

**ATHLETIC COMPETITION**

The Governing Board recognizes that the district's athletic program constitutes an integral component of the educational program and helps to build a positive school climate. The athletic program also promotes the physical, social, and emotional well-being and character development of participating students. The athletic program shall be designed to meet students' interests and abilities and shall be varied in scope to attract wide participation.

All athletic teams shall be supervised by qualified coaches to ensure that student athletes receive appropriate instruction and guidance related to safety, health, sports skills, and sportsmanship. Athletic events shall be officiated by qualified personnel.

The Board encourages business and community support for district athletic programs, subject to applicable district policies and regulations governing advertisements and donations.

**NONDISCRIMINATION AND EQUIVALENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM**

The district's athletic program shall be free from discrimination and discriminatory practices prohibited by state and federal law, including, but not limited to, the use of any racially derogatory or discriminatory school or athletic team name, mascot, or nickname. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that equivalent athletic opportunities are provided for males and females, and that students are permitted to participate in athletic activities consistent with their gender identity.

Any complaint regarding the district's athletic program shall be filed in accordance with the district's uniform complaint procedures.

**CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION**

Any district school that participates in the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) shall conduct its athletic activities in accordance with CIF bylaws and rules and any applicable district policy and regulation. The Superintendent or designee shall have responsibility for the district's interscholastic athletic program, while the principal or designee at each participating school shall be responsible for site-level decisions, as appropriate.

The Board shall annually designate a representative to the local CIF league from each school that participates in CIF sports. The Superintendent or designee shall recommend a candidate for the position who demonstrates an understanding of the district's goals for student learning and interscholastic activities, knowledge of the athletic programs, awareness of the implications of league decisions for the school and the district, and interpersonal communication and leadership skills.

The designated representative(s) shall vote on issues that impact interscholastic athletics at the league and section levels, perform any other duties required by the CIF league, and report regularly to the Board on league, section, and statewide issues related to athletic programs.

**STUDENT ELIGIBILITY**

Eligibility requirements for participation in the district's interscholastic athletic program, including requirements pertaining to academic achievement and residency, shall be the same as those set by the district for participation in extracurricular and co-curricular activities.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that students participating in interscholastic athletics governed by CIF satisfy CIF eligibility requirements. Students shall not be charged a fee to participate in an athletic program, including, but not limited to, a fee to cover the cost of uniforms, locks, lockers, or athletic equipment.

**SPORTSMANSHIP**

The Board values the quality and integrity of the athletic program and the character development of student athletes. Student athletes, coaches, parents/guardians, spectators, and others are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play during all athletic competitions. They shall also abide by the core principles of trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship and the Code of Ethics adopted by CIF.

Students and staff may be subject to disciplinary action for improper conduct.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY**

The Board desires to give student health and safety the highest consideration in planning and conducting athletic activities.

Students shall have a medical clearance before participating in interscholastic athletic programs. Care shall be taken to ensure that all athletic trainings and competitions are conducted in a manner that will not overtax the physical capabilities of the participants. When appropriate, protective equipment shall be used to prevent or minimize injuries.

Coaches and appropriate district employees shall take every possible precaution to ensure that athletic equipment is kept in safe and serviceable condition. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all athletic equipment is cleaned and inspected for safety before the beginning of each school year.

In the event of an injury or a perceived imminent risk to a student's health, such as a concussion or passing out, fainting, or other sign of sudden cardiac arrest, during or immediately after an athletic activity, the coach or any other district employee who is present shall remove the student athlete from the activity, observe universal precautions in handling blood or other bodily fluid, and/or seek medical treatment for the student as appropriate.

Whenever an injury is suffered by a student, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the student's parent/guardian of the date, time, and extent of any injury suffered by the student and any actions taken to treat the student.

**LEGAL REFERENCE:****EDUCATION CODE**

200-262.4	Prohibition of discrimination
17578	Cleaning and sterilizing of football equipment
17580-17581	Football equipment
32220-32224	Insurance for athletic teams, especially:
32221.5	Required insurance for athletic activities
33353-33353.5	California Interscholastic Federation; implementation of policies, insurance program
33354	California Department of Education authority over interscholastic athletics
33479-33479.9	The Eric Parades Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act
35160.5	District policies; rules and regulations
35179	Interscholastic athletics
35179.1	California High School Coaching Education and Training Program
35179.5	Interscholastic athletics; limitation on full-contact practices
48850	Interscholastic athletics; students in foster care and homeless students
48900	Grounds for suspension and expulsion
48930-48938	Student organizations
49010-49013	Student fees
49020-49023	Athletic programs; legislative intent, equal opportunity
49030-49034	Performance-enhancing substances
49458	Health examinations, interscholastic athletic program
49475	Health and safety, concussions and head injuries
49700-49701	Education of children of military families
51242	Exemption from physical education for high school students in interscholastic athletic program

**PENAL CODE**

245.6	Hazing
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**CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5**

4900-4965	Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs, especially:
4920-4922	Nondiscrimination in intramural, interscholastic, and club activities
5531	Supervision of extracurricular activities of students
5590-5596	Employment of noncertificated coaches

**UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20**

1681-1688	Discrimination based on sex or blindness, Title IX
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**CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34**

106.31	Nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities
106.33	Comparable facilities
106.41	Nondiscrimination in athletic programs

**COURT DECISIONS**

Mansourian v. Regents of University of California, (2010) 602F. 3d 957  
Kahn v. East Side Union High School District, (2004) 31 Cal. 4th 990t  
McCormick v. School District of Mamaroneck, (2004) 370 F.3d 275  
Hartzell v. Connell, (1984) 35 Cal. 3d 899

**MANAGEMENT RESOURCES:****CSBA PUBLICATIONS**

Updated Legal Guidance: Protecting Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students Against Discrimination, March 2017

**CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION PUBLICATIONS**

California Interscholastic Federation Constitution and Bylaws  
A Guide to Equity in Athletics  
Guidelines for Gender Identity Participation  
Keep Their Heart in the Game: A Sudden Cardiac Arrest Information Sheet for Athletes and Parents/Guardians  
Pursuing Victory with Honor, 1999

**CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION PUBLICATIONS**

Heads Up: Concussion in High School Sports, Tool Kit, June 2010  
Heads Up: Concussion in Youth Sports, Tool Kit, July 2007  
Acute Concussion Evaluation (ACE) Care Plan, 2006

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS**

Withdrawal of Dear Colleague Letter on Transgender Students, Dear Colleague Letter, February 22, 2017  
Intercollegiate Athletics Policy Clarification: The Three-Part Test - Part Three, Dear Colleague letter, April 20, 2010

**WEB SITES**

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>  
California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>  
California Interscholastic Federation: <http://www.cifstate.org>  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Concussion Resources: <http://www.cdc.gov/concussion>  
National Federation of State High School Associations: <http://www.nfhs.org>  
National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment: <http://www.nocsae.org>  
U.S. Anti-Doping Agency: <http://www.usada.org>  
U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www2.ed.gov/ocr>