



Acalanes Union High School District

2020-21 Notice to Parents

REGARDING FEDERAL LAWS AND EDUCATION CODE EXCERPTS RELATING TO RIGHTS OF PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF MINOR PUPILS

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Section 48980 of the Education Code of California requires that notice be given at the beginning of the first semester or quarter of the regular school term to the parent or guardian of the minor pupils in the school district regarding the rights of the parent or guardian under sections 32390, 35291, 46014, 48205, 48207, 48208, 49403, 49423, 49451, 49472, 51938, Chapter 2.3 (commencing with section 32255) of Part 19, and notice of the availability of the program prescribed by Article 9 (commencing with section 49510) of Chapter 9 and of the availability of individualized instruction under section 48206.3. Your acknowledgement of receipt of this notice is required but does not indicate that consent to participate in any particular program has either been given or withheld.

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

Please note that underlined headings are hyperlinked to documents found on the Acalanes Union High School District's or other agencies' websites.

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



STUDENT DISCIPLINE

RULES AND PROCEDURES ON SCHOOL DISCIPLINE (EC §35291): Rules pertaining to student discipline, including those that govern suspension or expulsion, are set forth in Education Code Sections 48900 and following, and are available upon request from the school. In addition, the following disciplinary information is provided to parents:

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

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

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

OFF CAMPUS TECHNOLOGY MISUSE (EC §48900(r)): Students may be subject to discipline for off-campus misconduct if the misconduct is related to school activity or attendance and causes or is reasonably likely to cause a substantial disruption to school activity. For example, a student using technology such as a home computer, cellular phone or other electronic device may be disciplined for bullying, engaging in unlawful harassment, or making threats against students, staff, or district property even if such misconduct occurred off-campus and during non-school hours.

PROPERTY DAMAGE (EC §48904): Parents or guardians may be held financially liable if their child willfully damages school property or fails to return school property loaned to the child. The school may further withhold the grades, diploma, and transcript of the pupil until restitution is paid.

MANDATORY EXPULSION VIOLATIONS (EC §48915): Schools shall immediately suspend and recommend expulsion for students that commit any of the following acts at school or at a school activity off school grounds:

1. Possessing, selling, or otherwise furnishing a firearm.
2. Brandishing a knife at another person.
3. Unlawfully selling a controlled substance.
4. Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault.
5. Possession of an explosive.

The school board shall order the student expelled upon finding that the student committed the act.

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

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

SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY (EC §231.5; 5 CCR §4917): Each district is required to have adopted a written policy on sexual harassment and to display such policies in a prominent location and include it in orientation for employees and students.

CIVILITY ON SCHOOL GROUNDS (EC §32210): Any person who willfully disturbs any public school or any public school meeting is guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500).

It is unlawful for any person, except a parent/guardian acting toward his/her minor child, to intentionally or to attempt to injure, intimidate, interfere by force, threat of force, physical obstruction, or nonviolent physical obstruction with any person attempting to enter or exit any public or private school grounds.

ELECTRONIC LISTENING OR RECORDING DEVICE (EC §51512): The use by any person, including a pupil, of any electronic listening or recording device in any classroom without the prior consent of the teacher and the principal is prohibited as it disrupts and impairs the teaching process and discipline in the schools. Any person, other than the pupil, willfully in violation shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Any pupil in violation shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

DANGEROUS OBJECTS (PC 417.27, 12550, and 12556): It is a crime for any student to possess a laser pointer on any elementary or secondary school premise, unless the possession is for a valid instructional or other school-related purpose.

A BB device can be considered an imitation firearm. The Penal Code makes it a criminal offense to openly display or expose any imitation firearm in a public place, including a public school.

SEARCH OF SCHOOL LOCKERS: School lockers remain the property of the Acalanes Union High School District, even when assigned to students. Lockers are subject to search whenever the District finds a need to do so. The use of school lockers for other than school-related purposes is prohibited. Improper use of school lockers will result in disciplinary action.

SCHOOL RECORDS AND ACHIEVEMENT

SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT CARD (EC §35256, §35258):

Districts are to make a concerted effort to notify parents of the purpose of school accountability report cards, and ensure that all parents receive a copy.

PUPIL RECORDS / NOTICE OF PRIVACY RIGHTS OF PARENTS AND STUDENTS (EC §49063 §49069, §49073, 34 CFR 99.30, 34 CFR 99.34, 34 CFR 99.7, and the Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 USC 1232g): Federal and state laws concerning student records grant certain rights of privacy and right of access to students and to their parents. Full access to all personally identifiable written records maintained by the school district must be granted to: (1) Parents of students 17 and younger; (2) Parents of students age 18 and older if the student is a dependent for tax purposes; (3) Students age 18 and older, or students who are enrolled in an institution of postsecondary instruction (called "eligible students").

Parents, or an eligible student, may review individual records by making a request to the principal. The principal will see that explanation and interpretations are provided if requested. Information that is alleged to be inaccurate or inappropriate may be removed upon request. In addition, parents or eligible students may receive a copy of any information in the records at reasonable cost per page within 5 days of the request. District policies and procedures relating to: location of, and types of, records; kinds of information retained; persons responsible for records; directory information; access by other persons; review; and challenge of records are available through the principal at each school. When a student moves to a new district, records will be forwarded upon the request of the new school district. At the time of transfer the parent or eligible student may review, receive a copy (at a reasonable fee), and/or challenge the records. If you believe the district is not in compliance with federal regulations regarding privacy, you may file a complaint with the United States Department of Education (20 USC §1232g).

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

In addition, the Student Aid Commission may have access to the grade point average (GPA) of all district students in grade 12 and, when required, verification of high school graduation or its equivalent of all students who graduated in the prior academic year, for use in the Cal Grant postsecondary financial aid program. However, such information shall not be submitted when a student, or his or her parent or guardian if the student is under 18 years of age, "opts out" or is permitted by the rules of the Student Aid Commission to provide test scores in lieu of his or her GPA. (EC §§ 69432.9, 69432.92) No later than January 1 each year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify each student in grade 11, and the student's parents/guardians if the student is under 18 years of age, that the student's GPA will be forwarded to the Student Aid Commission by October 1 unless the student opts out within a period of time specified in the notice, which shall not be less than 30 days. (EC § 69432.9)

PUPIL RECORDS OBTAINED FROM SOCIAL MEDIA (EC, §49073.6): Requires a school district, county office of education, or charter school that considers a program to gather or maintain in its records any information obtained from social media, as defined, of any enrolled pupil to first notify pupils and their parents/guardians about the proposed program, and to provide an opportunity for public comment at a regularly scheduled public meeting of the governing board before the adoption of the program.

Once a program is adopted, the following information must be provided to parents/guardians as part of the annual notification:

1. Definition of "social media."
2. Assurance that the information gathered or maintained pertains directly to school or pupil safety.
3. An explanation of the process by which a pupil or a pupil's parent/guardian may access the pupil's records for examination of the information gathered or maintained.
4. An explanation of the process by which a pupil or a pupil's parent/guardian may request the removal of information or make corrections to information gathered or maintained.
5. Notice that the information gathered and maintained shall be destroyed within one year after a pupil turns 18 years of age or within one year after the pupil is no longer enrolled, whichever occurs first.

RELEASE OF PUPIL DIRECTORY INFORMATION (EC §49063, §49073, 20 USC 1232g, 34 CFR 99.37): The district also makes student directory information available in accordance with state and federal laws. This means that each student's name, birth date, birthplace, address, email address, telephone number, major course of study, participation in school activities, dates of attendance, awards, and previous school attendance may be released in accordance with board policy. In addition, height and weight of athletes may be made available. Appropriate directory information may be provided to any agency or person except private, profit-making organizations (other than employers, potential employers or the news media). Names and addresses of seniors or terminating students may be given to public or private schools and colleges. Parents and eligible students will be notified prior to the destruction of any special education records. You have the right to inspect a survey or other instrument to be administered or distributed to your child that either collects personal information for marketing or sale or requests

information about beliefs and practices and any instructional material to be used as part of your child's educational curriculum. Please contact your child's school if you wish to inspect such a survey or other instrument.

Upon written request from the parent of a student age 17 or younger, the district will withhold directory information about the student. If the student is 18 or older or enrolled in an institution of postsecondary instruction and makes a written request, the student's request to deny access to directory information will be honored. Requests must be submitted within 30 calendar days of the receipt of this notification.

RELEASE OF INFO TO MILITARY SERVICES REPS / RELEASE OF TELEPHONE NUMBERS (EC §49073.5; 20 USC §7908(a)(2)): Parents of secondary students may request in writing that the student's name, address, and telephone listing not be released to armed forces recruiters without prior written parental consent.

CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL EXIT EXAM (EC §60840) The California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) has been suspended for any pupils completing grade 12 through the 2017-18 school years. All schools, including state special schools, are to grant a diploma of graduation from high school to any pupil who completed grade 12 in the 2003-04 school year or a subsequent school year and has met all applicable graduation requirements other than the passage of the high school exit examination.

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

RELEASE OF JUVENILE INFORMATION (WIC 831): Juvenile information may not be released to federal officials unless there is a petition filed with the courts. Federal officials may also not release information to anyone without a court order. In addition, juvenile court must approve any attachments to any documents containing protected juvenile information, including the case file and personal information.

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

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

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS (EC §49076.7 and 56601): Prohibits a local educational agency from collecting or soliciting social security numbers or the last four digits of social security numbers from students or their parents.

SURVEYS (EC §51513): Anonymous, voluntary and confidential research and evaluation tools to measure student's health behaviors and risks, including tests, questionnaires, and surveys containing age-appropriate questions about the student's attitudes and practices relating to sex, family life, morality, and religion may be administered to students if the parent is notified in writing that 1) this test, questionnaire, or survey is to be administered, 2) the student's parent is given the opportunity to review the test, questionnaire, or survey, and 3) the parent's consent in writing.

ATHLETICS

THE ERIC PAREDES SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST PREVENTION ACT (EC §33479): Each school year before starting California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) activities and non CIF activities, the school shall collect and retain a copy of sudden cardiac arrest information acknowledgement from a parent or guardian. A school may hold an informational meeting before the start of the season for all ages of competitors regarding the warning signs including pupils, parents, coaches, school officials, athletic trainers, and authorized persons. A pupil who passes out or faints while participating or immediately following athletic activity, shall be removed by athletic director, coach, trainer, or authorized person. In the absence of an athletic trainer, a coach shall notify parent to determine what treatment, if any, the pupil should seek. A pupil who is removed shall not be permitted to return until evaluated and cleared by a physician. This does not apply to physical education activities during the regular school day.

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, charter school, or private school that elects to offer an athletic program

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. If the licensed health care provider determines the athlete has a concussion or head injury, the athlete can also complete a graduated return-to-play protocol of no less than 7 days in duration under the supervision of 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 initiates 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.

HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR ATHLETES (EC §32221.5): 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.

COMPETITIVE ATHLETICS (EC §221.9): Each public secondary and charter school that offers competitive athletics shall publicly make available at the end of the school year all of 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. If the school does not maintain its own website, the school can submit the information to its school district to have the information posted on the district's or operator's website; the information shall be disaggregated by school site.

"Competitive athletics" means sports where the activity has coaches, a governing organization, and practices, completes during a defined season, and has competition as its primary goal.

HEALTH SERVICES

IMMUNIZATIONS (HSC 120325, 120335, 120338, 120365, 120370, and 120375): Students must be immunized against certain communicable diseases. Students are prohibited from attending school unless immunization requirements are met for age and grade. The school district shall cooperate with local health officials in measures necessary for the prevention and control of communicable disease in school age children. The district may use any funds, property, or personnel and may permit any person licensed as a physician or registered nurse to administer an immunization agent to any student whose parents have consented in writing.

Students are not required to have immunizations if they attend a home-based private school or an independent study program and do not receive classroom-based instruction. However, parents must continue to provide immunizations records for these students to their schools.

The immunization requirements do not prohibit students from accessing special education and related services required by their individualized education programs (IEP).

A student not fully immunized may be temporarily excluded from a school or other institution when that child has been exposed to a specified disease and whose documentary proof of immunization status does not show proof of immunization against one of the communicable diseases described above.

State law requires the following immunizations before a child may attend school: All new students, in transitional kindergarten through grade 12, to the Acalanes Union High School District must provide proof of polio, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella immunizations.

Free or low-cost immunizations for children are available at <https://www.acalanes.k12.ca.us/healthinsurance>.

To discuss a medical exemption or personal beliefs exemption for your student, contact [Amy McNamara](#), at (925) 280-3900 x 6622.

PREGNANT AND PARENTING PUPILS (EC §222.5, §46015): All schools are required to provide parents and guardians with annual written notice of pregnant and parenting pupils. Pregnant and parenting pupils are entitled to accommodations that provide them with the opportunity to succeed academically while protecting their health and the health of their children. "Pregnant or parent pupil" means a pupil who identifies as the parent of the infant.

A pregnant or parenting pupil is entitled to, but not required to take, eight weeks of parental leave. This leave may be taken before the birth of the pupil's infant if there is a medical necessity and/or after childbirth during the school year in which the birth takes place, inclusive of any mandatory summer instruction. A pregnant or parenting pupil is entitled to additional leave if deemed medically necessary by the student's physician.

The person holding the student's educational rights (i.e. the pupil if over 18 or the parent if under 18) may notify the school of the student's intent to exercise this right. Leave may still be taken even if notice was not provided.

During the leave, the student's absences shall be deemed excused, but the student shall not be required to complete academic work or other school requirements.

A pregnant or parenting pupil may return to the school and the course of study in which he or she was enrolled before taking parental leave. Upon return to school after taking parental leave, a pregnant or parenting pupil is entitled to opportunities to make up work missed during his or her leave, including, but not limited to, makeup work plans and reenrollment in courses.

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

A student who chooses not to return to the school in which he or she was enrolled before taking the leave is entitled to alternative education options offered by the local educational agency to include educational programs, activities, and courses equal to those he or she would have been in if participating in the regular education program.

A student will not incur any academic penalties as a result of using the accommodations in this section.

A complaint of noncompliance may be filed under the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.

LACTATING PUPILS (EC §222): Lactating pupils are allowed reasonable time to accommodate the need to express breast-milk in a private and secure room without academic penalty, and access to a power source and a place to safely store expressed breast milk. A student may make complaint to California Department of Education, via the following website, if still not accommodated, according to the law, after filing a complaint: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cp/uc/>

HEALTH CARE COVERAGE (EC 49452.9): Requires a public school, for the 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18 school years, to add an informational item to its enrollment forms, or amend an existing enrollment form in order to provide parents/guardians information about health care coverage options and enrollment assistance. Schools may also include a factsheet with its enrollment forms explaining basic information about affordable health care coverage options for children and families. ***Your child and family may be eligible for free or low-cost health coverage. For information about health care coverage options and enrollment assistance, contact or go to www.CoveredCA.com.***

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION: PARENT REFUSAL TO CONSENT (EC §49451, 20 USC 1232h): A child may be exempt from physical examination whenever the parents file a written statement with the school principal stating that they will not consent to routine physical exam of their child. Whenever there is good reason to believe the child is suffering from a recognized contagious disease, the child will be excluded from school attendance and shall not be permitted to return until the school authorities are satisfied that any contagious or infectious disease does not exist. (EC §§ 49451, 49452, 49452.5, 49455B Health & Saf. Code, § 124085)

VISION APPRAISAL (EC §49455): The district is required to appraise each student's vision upon initial enrollment and every third year thereafter until the student completes the 8th grade. The appraisal shall include tests for visual acuity and color vision; however, color vision shall be appraised once and only on male students. The evaluation may be waived upon proof of a certificate from a physician or optometrist with results of a determination of the student's vision, including visual acuity and color vision.

[PUPIL NUTRITION / NOTICE OF FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS \(EC §§48980\(b\), 49510, 49520, 49558, 42 USC 1758, 7 CFR 245.5\)](#): Children may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Details are available at your child's school. Individual records pertaining to student participation in any free or reduced-price meal program may, under appropriate circumstances, be used by school district employees to identify students eligible for public school choice and supplemental educational services

pursuant to the federal No Child Left Behind Act. When a household is selected for verification of eligibility for free or reduced-price meals, the district must notify the parent that their child(ren)'s eligibility is being verified. Eligibility will be determined by the annual income of each household. The income poverty guidelines to be used for any fiscal year shall be those determined by the United States Secretary of Agriculture as of July 1 of each year. All parents will receive a letter with the application form upon enrollment. To apply for free or reduced-price meals, households must fill out the application and return it to the school.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (EC §49403): The district is authorized to administer immunizing agents to pupils, whose parents have consented in writing, to the administration of such immunizing agent.

EMERGENCY TREATMENT FOR ANAPHYLAXIS (EC §49414): 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.

MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL SERVICES FOR PUPILS (EC §32221.5, §49471, §49472): The district is required to notify parents in writing if it does not provide or make available medical and hospital services for students injured while participating in athletic activities. The district is also authorized to provide medical or hospital services through nonprofit membership corporations or insurance policies for student injuries arising out of school-related activities.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (EC §49428): The district shall notify pupils and parents or guardians no less than twice each school year of the steps to initiate access to available pupil mental health services on campus and/or in the community. Mental health services are accessible to all students at Wellness Centers located at each comprehensive high school campus including Acalanes, Campolindo, Las Lomas, and Miramonte. Available services include individual and group counseling for students experiencing problems with their social-emotional health. School-based mental health services aim to optimize student well-being and help reconnect students back to learning in the classroom. Parents and caregivers can refer students to services by contacting their School Counselor or contacting site Wellness staff directly. Students can self-refer or refer friends by stopping by the Wellness Center and speaking to Wellness staff directly. Wellness staff can also assist families by making appropriate referrals to services in the community as needed. Students at Acalanes Center for Independent Study (ACIS) can access mental health services through the ACIS Coordinator.

AVAILABILITY OF INDIVIDUALIZED INSTRUCTION / PRESENCE OF PUPIL WITH TEMPORARY DISABILITY IN HOSPITAL (EC §§48206.3, 48207-48208): A student with a temporary disability which makes attendance in the regular day classes or the alternative educational program in which the pupil is enrolled impossible or inadvisable may receive individualized instruction provided in the pupil's home for one hour a day. Please contact the school counselor for further information.

A pupil with a temporary disability, who is in a hospital or other residential health facility, excluding a state hospital, may be deemed to have complied with the residency requirements for school attendance in the school district in which the hospital is located.

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 pursuant to EC 48206.3 and, if so, provide the instruction within five working days or less.

MEDICATION REGIMEN (EC §49480): Parents of any student on a continuing medication regimen for a non-episodic condition shall inform the school nurse or other designated certificated school employee of the medication(s) being taken, the current dosage, and the name of the supervising physician. With the consent of the parent, the school nurse may communicate with the physician and may counsel with school personnel regarding the possible effects of the drug on the child's physical, intellectual, and social behavior, as well as possible behavioral signs and symptoms of adverse side effects, omission, or overdose.

ADMINISTRATION OF PRESCRIBED MEDICATION (EC §49423, §49480): Any student who must take prescribed medication at school and who desires assistance of school personnel must submit a written statement of instructions from the physician and a parental request for assistance in administering the medication. Students may also carry and self-administer prescription auto-injectable epinephrine upon the school's receipt of specified written confirmation and authorization from the student's parent and physician or surgeon.

SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICIES (EC §215): Requires local educational agencies (LEAs) that service students in grades 7 to 12 to adopt policies on the prevention of student suicides and also require the California Department of Education (CDE) to develop and maintain a model suicide prevention policy.

SUN PROTECTIVE CLOTHING/USE OF SUNSCREEN (EC §35183.5): School sites must allow for outdoor use of sun-protective clothing and must provide for the use of sunscreen by students during the school day by an established policy.

ASBESTOS (40 CFR 763.84, 40 CFR 763.93): The district has a plan for eliminating health risks that are created by the presence of asbestos in school buildings. It may be reviewed at the district office. The Acalanes Union High School District maintains and annually updates its management plan for asbestos-containing materials in school buildings. For a copy of the asbestos management plan, please contact the [Director of Facilities](#).

USE OF PESTICIDES (EC §17611.5, §17612 AND 48980.3): School districts are required to inform parents about the use of pesticides on school grounds.

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

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

TOBACCO-FREE SCHOOLS (HS §104420, 104495, and 104559): Use of tobacco products at any time by students, staff, parents, or visitors, is strictly prohibited in district-owned or leased buildings, on district property, and in district vehicles. This prohibition applies to all employees, students, and visitors at any school-sponsored instructional program, activity, or athletic event held on or off district property. Prohibited products include any product containing tobacco or nicotine, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, miniature cigars, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew, clove cigarettes, betel, and nicotine delivery devices such as electronic cigarettes. Exceptions may be made for the use or possession of prescription nicotine products. Any employee or student who violates the district's tobacco-free schools policy shall be asked to refrain from smoking and shall be subject to disciplinary action as appropriate.

GUN-FREE SCHOOL ZONE (PC 626.9 and 30310): A person holding a valid license to carry a concealed firearm may carry a firearm in an area that is within 100 feet of, but not on the grounds of, a public or private school providing instruction in kindergarten or grades 1 to 12, inclusive. (There is an exception for certain appointed peace officers who are authorized to carry a firearm by their appointing agency and for certain retired reserve peace officers who are authorized to carry a concealed or loaded firearm.)

WELLNESS POLICY: The district recognizes the important connection between health and a student's ability to learn effectively and achieve high standards in school. The district is committed to providing its students and employees with the knowledge, resources, and environment to make healthy nutritional choices and to be physically active.

STUDENT SERVICES

PROSPECTUS OF SCHOOL CURRICULUM (EC §49063 and 49091.14): The curriculum of every course offered by the schools of the district is compiled annually by each school in a prospectus. Each school prospectus is available for review upon request at each school. Copies are available upon request for a reasonable fee not to exceed the actual copying cost.

STATE ASSESSMENTS: EXEMPTION (5 CCR §852): Students shall be exempted from participation only in accordance with law and administrative regulation.

CHILDREN IN HOMELESS/FOSTER CARE, FORMER JUVENILE COURT SCHOOL, MILITARY, MIGRANT AND NEWCOMER SITUATIONS, (42 USC §§11431-11435): Homeless/Foster Care, Former Juvenile Court School, Military, Migrant and Newcomer pupils have certain rights under State and Federal law. For information concerning these rights, please contact the District's liaison: Student Services department, (925) 280-3900.

HOMELESS YOUTH EDUCATION (42 US 11432, EC §§48853, 49069, 51225.1, 51225.2): Requires every local education agency to appoint a homeless liaison to ensure parents of homeless pupils are informed of educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in education of their children.

Unaccompanied youth, such as teen parents not living with their parent/guardian or students that have run away or have been pushed out of their homes, have access to these same rights. Notification may address:

1. Liaison contact information.
2. Circumstances for eligibility (e.g., 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).
3. 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.
4. 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 liaison to resolve disputes that arise during enrollment).
5. Right to be notified of possibility of graduating within four years with reduced state requirements, if the homeless student transferred after the second year of high school, is credit deficient, and will not be able to graduate on time with local district requirements.
6. Right for district to accept partial credits for courses that have been satisfactorily completed by the homeless student.

Notice of educational rights of homeless children must be disseminated at places where children receive services, such as schools, shelters, and soup kitchens.

FOSTER YOUTH EDUCATION PLACEMENT AND EDUCATIONAL LIAISON FOR FOSTER CHILDREN (EC 48204, 48645.5, 48853, and 48853.5, WIC 317 AND 16010): Requires school district educational liaisons to ensure pupils in foster care receive stable school placements which are in the best interests of the child, placement in least restrictive educational programs, access to academic resources, services, and extracurricular and enrichment activities available to all pupils, full and partial credits for coursework taken, and meaningful opportunity to meet state pupil academic achievement standards. Requires the State Department of Education, in consultation with the California Foster Youth Education Task Force, to develop a standardized notice of the educational rights of foster children. CDE information can be found at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/lsp/fy/contacts.asp>.

EXEMPTION FROM LOCAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR HOMELESS/FOSTER CARE, FORMER JUVENILE COURT SCHOOL, MILITARY, MIGRANT AND NEWCOMER STUDENTS (EC §§51225.1, and 51225.2): The District shall exempt from local graduation requirements a student who is homeless, in foster care, of a military family, a former juvenile court school student, migratory or participating in a newcomer program for recently arrived immigrant pupils and who transfers between schools under certain circumstances. 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.

CONTINUED EDUCATION OPTIONS FOR JUVENILE COURT SCHOOL STUDENTS: A Juvenile court school student, or the person holding the right to make educational decisions for the student, may voluntarily defer or decline issuance of their diploma until after the student is released from the juvenile detention facility, thereby allowing the student to take additional coursework at a local education agency. The county office of education will notify the student, the person holding to right to make educational decisions for the student, and the student's social worker or probation officer of all of the following:

- The student's right to a diploma;
- How taking coursework and meeting other educational requirements will affect the student's ability to gain admission to a post-secondary educational institution;
- Information about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges; and
- The option to defer or decline the diploma and take additional coursework. (EC §§ 48645.3(a), 48645.7)

WILLIAMS COMPLAINT POLICY & PROCEDURE (EC §35186, 49069): Every school must provide sufficient textbooks and instructional materials. Every student, including English learners, must have textbooks or instructional materials, or both, to use at home or after school. School facilities must be clean, safe, and maintained in good repair. There should be no teacher vacancies or misassignments. If a school is found to have deficiencies in these areas, and the school does not take corrective action, then a complaint form may be obtained at <https://www.acalanes.k12.ca.us/notifications>. Parents, students, teachers or any member of the public may submit a complaint regarding these issues. However, it is highly encouraged that individuals express their concerns to the school principal before completing the complaint forms to allow the school to respond to these concerns.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION (EC §310, §311, 5 CCR 11309): State law requires that all students be taught English by receiving instruction in English. However, this requirement may be waived by parents with prior written informed consent, which shall be provided annually, under specified circumstances. See your school principal for further information.

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

SPECIAL EDUCATION: CHILD FIND SYSTEM (EC §56301; 20USC1401(3); 1412(a)(3); 34CFR300.111(c)(d)): Any parent suspecting that a child has exceptional needs may request an assessment for eligibility for special education services through the school principal. Requires the special education local plan area (SELPA) to establish written policy and procedures for continuous child find system including children with disabilities who are migrant or homeless or wards of the state and children with disabilities attending private schools. Policy and procedures shall include written notification to all parents of their rights pursuant to EC §56300.

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

SECTION 504 / PUPILS WITH DISABILITIES (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; 29 USC 794, 34 CFR 104.32): Federal law requires districts to annually notify pupils with disabilities and their parents of the district's nondiscriminatory policy and duty under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Discrimination on the basis of disability is prohibited. Section 504 requires districts to identify and evaluate children with disabilities to ensure a free, appropriate public education. Individuals with physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, including learning, are eligible to receive services and aids designed to meet their needs to same extent needs of nondisabled students are met.

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION (Title VI Civil Rights Act of 1964, 34 CFR 104.8, 106.9): The district is required to have a policy of non-discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, or disability. This policy requires notification in native language if the district's service area contains a community of minority persons with limited English language skills. Notification must state that the district will take steps to assure that the lack of English will not be a barrier to admission and participation in district programs. This policy applies to all students insofar as participation in programs and activities is concerned, with few exceptions such as contact sports. In accordance with federal law, complaints alleging noncompliance with this policy should be directed to the school principal. Appeals may be made to the district superintendent.

SEX EQUITY: TITLE IX NOTIFICATIONS (EC §221.61): Title IX is a federal law that was passed in 1972 to ensure that male and female students and employees in educational settings are treated equally and fairly. It protects against discrimination based on sex, including sexual harassment, and transgender students or students who do not conform to sex stereotypes. State law also prohibits discrimination based on gender (sex), gender expression, gender identity, and sexual orientation. You may file a Title IX complaint by contacting the Title IX coordinator for the Acalanes Union High School District, [Amy McNamara](#), at (925) 280-3900 x 6622.

SAFE PLACE TO LEARN ACT (EC §234 and 234.1): The 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 EC 220, 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 incident and/or to receive a copy of the district's anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, anti-intimidation, and anti-bullying policies, please contact the District Office.

HOME INSTRUCTION (EC §48206.3): The district in which the student resides is to provide individual instruction if the student is receiving the instruction in his or her home. Individual instruction in a pupil's home shall commence no later than five working days after a school district has determined that the pupil shall receive this instruction.

HOSPITAL/HEALTH FACILITY INSTRUCTION (EC §48206.3, 48207, 48207.3, 48207.5, 48208, 48208(b)): The school district in which the hospital or other residential health facility, excluding a state hospital, is located must provide individual instruction to a student with a temporary disability. Within five working days of receipt of the notification, the district must determine whether the pupil will be able to receive individual instruction, and, if so, when the individual instruction will begin. A school

district may continue to enroll a pupil with a temporary disability to facilitate the timely reentry of the pupil after the hospitalization has ended, or in order to provide a partial week of instruction. On days in which the student is not receiving individual instruction in a hospital or other residential health facility, he or she may attend school in his or her district of residence if well enough to do so. A pupil receiving individual instruction who is well enough to return to a school shall be allowed to return to the school, including a charter school, that he or she attended immediately before receiving individual instruction, if returning during the same school year.

Pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, and recovery therefore shall be treated in the same manner and under the same policies as any other temporary disabling condition. (EC §221.51)

SEX / HIV / AIDS EDUCATION

SEXUAL ABUSE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION (EC §51900.6): Authorizes school districts, county offices of education and charter schools to provide age-appropriate instruction for students in kindergarten through grade 12, in sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention. Parents or guardians may submit a written request to excuse their child from participation in any class involving sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention.

SEXUAL ABUSE AND SEX TRAFFICKING PREVENTION (EC §51950): Authorizes school districts to provide sexual abuse and sex trafficking prevention education which includes instruction on the frequency and nature of sexual abuse and sex trafficking, strategies to reduce their risk, techniques to set healthy boundaries, and how to safely report an incident. Parents or guardians may submit a written request to excuse their child from participation in any class involving sexual abuse and sex trafficking prevention education, and assessments related to that education.

INSTRUCTION IN COMPREHENSIVE SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION / HIV AND AIDS PREVENTION (EC §51938): Districts shall annually notify parents about instruction in comprehensive sexual health education and HIV/AIDS prevention education and research on student health behaviors and risks planned for the school year. Written and audiovisual educational materials used in such education are available for inspection. You will be notified prior to the commencement of any such instruction as to whether the instruction will be taught by district personnel or by outside consultants in class or during an assembly. If arrangements for instruction by outside consultants or guest speakers are made after the beginning of the school year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians no less than 14 days before instruction is given. (EC § 51938) A copy of the law pertaining to such instruction is available upon request from the district. You may request in writing that your child not receive comprehensive sexual health education and/or HIV/AIDS prevention education. The law also authorizes the district to use anonymous, voluntary, and confidential research and evaluation tools to measure student's health behaviors and risks, including tests, questionnaires, and surveys containing age appropriate questions about the student's attitudes concerning or practices relating to sex. The district must notify you in writing before any such test, questionnaire, or survey is administered and provide you with an opportunity to review the test and request in writing that your child not participate.

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

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE / ATTENDANCE ALTERNATIVES

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

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

- Students who live in the attendance area of a school must be given priority to attend that school over students who do not live in the school's attendance area.
- In cases in which there are more requests to attend a school than there are openings, the selection process must be "random and unbiased," which generally means students must be selected through a lottery process rather than on a first-

come, first-served basis. A district cannot use a student's academic or athletic performance as a reason to accept or reject a transfer. However, a district may consider special circumstances that might be harmful or dangerous to a particular pupil in the current attendance area of the pupil, including physical threats of bodily harm or threats to the emotional stability of the pupil documented by a state or local agency, licensed or registered professional, or court order.

- Each district must decide the number of openings at each school which can be filled by transfer students. Each district also has the authority to keep appropriate racial and ethnic balances among its schools, meaning that a district can deny a transfer request if it would upset this balance or would leave the district out of compliance with a court-ordered or voluntary desegregation program.
- A district is not required to provide transportation assistance to a student that transfers to another school in the district under these provisions.
- If a transfer is denied, a parent does not have an automatic right to appeal the decision. A district may, however, voluntarily decide to put in place a process for parents to appeal a decision.
- Victims of Bullying: A school district of residence must approve an intradistrict transfer request for a victim of an act of bullying unless the requested school is at maximum capacity, in which case the district must accept an intradistrict transfer request for a different school within the district. A school district of residence may not prohibit the interdistrict transfer of a victim of an act of bullying if there is no available school for an intradistrict transfer and if the school district of proposed enrollment approves the transfer application. (EC § 46600)
- A school district of proposed enrollment shall ensure that pupils admitted under this law are selected through an unbiased process that prohibits an inquiry into or evaluation or consideration of whether a pupil should be enrolled based on academic or athletic performance, physical condition, English proficiency, family income, or any of the individual characteristics set forth in Section 220 including, but not limited to, race or ethnicity, gender, gender identity, gender expression, and immigration status.

CHOOSING A SCHOOL OUTSIDE DISTRICT IN WHICH PARENT LIVES: Parents have three different options for choosing a school outside the district in which they live. The three options are:

OPTION 1: Districts of Choice (EC §§48300 through 48317): The law allows, but does not require, each school district to become a “district of choice”—that is, a district that accepts transfer students from outside the district under the terms of the referenced Education Code sections. The school board of a district that decides to become a “district of choice” must determine the number of students it is willing to accept in this category each year and make sure that the students are selected through an “unbiased process,” which prohibits student enrollment and district communications about enrollment based upon actual or perceived academic or athletic performance, physical condition, proficiency in English, any other personal characteristic as specified in Education Code section 200, and family income (except for purposes of determining attendance priority for students eligible for free or reduced-price meals). If the number of transfer applications exceeds the number of students the school board elects to accept, transfer approval must be determined by a random public drawing held at a regular board meeting. Other provisions of the “district of choice” option include:

- A school district of residence shall not prohibit the transfer of a student who is a child of an active military duty parent or adopt policies to block or discourage students from applying for transfer to a school district of choice.
- No student who currently attends a school or lives within the attendance area of a school can be forced out of that school to make room for a student transferring under these provisions.
- A school district of choice must give priority for attendance in the following order: 1) to siblings of students already attending school in the district; 2) to students eligible for free or reduced-price meals; and 3) to children of military personnel.
- A school district of choice must post application information on its Internet Website, including any applicable form, transfer timeline, and explanation of the selection process.
- A parent may request transportation assistance within the boundaries of the “district of choice.” The district is required to provide transportation only to the extent it already does so.

OPTION 2: Interdistrict Transfers (EC §§46600 et seq.): The law allows two or more districts to enter into an agreement for the transfer of one or more students for a period of up to five years. New agreements may be entered into for additional periods of up to five years each. The agreement must specify the terms and conditions under which transfers are permitted. The law on interdistrict transfers also provides for the following:

- Once a pupil is enrolled in a school pursuant to an interdistrict transfer agreement, the pupil must be allowed to continue to attend the school in which he or she is enrolled without reapplying, unless revocation of the interdistrict transfer is a term and condition of the agreement between the districts; however, a district must not rescind existing transfer permits for pupils entering grade 11 or 12 in the subsequent school year.

- Upon request, a pupil determined to be the victim of an act of bullying by a pupil of the district of residence must be given priority for interdistrict attendance under any existing interdistrict attendance agreement or additional consideration for the creation of an interdistrict attendance agreement. (EC §§ 46600(b), 48900(r))
- If a pupil is a victim of an act of bullying and his or her school district of residence has only one school offering his or her grade level, such that there is no option for an intradistrict transfer, the pupil may apply for an interdistrict transfer, and the school district of residence shall not prohibit the transfer if the school district of proposed enrollment approves the application for transfer. (EC § 46600)
- If either district denies a transfer request, a parent may appeal that decision to the county board of education. There are specified timelines in the law for filing an appeal and for the county board of education to make a decision.
- A school district of residence shall not prohibit the transfer of a student who is a homeless child or youth, a current or former migratory child, a foster youth, the victim of an act of bullying, or a child of an active military duty parent to a school district of proposed enrollment if the school district of proposed enrollment approves the transfer application. A school district that elects to accept an interdistrict transfer pursuant to this subdivision shall accept all pupils who apply to transfer under this subdivision until the school district is at maximum capacity and shall ensure that pupils admitted under this subdivision are selected through an unbiased process that prohibits an inquiry into or evaluation or consideration of whether or not a pupil should be enrolled based on his or her academic performance, athletic performance, physical condition, proficiency in English, family income, actual or perceived characteristics, such as disability (mental and physical), gender (includes gender identity, gender expression, and gender-related appearance and behavior whether or not stereotypically associated with the person's assigned sex at birth), actual or potential parental, family, or marital status, pregnancy (including childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery therefrom), nationality (includes citizenship, country of origin and national origin), immigration status, race or ethnicity (includes ancestry, color, ethnic group identification and ethnic background), religion (includes all aspects of religious belief, observance and practice, including agnosticism and atheism), sexual orientation (heterosexuality, homosexuality or bisexuality), or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. Upon request of the parent on behalf of a pupil eligible for transfer pursuant to this subdivision, a school district of enrollment will provide transportation assistance to a pupil who is eligible for free or reduced-priced meals. A school district of enrollment may provide transportation assistance to any pupil admitted under this subdivision. (EC § 46600(d))

OPTION 3: Parental Employment in Lieu of Residency Transfers (EC §48204(b)): If at least one parent or legal guardian of a student is physically employed in the boundaries of a school district other than the one in which they live, the student may be considered a resident of the school district in which his/her parents work. This code section does not require that a school district accept a student requesting a transfer on this basis, but a student may not be rejected on the basis of race/ethnicity, sex, parental income, academic achievement, or any other "arbitrary" consideration. Other provisions of EC §48204(b) include:

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

RESIDENCY INVESTIGATIONS (EC §48204.2): If a school district elects to undertake an investigation, as specified, requires the governing board of the school district to adopt a policy regarding the investigation of a pupil to determine whether the pupil meets the residency requirements for school attendance in the school district before investigating any pupils. Requires the policy to, among other things, identify the circumstances upon which the school district may initiate an investigation, describe the investigatory methods that may be used, including whether the school district will be employing the services of a private investigator, prohibit the surreptitious photographing or video-recording of pupils who are being investigated, as provided, and provide for an appeal process, as specified. Requires the policy to be adopted at a public meeting of the governing board of the school district.

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

NOTICE OF ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS (EC §58501): State law authorizes all school districts to provide for alternative schools, Education Code section 58500 defines an alternative school as a school or separate class group within a school that is operated in a manner designed to:

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

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

EXCUSED ABSENCES (EC §48205 48260, 48225.5 and 48980(j)): No pupil may have his or her grade reduced or lose academic credit for any absence or absences which are excused for the reasons specified below when missed assignments and tests that can reasonably be provided are satisfactorily completed within a reasonable period of time.

A pupil shall be excused from school when the absence is:

- (1) Due to the pupil's illness.
- (2) Due to quarantine under the direction of a county/city health officer.
- (3) For the purpose of having medical, dental, optometric, or chiropractic services rendered.
- (4) For the purpose of attending the funeral services of a member of the pupil's immediate family, so long as the absence is not more than one day if the service is conducted in California and not more than three days if the service is conducted outside California.
- (5) For the purpose of jury duty in the manner provided for by law.
- (6) Due to the illness or medical appointment, during school hours of a child of whom the pupil is the custodial parent, including absences to care for a sick child for which the school shall not require a doctor's note.
- (7) For justifiable personal reasons, including, but not limited to, an appearance in court, attendance at a funeral service, observance of a holiday or ceremony of his or her religion, attendance at religious retreats, or attendance at an employment conference, when the pupil's absence has been requested in writing by the parent and approved by the principal or a designated representative pursuant to uniform standards established by the governing board.
- (8) For the purpose of serving as a member of a precinct board for an election pursuant to Section 12302 of the Elections Code.
- (9) For the purpose of spending time with a member of the pupil's immediate family, who is an active duty member of the uniformed services, as defined in EC §49701, and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from, deployment to a combat zone or combat support position. Absences granted pursuant to this paragraph shall be granted for a period of time to be determined at the discretion of the superintendent of the school district.
- (10) For the purpose of attending the pupil's naturalization ceremony to become a United States citizen.
- (11) Authorized at the discretion of a school administrator based on the facts of the pupil's circumstances, which are deemed to constitute a valid excuse, including, but not limited to, working for a period of not more than five consecutive days in the entertainment or allied industries or participate with a not-for-profit performing arts organization in a performance for a public school pupil audience for a maximum of up to five days per school year provided the pupil's parent or guardian provides a written note to the school authorities explaining the reason for the pupil's absence.
 - a) 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 any class from which a pupil is absent shall determine the tests and assignments shall be reasonably equivalent to, but not necessarily identical to, the tests and assignments that the pupil missed during the absence.
 - b) For purposes of this section, attendance at religious retreats shall not exceed four hours per semester.
 - c) Absences pursuant to this section are deemed to be absences in computing average daily attendance and shall not generate state apportionment payments.
 - d) "Immediate family," as used in this section refers to the parent or guardian, brother or sister or any relative living in the immediate household of the pupil. (EC §48205)

GRADE REDUCTION / LOSS OF ACADEMIC CREDIT (EC §48980(j)): No student shall have his/her grade reduced or lose academic credit for any excused absence pursuant to EC §48205 for missed assignments/tests that can reasonably be provided/completed. (See text of EC §48205 on page 6)

ABSENCES FOR CONFIDENTIAL MEDICAL SERVICES (EC §46010.1): Pupils in grades 7 to 12 may be excused from school for the purpose of obtaining confidential medical services, without the consent of the pupil's parent/guardian.

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

TRUANCY (EC §48260, §48260.5, §48262, §48263): Any pupil subject to compulsory full-time education or to compulsory continuation education who is absent from school without valid excuse three full days in one school year or tardy or absent for more than any 30-minute period during the school day without a valid excuse on three occasions in one school year, or any combination thereof, is a truant and shall be reported to the attendance supervisor or to the superintendent of the school district.

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

MISCELLANEOUS

CUSTODY ISSUES: Custody disputes must be handled by the courts. The school has no legal jurisdiction to refuse a biological parent access to his/her child and/or school records. The only exception is when signed restraining orders or proper divorce papers, specifically stating visitation limitations, are on file in the school office. Any student release situation which leaves the student's welfare in question will be handled at the discretion of the site administrator or designee. Should any such situation become a disruption to the school, law enforcement will be contacted and an officer requested to intervene. Parents are asked to make every attempt not to involve school sites in custody matters. The school will make every attempt to reach the custodial parent when a parent or any other person not listed on the emergency card attempts to pick up a child.

PARENT CLASSROOM VISITS (EC §49091.10): Upon written request by parents, the Superintendent or designee shall arrange for parental observation of a class or activity in a reasonable timeframe and in accordance with Board Policy and Administrative Regulations (BP and AR 5020).

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

COURSE SELECTION & CAREER COUNSELING (EC §221.5): Parents shall be notified in advance of career counseling and course selection commencing with course selection in Grade 9, to promote and allow parents to participate in counseling sessions and decisions. AB1802: Parents must be invited to educational planning sessions at grades 10 and 12 to review test scores, attendance, and discipline.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS (EC §51228.1-51228.3): A school district is prohibited from assigning a student enrolled in any of grades 9 through 12 to any course period without educational content for more than one week in any semester, except under specified conditions. Under no circumstances can a district assign a student enrolled in any of grades 9 through 12 to a course period without educational content because there are not sufficient curricular course offerings for the student to take during the relevant period of the designated school day.

A school district is prohibited from assigning a student enrolled in grades 9 through 12 to a course that the student has previously completed and received a grade determined by the district to be sufficient to satisfy the requirements and prerequisites for admission to the California public post-secondary schools and the minimum high school graduation requirements, except under specified conditions. Under no circumstances can a district assign a student enrolled in any of grades 9 through 12 to a course the student has previously completed and received a sufficient grade, as specified, because there are not sufficient curricular course offerings for the student to take during the relevant period of the designated school day.

These sections do not apply to students in alternative schools, community day schools, continuation high schools or an opportunity school. A district may continue to authorize dual enrollment in community college, to run evening high school programs, to offer independent study, work experience education, and other specified courses.

A complaint of noncompliance may be filed under the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.

REGIONAL OCCUPATIONAL CENTERS AND PROGRAMS/COUNTY OFFICES OF EDUCATION PROGRAMS/ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS (EC §52334.7): A regional occupational center or program, county office of education program, or adult education program must meet specified requirements for certification by the Superintendent of Public Instruction in order to provide an employment training program for adults or to authorize an education program beyond secondary education that leads to a degree or certificate.

A complaint alleging that a local agency violated federal or state laws or regulations governing adult education programs under Education Code section 52501 or regional occupational centers and programs may be filed under the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations. A complaint alleging that a county office of education violated federal or state laws or regulations governing the county office's participation in any student financial assistance program authorized by Title IV may also be filed under the Uniform Complaint Procedures and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.

PUPIL FEES (EC §49011-49013): A pupil enrolled in a public school must not be required to pay a pupil fee for participation in an educational activity that constitutes an integral fundamental part of the district's educational program, including curricular and extracurricular activities. The following requirements apply to prohibited pupil fees:

- (1) All supplies, materials, and equipment needed to participate in educational activities must be provided to pupils free of charge.
- (2) A fee waiver policy shall not make a pupil fee permissible.
- (3) School districts and schools shall not establish a two-tier educational system by requiring a minimal educational standard and also offering a second, higher educational standard that pupils may only obtain through payment of a fee or purchase of additional supplies that the school district or school does not provide.
- (4) A school district or school shall not offer course credit or privileges related to educational activities in exchange for money or donations of goods or services from a pupil or a pupil's parents or guardians, and a school district or school shall not remove course credit or privileges related to educational activities, or otherwise discriminate against a pupil, because the pupil or the pupil's parents or guardians did not or will not provide money or donations of goods or services to the school district or school.

Solicitation of voluntary donations of funds or property and voluntary participation in fundraising activities are not prohibited. School districts, schools, and other entities are not prohibited from providing pupils prizes or other recognition for voluntarily participating in fundraising activities.

A complaint of noncompliance may be filed under the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.

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

CAL GRANT PROGRAM (EC §69432.9): By October 15th of a pupil's grade 12 academic year, a school district or charter school must provide written notice to each grade 12 pupil and, for a pupil under 18 years of age, his/her parent/guardian that the pupil will be automatically deemed a Cal Grant applicant unless the pupil opts out. The deadline to opt out must not be less than 30 days from the date of the notice.

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 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. 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. All grade 12 students' GPA will be sent to CASC each year by March 2.

ACCESS TO INTERNET AND ONLINE SITES (EC §48980(i)): Districts are required to notify parents of policies pertaining to Internet and online access. The district is dedicated to the use of technology as a tool to enhance educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. Specifically, the use of Internet provides opportunities to access a wide variety of information, reference materials, and educational resources. In addition, the district uses an online community system to enhance the learning environment.

Signatures of the student and guardian are required prior to accessing the district's Network. The use of the Network and access to the Internet is a privilege, not a right. Any violation of this agreement may result in the loss of the user's Network access, disciplinary and/or legal action, including suspension or expulsion from District schools, and/or criminal prosecution by government authorities. The District intends to cooperate with the investigation of any legitimate law enforcement agency should any user action on the Network lead to such an investigation.

RIGHT TO REFRAIN FROM HARMFUL USE OF ANIMALS (EC §32255-32255.6): Pupils may choose to refrain from participating in educational projects involving the harmful or destructive use of animals. 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 sustained 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 the study in question.

ASSISTANCE TO COVER COST OF ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMINATION FEES (EC §48980(k)): The District may help pay for all or part of the costs of one or more advanced placement examinations that are charged to economically disadvantaged students.

EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (ESSA): Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) took full effect in 2018 to replace the No Child Left Behind Act in modifying the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). If updates are provided by the California Department of Education, the following parent notice requirements may change and new notice requirements may be added.

- **Information Regarding Professional Qualifications of Teachers, Paraprofessionals, and Aides (ESEA §1111(h)(6) as amended by ESSA)**: Upon request, parents have a right to information regarding the professional qualifications of their student's classroom teachers, paraprofessionals, and aides. This includes whether the teacher meets the state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grades and subjects he/she teaches, whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency permit or other provisional status because of special circumstances, the major or field of discipline for any degrees or certifications held by the teacher, and whether any instructional aides or paraprofessionals provide services to the parents' child and, if so, their qualifications. In addition, parents have a right to notice when the child has been taught for four or more weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified.

- **Information Regarding Individual Student Reports on Statewide Assessments (§1111(h)(6) as amended by ESSA)**: Upon request, parents have a right to information on the level of achievement of their student on every State academic assessment administered to the student.

- **School Identified for School Improvement (ESEA §1116(b)(6) as amended by ESSA)**: A local educational agency shall promptly provide notice to a parent or parents of each student enrolled in an elementary school or a secondary school identified for school improvement (school that fails for two consecutive years to make adequate yearly progress as defined in the State's plan), for corrective action or for restructuring. The notice should be in an understandable and uniform format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. Notice must include: an explanation of what the identification means; how the school compares in terms of academic achievement to other elementary schools or secondary schools serviced by the local educational agency and the State educational agency involved; the reasons for the identification; an explanation of what the school identified for school improvement is doing to address the problem of low achievement; an explanation of how parents can become involved in addressing the academic issues that caused the school to be identified for school improvement; and an explanation of the parent's options to transfer their child to another public school (with transportation provided by the agency when required or to obtain supplemental educational services for the child).

- **Limited English Proficient Students (ESEA §1112(g)(1)(A) as amended by ESEA)**: The Act requires prior notice be given to parents of limited English proficient students regarding limited English proficiency programs, no later than 30 days after the beginning of the school year (or, for students identified later in the school year, within two weeks). Notice includes: the reasons

for the identification of the student as limited English proficient; the need of placement in a language instruction educational program; the student's level of English proficiency and how such level was assessed; the status of the student's academic achievement; the methods of instruction used in the available programs (including content, instructional goals, and the use of English and native language); the exit requirements for the program; how the program meets the objectives of the student's IEP, if applicable; and, parent options for removing a student from a program, declining initial enrollment and/or choosing another program. In addition, the notice shall include whether the student is a long-term English learner or at risk of becoming a long-term English learner and the manner in which the program will help a child identified as either a long-term English learner or English learner at risk of becoming a longer term English learner develop English proficiency and meet age-appropriate academic standards. (Ed Code 313.2)

• **Non-Release of Information to Armed Forces Recruiters:**

Upon written request, parents may direct that their student's name, address and telephone listing not be released without prior written parental consent.

The information provided above is available upon request from your child's school or the district office. Additional notices that may be required (20 U.S.C. §§6301 et seq.)

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (EC §234.1, §32289, §49013, 5 CCR 4622): The District has adopted policies and procedures for the filing, investigation and resolution of complaints regarding alleged violations of federal or state law or regulations governing educational programs, including allegations of unlawful discrimination. The Uniform Complaint Procedures apply to complaints involving categorical programs and those alleging unlawful discrimination. Copies of the Uniform Complaint Procedures must be made available free of charge. The local agency is primarily responsible for compliance with federal and state laws and regulations (T5CCR 4620). The complainant has a right to appeal the local agency decision to the CDE by filing a written appeal within 15 days of receiving the LEA Decision (T5CCR 4632). The complainant has a right to pursue any civil law remedies that may be available under state or federal discrimination laws, if applicable, and of the appeal pursuant to Education Code Section 262.3 (EC § 262.3, T5CCR 4622). Information on how to file a Uniform Complaint can be found at <https://www.acalanes.k12.ca.us/notifications> or at the District Office.

SCHOOL BUSES / PASSENGER SAFETY (EC §39831.5): Districts are required to provide safety regulations to all new students.

VICTIM OF A VIOLENT CRIME (20 USC 7912): 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 Associate Superintendent of Administrative Services at the District Office.

MEGAN'S LAW NOTIFICATION (PC §290.4): Parents and members of the public have the ability to review information regarding registered sex offenders at www.meganslaw.ca.gov or at the main office of the local law enforcement agency for this school district.

COLLEGE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS; CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION (EC §§51229, 48980):

• **College Admission Requirements:** The University of California (UC) and the California State University (CSU) have established common high school course requirements for undergraduate admission. Students who take these courses and meet other specified criteria are eligible to apply and be considered for admission. The following list is commonly referred to as the "a-g" requirements:

- 1) Two years of history/social science
- 2) Four years of college preparatory English or language instruction
- 3) Three years of college preparatory mathematics
- 4) Two years of laboratory science
- 5) Two years of the same language other than English
- 6) One year of visual and performing arts
- 7) One year of college preparatory electives

• **Websites:** The following UC and CSU web sites help students and their families learn about college admission requirements, and also list high school courses that have been certified for undergraduate admission:

UC: <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman/requirements/index.html>

CSU: www.csumentor.edu/planning/high_school/subjects.asp

CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION: 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 post-secondary education and careers. Career technical

education includes agricultural education, home economics, industrial and technology education, and regional occupational centers and programs (ROP), among other educational programs.

- **Website for Career Technical Education:** Students can learn more about career technical education at the following California Department of Education website: www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/

- **Counseling:** A student has the right to meet with a school counselor for help in choosing courses that will meet college admission requirements, or enrolling in career technical education courses, or both. To schedule a meeting with a school counselor, please contact your child's school.