CSBA POLICY GUIDE SHEET August 2025

Note: Descriptions below identify revisions made to CSBA's sample board policies, administrative regulations, board bylaws, and/or exhibits. Editorial changes have also been made. Districts and county offices of education should review the sample materials and modify their own policies accordingly.

Board Policy 6141.2 - Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs

Policy updated to reflect **NEW COURT DECISION** (Mahmoud v. Taylor) which held that the First Amendment prohibited a district from including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning (LGBTQ+) storybooks as part of elementary school instruction without providing parents/guardians with notice and the ability to opt their students out of that instructional content on the grounds that the storybooks substantially interfered with the religious development of their children. Additionally, policy updated to extend, to students whose parents/guardians have properly opted them out of instruction on the basis of their religious beliefs, state law requirements that (1) authorize the offering of an alternative activity of similar educational value, and (2) prohibit disciplinary action, academic penalty, or other sanction on the grounds that the student was opted out.

Board Policy 6142.1 - Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction

Policy updated to reflect **NEW COURT DECISION** (Mahmoud v. Taylor) which held that the First Amendment prohibited a district from including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning (LGBTQ+) storybooks as part of elementary school instruction without providing parents/guardians with notice and the ability to opt their students out of that instructional content on the grounds that the storybooks substantially interfered with the religious development of their children. Additionally, policy updated to add the section "General Criteria for Instruction and Materials" which was moved from the accompanying administrative regulation as that section is more appropriately placed in Board policy rather than administrative regulation.

Board Policy 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education

Policy updated to reflect **NEW COURT DECISION** (Mahmoud v. Taylor) which held that the First Amendment prohibited a district from including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning (LGBTQ+) storybooks as part of elementary school instruction without providing parents/guardians with notice and the ability to opt their students out of that instructional content on the grounds that the storybooks substantially interfered with the religious development of their children. Additionally, policy updated to extend, to students whose parents/guardians have properly opted them out of instruction on the basis of their religious beliefs, state law requirements that (1) authorize the offering of an alternative activity of similar educational value, and (2) prohibit disciplinary action, academic penalty, or other sanction on the grounds that the student was opted out.