportunities available to them. Parents and guardians of English learners are entitled to participate in the education of their children pursuant to Section 51101 and as follows:

1. To receive, pursuant to paragraph (5) of subdivision (a) of Section 51101, the results of their child's performance on standardized tests, including the English language development test.
2. To be given any required written notification, under any applicable law, in English and the pupil's home language pursuant to Section 48985.
3. To participate in school and district advisory bodies in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations.
4. To support their children's advancement toward literacy. School personnel shall encourage parents and guardians of English learners to support their child's progress toward literacy both in English and, to the extent possible, in the child's home language. School districts are encouraged to make available, to the extent possible, surplus or undistributed instructional materials to parents and guardians,

- pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 60510, in order to facilitate parental involvement in their children's education.
- To be informed, pursuant to Sections 33126 and 48985, about statewide and local academic standards, testing programs, accountability measures, and school improvement efforts.

PARENT PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

LC §230.8

If the parent's employer has 25 or more employees, the parent must be allowed to attend school meetings and events for your children, up to a maximum of 40 hours each year without discrimination or fear of job loss. Purposes to attend child-related activities include: enrollment in grades 1-12, to address child care or school emergency, behavior or discipline problem that requires immediate parent attention, sudden school closure, or natural disaster. ("Parent" means a parent, guardian, stepparent, foster parent, or grandparent of, or a person who stands in.) If an employer discharges, threatens to discharge, denotes, suspends, or otherwise discriminates against the parent, the employee may be entitled to reinstatement and reimbursement for lost income or benefits. See Labor Code 230.8 for more details or information.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

EC §44050, SVUSD Board Policy 4119.21 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 4119.21

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

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

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

Inappropriate Conduct

Inappropriate employee conduct includes, but is not limited to:

- Engaging in any conduct that endangers students, staff, or others, including, but not limited to, physical violence, threats of violence, or possession of a firearm or other weapon
- Engaging in harassing or discriminatory behavior towards students, parents/guardians, staff, or community members, or failing or refusing to intervene when an act of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying against a student is observed
- Physically abusing, sexually abusing, neglecting, or otherwise willfully harming or injuring a child
- Engaging in inappropriate socialization or fraternization with a student or soliciting, encouraging, or maintaining an inappropriate written, verbal, or physical relationship with a student
- Possessing or viewing any pornography on school grounds, or possessing or viewing child pornography or other imagery portraying children in a sexualized manner at any time
- Using profane, obscene, or abusive language against students, parents/guardians, staff, or community members
- Willfully disrupting district or school operations by loud or unreasonable noise or other action.
- Using tobacco, alcohol, or an illegal or unauthorized substance, or possessing or distributing any controlled substance, while in the workplace or at a school-sponsored activity
- Being dishonest with students, parents/guardians, staff, or members of the public, including, but not limited to, falsifying information in employment records or other school records
- Divulging confidential information about students, district employees, or district operations to persons not authorized to receive the information
- Using district equipment or other district resources for the employee's own commercial purposes or for political activities
- Using district equipment or communications devices for personal purposes while on duty, except in an emergency, during scheduled work breaks, or for personal necessity

Employees shall be notified that computer files and all electronic communications, including, but not limited to, email and voice mail, are not private. To ensure proper use, the Superintendent or designee may monitor employee usage of district technological resources at any time without the employee's consent.

- Causing damage to or engaging in theft of property belonging to students, staff, or the district
- Wearing inappropriate attire

Reports of Misconduct

An employee who observes or has evidence of another employee's inappropriate conduct shall immediately report such conduct to the principal or Superintendent or designee. An employee who has knowledge of or suspects child abuse or neglect shall file a report pursuant to the district's child abuse reporting procedures as detailed in AR 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting.

Any reports of employee misconduct shall be promptly investigated. Any employee who is found to have engaged in inappropriate conduct in violation of law or Board policy shall be subject to disciplinary action and, in the case of a certificated employee, may be subject to a report to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing. The Superintendent or designee shall notify local law enforcement as appropriate.

An employee who has knowledge of but fails to report inappropriate employee conduct may also be subject to discipline.

The district prohibits retaliation against anyone who files a complaint against an employee or reports an employee's inappropriate conduct. Any employee who retaliates against any such complainant, reporter, or other participant in the district's complaint process shall be subject to discipline.

Notifications

The section(s) of the district's employee code of conduct addressing interactions with students shall be provided to parents/guardians at the beginning of each school year and shall be posted on school and/or district websites.

For more information about the District's professional standards or employee conduct, please contact the District's Human Resources Department at (707) 935-6000.

PUPIL RECORDS

EC §49063, EC §49069.7, EC §49070, CFR Title 34 §99.7, USC Title 20 §1232(g), SVUSD Board Policy 5125 & SVUSD Administrative Regulations 5125

A cumulative record, whether recorded by handwriting, print, tapes, film, microfilm or other means, must be maintained on the history of a pupil's development and educational progress. The District will protect the privacy of such records. Parents/guardians have the right to 1) inspect and review the student's educational record maintained by the school, 2) request that a school correct records which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading, and 3) have some control over the disclosure of information from educational records. School officials with legitimate educational interests may access student records without parental consent as long as the official needs to review the records in order to fulfill his/her professional responsibility. Upon request from officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, the District shall disclose educational records without parental consent.

Parents' request to access their student's educational records must be submitted in a written form to the school site and the school will have five (5) business days from the day of receipt of the request to provide access to the records. Copies of student records are available to parents for a fee of \$.10 per page.

Any challenge to school records must be submitted in writing to the school administrator. A parent challenging school records must show that the records are 1) inaccurate, 2) an unsubstantiated personal conclusion or inference, 3) a conclusion or inference outside the observer's area of competence, 4) not based on the personal observation of a named person with the time and place of the observation noted, 5) misleading, or 6) in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student. Parents have the right to file a complaint with the United States Department of Education concerning an alleged failure by the District to comply with the provisions of the United States Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) by writing to: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW, Washington, D.C. 20202-4605.

PUPIL RECORDS OBTAINED FROM SOCIAL MEDIA

EC §49073.6

Other than the school newspaper and yearbook, the school may gather information in the forms of video, photograph, blog, texts, and emails, to maintain school and student safety. All social media information gathered will be destroyed within one year after the student turns 18 years old or one year after the student is no longer enrolled, whichever comes first.

RIGHT TO KNOW PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS OF TEACHERS AND PARAPROFESSIONALS

ESSA Section 1112

In compliance with the requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act, the Sonoma Valley Unified School District would like to inform you that you may request information about the professional qualifications of your student's teacher(s) and/or paraprofessional(s). The following information may be requested:

- Whether the student's teacher –
 - has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
 - is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; and
 - is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher
- Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications

If you wish to request information concerning your child's teacher and/or paraprofessional's qualifications, please contact the District's Human Resources Department at (707) 935-6000.

SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT CARD

EC §35256, EC §35258 & SVUSD Board Policy 0510

Parents may obtain a copy of any school's annual School Accountability Report Card at the district office, each school site, or the district website (www.sonomaschools.org). Each school is required to maintain copies of their individual School Accountability Report Card which shall be provided upon request.

COMPLAINT PROCESS

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

5 CCR 4600 et seq, EC §234.1, EC §32289 & EC §49013
SVUSD Board Policy 1312.3 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 1312.3

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

Complaints Subject to UCP

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

1. Accommodations for pregnant and parenting students
2. Adult education programs
3. After School Education and Safety programs
4. Agricultural career technical education
5. Career technical and technical education and career technical and technical training programs
6. Child care and development programs
7. Compensatory education
8. Consolidated categorical aid programs
9. Course periods without educational content
10. Discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying in district programs and activities, including in those programs or activities funded directly by or that receive or benefit from any state financial assistance, based on a person's actual or perceived characteristics of race or ethnicity, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information, or any other characteristic identified in Education Code 200 or 220, Government Code 11135, or Penal Code 422.55, or based on the person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics

Discrimination includes, but is not limited to, the Board's refusal to approve the use or prohibit the use of any textbook, instructional material, supplemental instructional material, or other curriculum for classroom instruction, or any book or other resource in a school library, on the basis that it includes a study of the role and contributions of any individual or group consistent with the requirements of Education Code 51204.5 and 60040, unless such

study would violate Education Code 51501 or 60044. A complaint alleging such unlawful discrimination may, in addition to or in lieu of being filed with the district, be directly filed with the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI).

11. Educational and graduation requirements for students in foster care, students experiencing homelessness, students from military families, students formerly in a juvenile court school, students who are migratory, and students participating in a newcomer program
12. Every Student Succeeds Act
13. Local control and accountability plan
14. Migrant education
15. Physical education instructional minutes
16. Student fees
17. Reasonable accommodations to a lactating student
18. Regional occupational centers and programs
19. School plans for student achievement as required for the consolidated application for specified federal and/or state categorical funding
20. School site councils as required for the consolidated application for specified federal and/or state categorical funding
21. State preschool programs
22. State preschool health and safety issues in license-exempt programs
23. Any complaint alleging retaliation against a complainant or other participant in the complaint process or anyone who has acted to uncover or report a violation subject to this policy
24. Any other state or federal educational program the SPI or designee deems appropriate

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

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

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

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

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

Non-UCP Complaints

The following complaints shall not be subject to the district's UCP but shall be investigated and resolved by the specified agency or through an alternative process:

1. Any complaint alleging child abuse or neglect shall be referred to the County Department of Social Services Protective Services Division or the appropriate law enforcement agency.
2. Any complaint alleging health and safety violations by a child development program shall, for licensed facilities, be referred to Department of Social Services.
3. Any complaint alleging that a student, while in an education program or activity in which the district exercises substantial control over the context and respondent, was subjected to sexual harassment as defined in 34 CFR 106.30 shall be addressed through the federal Title IX complaint procedures adopted pursuant to 34 CFR 106.44-106.45, as specified in Administrative Regulation 5145.71 - Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures.
4. Any complaint alleging employment discrimination or harassment shall be investigated and resolved by the district in accordance with the procedures specified in Administrative Regulation 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment, including the right to file the complaint with the California Civil Rights Department.

5. Any complaint alleging a violation of a state or federal law or regulation related to special education, a settlement agreement related to the provision of a free appropriate public education (FAPE), failure or refusal to implement a due process hearing order to which the district is subject, or a physical safety concern that interferes with the district's provision of FAPE shall be submitted to the California Department of Education (CDE) in accordance with Administrative Regulation 6159.1 - Procedural Safeguards and Complaints for Special Education.
6. Any complaint alleging noncompliance of the district's food service program with laws regarding meal counting and claiming, reimbursable meals, eligibility of children or adults, or use of cafeteria funds and allowable expenses shall be filed with or referred to CDE in accordance with Board Policy 3555 - Nutrition Program Compliance.
7. Any allegation of discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in the district's food service program shall be filed with or referred to the U.S. Department of Agriculture in accordance with Board Policy 3555 - Nutrition Program Compliance.
8. Any complaint related to sufficiency of textbooks or instructional materials, emergency or urgent facilities conditions that pose a threat to the health or safety of students or staff, or teacher vacancies and misassignments shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with Administrative Regulation 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures.

Compliance Officers

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

Director of Human Resources
Sonoma Valley Unified School District
17850 Railroad Avenue
Sonoma, CA 95476
(707) 935-6008

WILLIAMS LAWSUIT SETTLEMENT COMPLIANCE

EC §35186 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 1312.4

Pursuant to Education Code 35186, you are hereby notified that:

1. There should be sufficient textbooks and instructional materials. That means each student, including an English learner, must have a textbook or instructional materials, or both, to use in class and to take home.
2. School facilities must be clean, safe, and maintained in good repair.
3. There should be no teacher vacancies or misassignments. There should be a teacher assigned to each class and not a series of substitutes or other temporary teachers. The teacher should have the proper credential to teach the class, including the certification required to teach English learners, if present.

Misassignment means the placement of a certificated employee in a teaching or services position for which the employee does not hold a legally recognized certificate or credential or the placement of a certificated employee in a teaching or services position that the employee is not otherwise authorized by statute to hold.

Teacher vacancy means a position to which a single designated certificated employee has not been assigned at the beginning of the year for an entire year or, if the position is for a one-semester course, a position to which a single designated certificated employee has not been assigned at the beginning of a semester for an entire semester.

If you choose to file a complaint alleging that any of the above conditions is not being met, your complaint will be addressed through the district's Williams uniform complaint procedures as required by law. A complaint form may be obtained at the school office or district office, or downloaded from the school or district web site. You may also download a copy of the California Department of Education complaint form from the following web site: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cp/uc>.

However, a complaint need not be filed using either the district's complaint form or the complaint form from the California Department of Education.

STUDENT ACCEPTABLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY POLICY

One of the adopted goals of the Sonoma Valley Unified School District is to assist in advancing the use of technology to enhance student learning. Access to School District technology is a privilege, not a right, and students enrolled in District programs or activities must follow District

guidelines and procedures regarding acceptable use of technology. All Sonoma Valley Unified School District students and their parents/guardians shall sign the Acceptable Use of Technology Agreement prior to using District technological resources. The Sonoma Valley School District shall make a diligent effort to filter the inappropriate or harmful matter accessible through the Internet, and students shall also take responsibility not to initiate access to inappropriate or harmful matter while using District technology. Violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action and the loss of the privilege to use the technology and/or civil or criminal liability.

CALIFORNIA EDUCATION CODES

PARENT/GUARDIAN RIGHTS

EC §51101, EC §51102 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 5020

The rights of parents/guardians of district students include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. To observe, within a reasonable period of time after making the request, the classroom(s) in which their child is enrolled or for the purpose of selecting the school in which their child will be enrolled (EC §51101)
Parents/guardians may observe instructional and other school activities that involve their child in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulations adopted to ensure the safety of students and staff, prevent undue interference with instruction or harassment of school staff, and provide reasonable accommodation to parents/guardians. Upon written request by a parent/guardian, the Superintendent or designee shall arrange for parental observation of a class or activity in a reasonable time frame and in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulations. (EC §49091.10)
2. To meet, within a reasonable time of their request, with their child's teacher(s) and the principal (EC §51101)
3. Under the supervision of district employees, to volunteer their time and resources for the improvement of school facilities and school programs, including, but not limited to, providing assistance in the classroom with the approval, and under the direct supervision, of the teacher (EC §51101)
4. To be notified on a timely basis if their child is absent from school without permission (EC §51101)
5. To receive the results of their child's performance and the school's performance on standardized tests and statewide tests (EC §51101)
For parents/guardians of English learners, this right shall include the right to receive the results of their child's performance on the English language development test. (EC §51101.1)
6. To request a particular school for their child and to receive a response from the district (EC §51101)
7. To have a school environment for their child that is safe and supportive of learning (EC §51101)
8. To examine the curriculum materials of the class(es) in which their child is enrolled (EC §51101; 20 USC 1232h)
Parents/guardians may inspect, in a reasonable time frame, all primary supplemental instructional materials and assessments stored by the classroom teacher, including textbooks, teacher's manuals, films, tapes and software. (EC §49091.10)
Each school site shall make available to parents/guardians and others, upon request, a copy of the prospectus for each course, including the titles, descriptions and instructional aims of the course. (EC §49091.14)
The school may charge an amount not to exceed the cost of duplication. (EC §49091.14)
9. To be informed of their child's progress in school and of the appropriate school personnel whom they should contact if problems arise with their child (EC §51101)
10. For parents/guardians of English learners, to support their child's advancement toward literacy (EC §51101.1)
The Superintendent or designee may make available, to the extent possible, surplus or undistributed instructional materials to parents/guardians pursuant to Education Code §60510. (EC §51101.1)
11. For parents/guardians of English learners, to be informed, through the school accountability report card, about statewide and local academic standards, testing programs, accountability measures and school improvement efforts (EC §51101.1)
12. To have access to the school records of their child (EC §51101)
13. To receive information concerning the academic performance standards, proficiencies or skills their child is expected to accomplish (EC §51101)
14. To be informed in advance about school rules, including disciplinary rules and procedures in accordance with Education Code §48980, attendance policies, dress codes and procedures for visiting the school (EC §51101)

15. To be notified, as early in the school year as practicable pursuant to Education Code §48070.5, if their child is identified as being at risk of retention and of their right to consult with school personnel responsible for a decision to promote or retain their child and to appeal such a decision (EC §51101)
16. To receive information about any psychological testing the school does involving their child and to deny permission to give the test (EC §51101)
17. To refuse to submit or to participate in any assessment, analysis, evaluation or monitoring of the quality or character of the student's home life, any form of parental screening or testing, any nonacademic home-based counseling program, parent training, or any prescribed family education service plan and to inspect any survey collecting personal information (EC §49091.18; 20 USC 1232h)
18. To participate as a member of a parent advisory committee, school site council or site-based management leadership team in accordance with any rules and regulations governing membership in these organizations (EC §51101)
For parents/guardians of English learners, this right shall include the right to participate in school and district advisory bodies in accordance with federal and state law and regulations. (EC §51101.1)
19. To question anything in their child's record that the parent/guardian feels is inaccurate or misleading or is an invasion of privacy and to receive a response from the school (EC §51101)
20. To provide informed, written parental consent before their child is tested for a behavioral, mental or emotional evaluation. A general consent, including medical consent used to approve admission to or involvement in a special education or remedial program or regular school activity, shall not constitute written consent for these purposes. (EC §49091.12)

Parent Responsibilities

Parents/guardians may support the learning environment of their child by: (EC §51101)

1. Monitoring attendance of their child
2. Ensuring that homework is completed and turned in on time
3. Encouraging their child to participate in extracurricular and co-curricular activities
4. Monitoring and regulating the television viewed by their child
5. Working with their child at home in learning activities that extend the classroom learning
6. Volunteering in their child's classroom(s) or for other school activities
7. Participating in decisions related to the education of their own child or the total school program as appropriate.
8. Providing a home environment for their child that is safe and support of learning

GROUNDINGS FOR SUSPENSION & EXPULSION

EC §48900, EC §48915

SVUSD Board Policy 5144.1 & SVUSD Administrative Regulation 5144.1

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

- (a)(1) Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person.
- (2) Willfully used force or violence upon the person of another, except in self-defense.
- (b) Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished a firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object unless, in the case of possession of an object of this type, the pupil had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, which is concurred in by the principal or the designee of the principal.
- (c) Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, or otherwise furnished, or been under the influence of, a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind.
- (d) Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 110535) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind, and either sold, delivered, or otherwise furnished to a person another liquid, substance, or material and represented the liquid, substance, or material as a controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant.
- (e) Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.
- (f) Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property.
- (g) Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property.
- (h) Possessed or used tobacco, or products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew

- packets, and betel. However, this section does not prohibit the use or possession by a pupil of his or her own prescription products.
- (i) Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.
 - (j) Unlawfully possessed or unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell drug paraphernalia, as defined in Section 11014.5 of the Health and Safety Code.
 - (k)(1) Disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties.
 - (2) Except as provided in Section 48910, a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 5, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts specified in paragraph (1), and those acts shall not constitute grounds for a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to be recommended for expulsion.
 - (3) Except as provided in Section 48910, commencing July 1, 2020, a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 5, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts specified in paragraph (1), and those acts shall not constitute grounds for a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to be recommended for expulsion.
 - (4) Except as provided in Section 48910, a pupil enrolled in any of grades 6 to 8, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts specified in paragraph (1). This paragraph is inoperative on July 1, 2029.
 - (5) (A) A certificated or classified employee may refer a pupil to school administrators for appropriate and timely in-school interventions or supports from the list of other means of correction specified in subdivision (b) of Section 48900.5 for any of the acts enumerated in paragraph (1).
 - (B) A school administrator shall, within five business days, document the actions taken pursuant to subparagraph (A) and place that documentation in the pupil's record to be available for access, to the extent permissible under state and federal law, pursuant to Section 49069.7. The school administrator shall, by the end of the fifth business day, also inform the referring certificated or classified employee, verbally or in writing, what actions were taken and, if none, the rationale used for not providing any appropriate or timely in-school interventions or supports.
 - (l) Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.
 - (m) Possessed an imitation firearm. As used in this section, "imitation firearm" means a replica of a firearm that is so substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm.
 - (n) Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault as defined in Section 261, 266c, 286, 288, 288a, or 289 of the Penal Code or committed a sexual battery as defined in Section 243.4 of the Penal Code.
 - (o) Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a pupil who is a complaining witness or a witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for purposes of either preventing that pupil from being a witness or retaliating against that pupil for being a witness, or both.
 - (p) Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma.
 - (q) Engaged in, or attempted to engage in, hazing. For purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" means a method of initiation or pre-initiation into a pupil organization or body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution, that is likely to cause serious bodily injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to a former, current, or prospective pupil. For purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" does not include athletic events or school-sanctioned events.
 - (r) Engaged in an act of bullying. For purposes of this subdivision, the following terms have the following meanings:
 - (1) "Bullying: means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, and including one or more acts committed by a pupil or group of pupils as defined in Section 48900.2, 48900.3, or 48900.4, directed toward one or more pupils that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:
 - (A) Placing a reasonable pupil or pupils in fear of harm to that pupil's or those pupils' person or property.
 - (B) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience a substantially detrimental effect on his or her physical or mental health.
 - (C) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with his or her academic performance.

- (D) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with his or her ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.
- (2) (A) "Electronic act" means the creation or transmission originated on or off the school site, by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager of a communication, including, but not limited to any of the following:
- (i) A message, text, sound, video or image.
 - (ii) A post on a social network Internet website, including, but not limited to:
 - (I) Posting to or creating a burn page. "Burn page" means an Internet website created for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1).
 - (II) Creating a credible impersonation of another actual pupil for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1). "Credible impersonation" means to knowingly and without consent impersonate a pupil for the purpose of bullying the pupil and such that another pupil would reasonably believe, or has reasonably believed, that the pupil was or is the pupil who was impersonated.
 - (III) Creating a false profile for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1). "False profile" means a profile of a fictitious pupil or a profile using the likeness or attributes of an actual pupil other than the pupil who created the false profile.
 - (iii) (I) An act of cyber sexual bullying.
 - (II) For purposes of this clause, "cyber sexual bullying" means the dissemination of, or the solicitation or incitement to disseminate, a photograph or other visual recording by a pupil to another pupil or to school personnel by means of an electronic act that has or can be reasonably predicted to have one or more of the effects described in subparagraphs (A) to (D), inclusive, of paragraph (1). A photograph or other visual recording, as described above, shall include the depiction of a nude, semi-nude, or sexually explicit photograph or other visual recording of a minor where the minor is identifiable from the photograph, visual recording, or other electronic act.
 - (III) For purposes of this clause, "cyber sexual bullying" does not include a depiction, portrayal, or image that has any serious literary, artistic, educational, political, or scientific value or that involves athletic events or school-sanctioned activities.
- (B) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) and subparagraph (A), an electronic act shall not constitute pervasive conduct solely on the basis that it has been transmitted on the Internet or is currently posted on the Internet.
- (3) "Reasonable pupil" means a pupil, including, but not limited to, an exceptional needs pupil, who exercises average care, skill, and judgment in conduct for a person of his or her age, or for a person of his or her age with his or her exceptional needs.
- (s) A pupil shall not be suspended or expelled for any of the acts enumerated in this section unless the act is related to a school activity or school attendance occurring within a school under the jurisdiction of the superintendent of the school district or principal or occurring within any other school district. A pupil may be suspended or expelled for acts that are enumerated in this section and related to a school activity or school attendance that occur at any time, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
- (1) While on school grounds.
 - (2) While going to or coming from school.
 - (3) During the lunch period, whether on or off the campus.
 - (4) During, or while going to, or coming from, a school-sponsored activity.
- (t) A pupil who aids or abets, as defined in Section 31 of the Penal Code, the infliction or attempted infliction of physical injury to another person may be subject to suspension, but not expulsion, pursuant to this section, except that a pupil who has been adjudged by a juvenile court to have committed, as an aider and abettor, a crime of physical violence in which the victim suffered great bodily injury or serious bodily injury shall be subject to discipline pursuant to subdivision (a).

- (u) As used in this section, "school property" includes, but is not limited to, electronic files and databases.
- (v) For a pupil subject to discipline under this section, a superintendent of the school district or principal may use his or her discretion to provide alternatives to suspension or expulsion that are age appropriate and designed to address and correct the pupil's specific misbehavior as specified in Section 48900.5.
- (w) (1) A suspension or expulsion shall not be imposed against a pupil based solely on the fact that they are truant, tardy, or otherwise absent from school activities.
- (2) It is further the intent of the Legislature that the Multi-Tiered System of Supports, which includes restorative justice practices, trauma-informed practices, social and emotional learning, and schoolwide positive behavior interventions and support, may be used to help pupils gain critical social and emotional skills, receive support to help transform trauma-related responses, understand the impact of their actions, and develop meaningful methods for repairing harm to the school community.

HATE VIOLENCE

EC §48900.3

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

HARASSMENT, THREATS OR INTIMIDATION

EC §48900.4

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

LIMITATIONS ON IMPOSING SUSPENSION

EC §48900.5

- (a) Suspension, including supervised suspension as described in Section 48911.1, shall be imposed only when other means of correction fail to bring about proper conduct. A school district may document the other means of correction used and place that documentation in the pupil's record, which may be accessed pursuant to Section 49069.7. However, a pupil, including an individual with exceptional needs, as defined in Section 56026, may be suspended, subject to Section 1415 of Title 20 of the United States Code, for any of the reasons enumerated in Section 48900 upon a first offense, if the principal or superintendent of schools determines that the pupil violated subdivision (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) of Section 48900 or that the pupil's presence causes a danger to persons.
- (b) Other means of correction include, but are not limited to, the following:
- (1) A conference between school personnel, the pupil's parent or guardian, and the pupil.
 - (2) Referrals to the school counselor, psychologist, social worker, child welfare attendance personnel, or other school support service personnel for case management and counseling.
 - (3) Study teams, guidance teams, resource panel teams, or other intervention-related teams that assess the behavior, and develop and implement individualized plans to address the behavior in partnership with the pupil and the pupil's parents.
 - (4) Referral for a comprehensive psychosocial or psychoeducational assessment, including for purposes of creating an individualized education program, or a plan adopted pursuant to Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Sec. 794(a)).
 - (5) Enrollment in a program for teaching prosocial behavior or anger management.
 - (6) Participation in a restorative justice program.
 - (7) A positive behavior support approach with tiered interventions that occur during the schoolday on campus.
 - (8) After school programs that address specific behavioral issues or expose pupils to positive activities and behaviors, including, but

not limited to, those operated in collaboration with local parent and community groups.

- (9) Any of the alternatives described in Section 48900.6.
- (c) For a pupil who has been suspended, or for whom other means of correction have been implemented pursuant to subdivision (b), for an incident of racist bullying, harassment, or intimidation, local educational agencies are encouraged to have both the victim and perpetrator engage in a restorative justice practice that is found to suit the needs of both the victim and the perpetrator. Local educational agencies are encouraged to regularly check on the victim of racist bullying, harassment, or intimidation to ensure that the victim is not in danger of suffering from long-lasting mental health issues. Local educational agencies are encouraged to require perpetrators to engage in culturally sensitive programs that promote racial justice and equity and combat racism and ignorance.

TERRORISTIC THREATS

EC §48900.7

- (a) In addition to the reasons specified in Sections 48900, 48900.2, 48900.3, and 48900.4, a pupil may be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion if the superintendent or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has made terroristic threats against school officials or school property, or both.
- (b) For the purposes of this section, "terroristic threat" shall include any statement, whether written or oral, by a person who willfully threatens to commit a crime which will result in death, great bodily injury to another person, or property damage in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), with the specific intent that the statement is to be taken as a threat, even if there is no intent of actually carrying it out, which, on its face and under the circumstances in which it is made, is so unequivocal, unconditional, immediate, and specific as to convey to the person threatened, a gravity of purpose and an immediate prospect of execution of the threat, and thereby causes that person reasonably to be in sustained fear for his or her own safety or for his or her immediate family's safety, or for the protection of school district property, or the personal property of the person threatened or his or her immediate family.

CIRCUMSTANCES FOR RECOMMENDING EXPULSION

EC §48915

- (a)(1) Except as provided in subdivisions (c) and (e), the principal or the superintendent of schools shall recommend the expulsion of a pupil for any of the following acts committed at school or at a school activity off school grounds, unless the principal or superintendent determines that expulsion should not be recommended under the circumstances or that an alternative means of correction would address the conduct:
- Causing serious physical injury to another person, except in self-defense.
 - Possession of any knife or other dangerous object of no reasonable use to the pupil.
 - Unlawful possession of any controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, except for either of the following:
 - The first offense for the possession of not more than one avoirdupois ounce of marijuana, other than concentrated cannabis.
 - The possession of over-the-counter medication for use by the pupil for medical purposes or medication prescribed for the pupil by a physician.
 - Robbery or extortion.
 - Assault or battery, as defined in Sections 240 and 242 of the Penal Code, upon any school employee.
- (2) If the principal or the superintendent of schools makes a determination as described in paragraph (1), he or she is encouraged to do so as quickly as possible to ensure that the pupil does not lose instructional time.
- (b) Upon recommendation by the principal or the superintendent of schools, or by a hearing officer or administrative panel appointed pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 48918, the governing board of a school district may order a pupil expelled upon finding that the pupil committed an act listed in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) or in subdivision (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) of Section 48900. A decision to expel a pupil for any of those acts shall be based on a finding of one or both of the following:
- Other means of correction are not feasible or have repeatedly failed to bring about proper conduct.
 - Due to the nature of the act, the presence of the pupil causes a continuing danger to the physical safety of the pupil or others.
- (c) The principal or superintendent of schools shall immediately suspend, pursuant to Section 48911, and shall recommend expulsion of a pupil that he or she determines has committed any of the following acts at school or at a school activity off school grounds:
- Possessing, selling, or otherwise furnishing a firearm. This subdivision does not apply to an act of possessing a firearm if the pupil had obtained prior written permission to possess the firearm from a certificated school employee, which is concurred in by the principal or the designee of the principal. This subdivision applies to an act of possessing a firearm only if the possession is verified by an employee of a school district. The act of possessing an imitation firearm, as defined in subdivision (m) of Section 48900, is not an offense for which suspension or expulsion is mandatory pursuant to this subdivision and subdivision (d), but it is an offense for which suspension, or expulsion pursuant to subdivision (e), may be imposed.
 - Brandishing a knife at another person.
 - Unlawfully selling a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code.
 - Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 48900 or committing a sexual battery as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 48900.
 - Possession of an explosive.
 - The governing board of a school district shall order a pupil expelled upon finding that the pupil committed an act listed in subdivision (c), and shall refer that pupil to a program of study that meets all of the following conditions:
 - Is appropriately prepared to accommodate pupils who exhibit discipline problems.
 - Is not provided at a comprehensive middle, junior, or senior high school, or at any elementary school.
 - Is not housed at the schoolsite attended by the pupil at the time of suspension.
 - Upon recommendation by the principal or the superintendent of schools, or by a hearing officer or administrative panel appointed pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 48918, the governing board of a school district may order a pupil expelled upon finding that the pupil, at school or at a school activity off of school grounds violated subdivision (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), or (m) of Section 48900, or Section 48900.2, 48900.3, or 48900.4, and either of the following:
 - That other means of correction are not feasible or have repeatedly failed to bring about proper conduct.
 - That due to the nature of the violation, the presence of the pupil causes a continuing danger to the physical safety of the pupil or others.
 - The governing board of a school district shall refer a pupil who has been expelled pursuant to subdivision (b) or (e) to a program of study that meets all of the conditions specified in subdivision (d). Notwithstanding this subdivision, with respect to a pupil expelled pursuant to subdivision (e), if the county superintendent of schools certifies that an alternative program of study is not available at a site away from a comprehensive middle, junior, or senior high school, or an elementary school, and that the only option for placement is at another comprehensive middle, junior, or senior high school, or another elementary school, the pupil may be referred to a program of study that is provided at a comprehensive middle, junior, or senior high school, or at an elementary school.
 - As used in this section, "knife" means any dirk, dagger, or other weapon with a fixed, sharpened blade fitted primarily for stabbing, a weapon with a blade fitted primarily for stabbing, a weapon with a blade longer than 3 1/2 inches, a folding knife with a blade that locks into place, or a razor with an unguarded blade.
 - As used in this section, the term "explosive" means "destructive device" as described in Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code.