

Students

DROPOUT PREVENTION

The Governing Board recognizes that regular school attendance is critical to student learning and achievement. The Board believes that every student should remain in school, meet district standards, make a successful transition to the next grade level, and graduate. The Board desires to provide a learning environment that encourages regular school attendance and helps students become self-motivated and acquire the basic skills necessary for learning.

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)

(cf. 6146.5 - Elementary/Middle School Graduation Requirements)

(cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)

The Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies to identify and serve students at all grade levels who are at risk of dropping out of school. Students may be identified on the basis of indicators such as frequent absenteeism, truancy, or tardiness; below-grade-level achievement; or personal, social, health, or economic concerns that may make a student to drop out of school.

(cf. 5113.1 - Truancy)

(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)

(cf. 5146 - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)

(cf. 5149 - At-Risk Students)

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

(cf. 6164.5 - Student Success Teams)

(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)

(cf. 6178 - Vocational Education)

(cf. 6178.1 - Work Experience Education)

(cf. 6179 - Supplemental Instruction)

The school site council at each school shall develop a comprehensive school plan for student retention in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation. The plan shall be designed to help reduce student absenteeism and dropout rates and to improve student achievement.

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

Outreach Consultants

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that eligible schools have outreach consultants to help meet the needs of at-risk students. Outreach consultants shall:

1. If hired after January 1, 2004, possess a Dropout Prevention Specialist Certificate from a California State University or enroll in a Dropout Prevention Specialist Certificate program within 90 days of the date of hire

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DROPOUT PREVENTION (continued)

2. Demonstrate knowledge of local alternative educational programs and employ those programs to respond to the differential needs and unique learning styles of students
3. Demonstrate knowledge of local community agencies and community programs to recruit those agencies and programs to assist in the physical or psychological remediation of students
4. Utilize local school programs, options, and opportunities to assist students in locating, securing, or retaining employment
5. Utilize techniques that enhance and encourage interpersonal communication, self-understanding, self-disclosure, and depth-level sharing
6. Employ appropriate methods to create circumstances necessary so that change is permitted and encouraged in individuals, programs, and institutions
7. Be responsible for supervising, instructing, conducting negotiations with, and advising students and adults

Legal Reference: (see next page)

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DROPOUT PREVENTION (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35160 Authority of governing board

41505-41508 Pupil Retention Block Grant

48400-48403 Compulsory continuation education

48430-48438 Continuation education

48660-48667 Community day schools

51745-51749.3 Independent study

52300-52334 Regional Occupational Centers

54690-54697 Partnership academies

64000-64001 Single plan for student achievement

REPEALED EDUCATION CODE FOR CATEGORICAL PROGRAMS

52014 Inclusion of activities in plan

52015 Components of plan

52890 Qualifications and duties of outreach consultants

52900-52904 Alternative education and work centers for school dropouts

54660-54669 Elementary and Secondary School Dropout Prevention Act

54720-54735 School-based pupil motivation and maintenance program

58550-58562 Educational clinics

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6301-6322 Title I programs

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

California Dropout Prevention Network: <http://www.edualliance.org/cdpn>

National Dropout Prevention Center: <http://www.dropoutprevention.org>

Policy

adopted: February 23, 1999

Revised: March 14, 2006

VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Visalia, California