Status: ADOPTED

Policy 1312.3: Uniform Complaint Procedures

Original Adopted Date: 01/23/2007 | Last Revised Date: 11/19/2024 | Last Reviewed Date: 11/19/2024

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

Complaints Subject to UCP

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

- 1. Accommodations for pregnant and parenting students (Education Code 46015)
- 2. Adult education programs (Education Code 8500-8538, 52334.7, 52500-52617)
- 3. After School Education and Safety programs (Education Code 8482-8484.65)
- 4. Agricultural career technical education (Education Code 52460-52462)
- 5. Career technical and technical education and career technical and technical training programs (Education Code 52300-52462)
- 6. Child care and development programs (Education Code 8200-8488)
- 7. Compensatory education (Education Code 54400)
- 8. Consolidated categorical aid programs (Education Code 33315; 34 CFR 299.10-299.12)
- 9. Course periods without educational content (Education Code 51228.1-51228.3)
- 10. Discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying in district programs and activities, including in those programs or activities funded directly by or that receive or benefit from any state financial assistance, based on a person's actual or perceived characteristics of race or ethnicity, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, age, religion, physical or mental disability, medical condition, or genetic information; any other characteristic identified in Education Code 200 or 220, Government Code 11135, or Penal Code 422.55; or based on the person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics (5 CCR 4610)

Discrimination includes, but is not limited to, the Board's refusal to approve the use or prohibit the use of any textbook, instructional material, supplemental instructional material, or other curriculum for classroom instruction, or any book or other resource in a school library, on the basis that it includes a study of the role and contributions of any individual or group consistent with the requirements of Education Code 51204.5 and 60040, unless such study would violate Education Code 51501 or 60044. Additionally, discrimination includes, but is not limited to, the Board's adoption or approval of use of any textbook, instructional material, supplemental instructional material, or other curriculum for classroom instruction, or any book or other resource in a school library if the use would subject a student to unlawful discrimination pursuant to Education Code 220. A complaint alleging such unlawful discrimination may, in addition to or in lieu of being filed with the district, be directly filed with the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI). (Education Code 243, 244)

The UCP shall not be used to investigate and resolve employment discrimination complaints. (5 CCR 4611)

11. Educational and graduation requirements for students in foster care, students experiencing homelessness, students from military families, students formerly in a juvenile court school, students who are migratory, and newcomer students (Education Code 48645.7, 48853, 48853.5, 49069.5, 51225.1, 51225.2)

- 12. Every Student Succeeds Act (Education Code 52059.5; 20 USC 6301 et seq.)
- 13. Local control and accountability plan (Education Code 52075)
- 14. Migrant education (Education Code 54440-54445
- 15. Physical education instructional minutes (Education Code 51210, 51222, 51223)
- 16. Student fees (Education Code 49010-49013)
- 17. Reasonable accommodations to a lactating student (Education Code 222)
- 18. Regional occupational centers and programs (Education Code 52300-52334.7)
- 19. School plans for student achievement as required for the consolidated application for specified federal and/or state categorical funding (Education Code 64001)
- 20. School site councils as required for the consolidated application for specified federal and/or state categorical funding (Education Code 65000)
- 21. State preschool programs (Education Code 8207-8225)
- 22. State preschool health and safety issues in license-exempt programs (Education Code 8212)
- 23. Any complaint alleging retaliation against a complainant or other participant in the complaint process or anyone who has acted to uncover or report a violation subject to this policy
- 24. Any other state or federal educational program the SPI or designee deems appropriate

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

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

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

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

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

Non-UCP Complaints

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

1. Any complaint alleging child abuse or neglect shall be referred to the County Department of Social Services

Protective Services Division or the appropriate law enforcement agency (5 CCR 4611)

- 2. Any complaint alleging health and safety violations by a child development program shall, for licensed facilities, be referred to Department of Social Services (5 CCR 4611)
- 3. Any complaint alleging that a student, while in an education program or activity, was subjected to conduct known to the district that may reasonably constitute sex discrimination under Title IX, including sex-based harassment, as defined in 34 CFR 106.2
 - Discrimination on the basis of sex includes sex stereotypes; sex characteristics; sexual orientation; gender; gender identity; gender expression; pregnancy, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, or lactation, including related medical conditions or recovery; and parental, marital, and family status. Such a complaint shall be addressed through the federal Title IX complaint procedures adopted pursuant to 34 CFR 106.44-106.45, as specified in Administrative Regulation 5145.71 Title IX Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment Complaint Procedures. (34 CFR 106.2, 106.10, 106.11, 106.44)
- 4. Except for complaints alleging sex discrimination, including sex-based harassment, any complaint alleging employment discrimination or harassment shall be investigated and resolved by the district in accordance with the procedures specified in Administrative Regulation 4030 Nondiscrimination in Employment, including the right to file the complaint with the California Civil Rights Department
 - Employment complaints alleging sex discrimination, including sex-based harassment, shall be investigated and resolved as specified in 34 CFR 106.44 and 106.45 and Administrative Regulation 4119.12/4219.12/4319.12 Title IX Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment Complaint Procedures.
- 5. Any complaint alleging a violation of a state or federal law or regulation related to special education, a settlement agreement related to the provision of a free appropriate public education (FAPE), failure or refusal to implement a due process hearing order to which the district is subject, or a physical safety concern that interferes with the district's provision of FAPE shall be submitted to the California Department of Education (CDE) in accordance with Administrative Regulation 6159.1 Procedural Safeguards and Complaints for Special Education (5 CCR 3200-3205)
- 6. Any complaint alleging noncompliance of the district's food service program with laws regarding meal counting and claiming, reimbursable meals, eligibility of children or adults, or use of cafeteria funds and allowable expenses shall be filed with or referred to CDE in accordance with Board Policy 3555 Nutrition Program Compliance (5 CCR 15580-15584)
- 7. Any allegation of discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in the district's food service program shall be filed with or referred to the U.S. Department of Agriculture in accordance with Board Policy 3555 Nutrition Program Compliance (5 CCR 15582)
- 8. Any complaint related to sufficiency of textbooks or instructional materials, emergency or urgent facilities conditions that pose a threat to the health or safety of students or staff, or teacher vacancies and misassignments shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with Administrative Regulation 1312.4 Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures (Education Code 35186)

Policy Reference Disclaimer:These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the Governing Board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
2 CCR 11023	Harassment and discrimination prevention and correction
5 CCR 15580-15584	Child nutrition programs complaint procedures
5 CCR 3200-3205	Special education compliance complaints
5 CCR 4600-4670	Uniform complaint procedures
5 CCR 4600-4687	Uniform complaint procedures and Williams complaints
5 CCR 4690-4694	Complaints regarding health and safety issues in license-exempt preschool programs

Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary educational programs receiving state or federal financial assistance Ed. Code 18100-18203 Ed. Code 200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination Ed. Code 32280-32289.5 Ed. Code 33315 Uniform complaint procedures Ed. Code 35186 Ed. Code 35186 Ed. Code 46015 Ed. Code 46015 Ed. Code 48645.7 Juvenile court schools Ed. Code 48853-48853.5 Ed. Code 48900.5 Ed. Code 48900.5 Ed. Code 49900.5 Ed. Code 49010-49013 Ed. Code 49010-49013 Ed. Code 49060-49079 Ed. Code 49069-5 Ed. Code 49069-5 Ed. Code 49069-5 Ed. Code 49701 Ed. Code 49701 Provisions of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children Ed. Code 51204.5 Ed. Code 51222 Physical education Ed. Code 51223 Physical education: elementary schools students revocements suddents: graduation requirements Ed. Code 51225.1-51225.25 Ed. Code 51226-51226.1 Career technical education		
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	Ed. Code 51228.1-51228.3	Course periods without educational content
Ed. Code 52059.5 Statewide system of support	Ed. Code 51501	Nondiscriminatory subject matter
	Ed. Code 52059.5	Statewide system of support

Ed. Code 52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan Complaint for lack of compliance with local control and accountability plan Ed. Code 52075 requirements

Ed. Code 52300-52462 Career technical education Ed. Code 52500-52617

Adult schools

Ed. Code 54400-54425 Compensatory education programs

Ed. Code 54440-54445 Migrant education

Ed. Code 54460-54529 Compensatory education programs

Ed. Code 59000-59300 Special schools and centers

Ed. Code 60010 Instructional materials; definition

Ed. Code 60040-60052 Requirements for instructional materials

Ed. Code 64000-64001 Consolidated application process; school plan for student achievement

Ed. Code 65000-65001 School site councils

Ed. Code 8200-8488 Child care and development programs State Description

Ed. Code 8500-8538 Adult basic education

Gov. Code 11135 Prohibition of discrimination

Gov. Code 12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act

H&S Code 1596.792 California Child Day Care Act; general provisions and definitions

H&S Code 1596.7925 California Child Day Care Act; health and safety regulations

Pen. Code 422.55

Definition of hate crime
Pen. Code 422.6

Crimes: harassment

Federal Description

20 USC 1221 Application of laws

20 USC 1232g Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974

20 USC 1681-1688 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; discrimination based on sex

20 USC 6301-6576 Title I Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged

20 USC 6801-7014 Title III language instruction for limited English proficient and immigrant

students

28 CFR 35.107 Nondiscrimination on basis of disability; complaints

29 USC 794 Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Section 504

34 CFR 100.3 Prohibition of discrimination on basis of race, color or national origin

34 CFR 104.7 Section 504; Designation of responsible employee and adoption of

grievances procedures

34 CFR 106.1-106.82 Nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities

34 CFR 106.30 Discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities;

definitions

34 CFR 106.44 Recipient's response to sexual harassment

34 CFR 106.45 Grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment

34 CFR 106.8 Designation of coordinator; dissemination of policy, and adoption of

grievance procedures

34 CFR 110.25 Notification of nondiscrimination on the basis of age

34 CFR 99.1-99.67 Family Educational Rights and Privacy

42 USC 11431-11435 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
42 USC 12101-12213 Americans with Disabilities Act

42 USC 2000d-2000d-7 Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964

42 USC 2000h-2-2000h-6 Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

42 USC 6101-6107 Age Discrimination Act of 1975

Management Resources Description

California Department of Education Publication <u>Uniform Complaint Procedure Program Instrument</u>

California Department of Education Publication Sample UCP Board Policies and Procedures

California Department of Justice Publication

Guidance to School Officials re: Legal Requirements for Providing Inclusive

Curricula and Books, January 2024

Court Decision Tennessee v. Cardona (2024) 737 F.Supp.3d 510

Court Decision Olmstead v. L.C. ex rel. Zimring (1999) 527 U.S. 581

Management Resources Description

Court Decision John T. D. v. River Delta Joint Unified School District (2021) WL 5176356

CSBA Publication Reference: State Roles, Responsibilities, and Process for Instructional

Materials Adoption, February 2024

CSBA Publication Fact Sheet: Instructional Materials Adoption: Local governing board

responsibilities, February 2024

CSBA Publication Instructional Materials Adoptions: State and local governing board

processes, roles, and responsibilities, February 2024

Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities
Federal Register Receiving Federal Financial Assistance, May 19, 2020, Vol. 85, No. 97,

pages 30026-30579

U.S. DOE, Office for Civil Rights Publication

Dear Colleague Letter: Enforcement of Title IX under the provisions of the

2020 Title IX Rule, February 4, 2025

U.S. DOE, Office for Civil Rights Publication

Dear Colleague Letter: Responding to Bullying of Students with Disabilities,

October 2014

Website CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services

Website Student Privacy Policy Office

Website U.S. Department of Agriculture

Website California Department of Social Services

Website <u>U.S. Department of Justice</u>

Website California Civil Rights Department

Website California Department of Education

Website <u>CSBA</u>

Website U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights

Cross References Description

0410 Nondiscrimination In District Programs And Activities

0420 School Plans/Site Councils
0420 School Plans/Site Councils
0420.41 Charter School Oversight
0420.41-E(1) Charter School Oversight

O430 Comprehensive Local Plan For Special Education
O430 Comprehensive Local Plan For Special Education

0450 Comprehensive Safety Plan
0450 Comprehensive Safety Plan

0460Local Control And Accountability Plan0460Local Control And Accountability Plan1100Communication With The Public1113District And School Websites1113District And School Websites1113-E(1)District And School Websites

District-Sponsored Social Media

1114 District-Sponsored Social Media

1220 <u>Citizen Advisory Committees</u>

Cross References Description

1220 <u>Citizen Advisory Committees</u>

1250 <u>Visitors/Outsiders</u>1250 <u>Visitors/Outsiders</u>

1312.1 Complaints Concerning District Employees
1312.1 Complaints Concerning District Employees
1312.2 Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials
1312.2 Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials
1312.2-E PDF(1) Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials

1312.4 Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures
 1312.4-E PDF(1) Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures
 1312.4-E PDF(2) Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures
 1312.4-E(1) Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures

1313 Civility
1313-E PDF(1) Civility

1340 Access To District Records
1340 Access To District Records

3260 Fees And Charges
3260 Fees And Charges

3555 <u>Nutrition Program Compliance</u>

3580 District Records
3580 District Records

4030 Nondiscrimination In Employment
4030 Nondiscrimination In Employment

4112.23 Special Education Staff
4112.9 Employee Notifications
4112.9 Employee Notifications
4112.9-E PDF(1) Employee Notifications

4118 Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action
 4118 Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action

4119.1 Civil And Legal Rights
4119.11 Sexual Harassment
4119.11 Sexual Harassment

4119.12 <u>Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures</u>
4119.12-E PDF(1) <u>Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures</u>

4119.23 <u>Unauthorized Release Of Confidential/Privileged Information</u>

4131 Staff Development
4212.9 Employee Notifications
4212.9 Employee Notifications
4212.9-E PDF(1) Employee Notifications

4218 Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action

Cross References Description

4218 <u>Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action</u>

4219.1 Civil And Legal Rights
4219.11 Sexual Harassment
4219.11 Sexual Harassment

4219.12 Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures
4219.12-E PDF(1) Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures

4219.23 Unauthorized Release Of Confidential/Privileged Information

4231 Staff Development

4244 Complaints
4244 Complaints

4312.9 Employee Notifications
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