

CSBA POLICY GUIDE SHEET
February 2026

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

Board Policy 4119.21/4219.21/4319.21 - Professional Standards

Policy updated to add, to the philosophical paragraph, the Governing Board's desire to provide a safe and positive school environment that promotes the learning, engagement, safety, and well-being of district students, and to expand upon the expectations for district employee conduct. Additionally, policy updated to reflect **NEW LAW (SB 848, 2025)** which prohibits inappropriate conduct between district employees, adult volunteers, and contractors and among and between adults employed, volunteering, or under contract with the district. In addition, policy updated to clarify that inappropriate employee conduct includes (1) engaging in any conduct that endangers or threatens to endanger students, staff, or others, and (2) other conduct prohibited in Board Policy 4119.24/4219.24/4319.24 - Maintaining Appropriate Adult-Student Interactions.

Board Policy 4119.24/4219.24/4319.24 - Maintaining Appropriate Adult-Student Interactions

Policy updated to add, that for purposes of this policy, employees include interns, volunteers, contractors, and other persons with an employment relationship with the district. Additionally, policy updated to add, to the philosophical paragraph, the Governing Board's desire to provide a safe environment that promotes the learning, engagement, and safety of district students. In addition, policy updated to reflect **NEW LAW (SB 848, 2025)** which prohibits inappropriate conduct between district employees and students and expands the list of inappropriate employee conduct. Policy also updated to add new section related to violations of this policy.

Board Policy 4156.3/4256.3/4356.3 - Employee Property Reimbursement

Policy updated to clarify, in Option 2, that to the extent that the full cost of repair or replacement of an employee's personal property is not covered by another source, such as an employee's private insurance, the Governing Board authorizes the Superintendent or designee to pay the remaining cost of replacing or repairing the employee's personal property. Additionally, policy updated to add that the Board may establish a maximum value of reimbursement.

Board Policy 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Policy updated to add that off campus student behavior may result in discipline when it disrupts district programs and activities or is otherwise prohibited by law, Board policy or administrative regulation. Additionally, policy updated to include state law authorization for the Governing Board, on a case-by-case basis, to permit a student Board member to make restorative justice recommendations to the Board regarding specific expulsion matters. In addition, policy updated to reflect **NEW LAW (AB 1230, 2025)** which (1) requires the Board, at the time of the expulsion order, to recommend a plan for the student's rehabilitation, and (2) adds to the list of outcome data the Superintendent or designee is required to maintain.

Board Policy 5145.2 - Freedom Of Speech/Expression

Policy updated to (1) add language to the Governing Board's philosophical statement related to providing a welcoming, safe, and supportive school environment that protects students from discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying, or other types of expression prohibited by law, (2) delete headings for On- and Off- Campus Expression, (3) expand student exercise of freedom of speech and/or the press to include official district and school websites or social media accounts identified and made available for such purpose, (4) expand which student expressions, or distributing or posting of material, is prohibited, (5) clarify material related to off-campus expression, including electronic expression via a personal device or online expression via a personal social media account, and (6) clarify material related to when student expression may be subject to discipline.

Board Policy 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity

Policy updated to reflect that districts are required to grant a student in kindergarten-grade 12 an accommodation in connection with any physical activity components of a physical education course during

a period of religious fasting, and that the student be provided alternative assignments or activities for the period the student is granted an accommodation. Additionally, policy updated to reflect the requirement that the district (1) develop, adopt, and implement extreme weather protocols that incorporate the standardized guidelines compiled by the California Department of Education that include specific measures to be taken during extreme weather conditions, and (2) that the adopted weather protocols be annually reviewed, evaluated, and if necessary, updated in accordance with law. In addition, policy updated to authorize the Superintendent or designee to offer an alternate term schedule for grades 6-12 physical education courses.

Board Policy 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements

Policy updated to (1) clarify where, in policy, exemptions from district-adopted graduation requirements can be found, (2) reflect **NEW LAW (AB 821, 2025)** which indefinitely extends the authorization for career technical education to count toward the visual or performing arts or world language graduation requirement, and (3) qualify that the graduation requirement for a one-semester course in ethnic studies beginning with the 2029-30 school year is contingent on state funding. Additionally, policy updated to reflect (1) the graduation requirement, beginning in the 2030-31 school year, for the completion of a stand-alone one-semester course in personal finance that may not be combined with any other course, and (2) the authorization, starting with students graduating in 2030-31, for a student who completes such a course to be exempt from the requirement to complete a one-semester course in economics. In addition, policy updated to clarify (1) that the Governing Board may adopt additional coursework or other requirements that district students are required to complete in order to obtain a high school diploma, and (2) that the Board is expressly authorized by law to adopt a policy that exempts students from additional locally adopted graduation requirements. Policy also updated to expand the section, "Exemption from District-Adopted Graduation Requirements for Highly Mobile Students," to include the graduation exemptions for foster youth, a student experiencing homelessness, a former juvenile court school student, a child of a military family, a student who is migratory or a student participating in a newcomer program as specified in law (highly mobile students), with material that was formerly in separate policies unique to the particular characteristic of the highly mobile student.

Board Policy 6146.4 - Differential Graduation and Competency Standards for Students with Disabilities

Policy updated to reflect the authorization for districts to exempt a student with disabilities who was enrolled in grade 10 or higher in the 2022-23 school year, and who satisfies eligibility criteria, from all coursework and other requirements adopted by the Governing Board that are additional to the statewide course requirements, and to award the student a high school diploma.

Board Policy 6173 - Education for Homeless Children

Policy updated to delete reporting requirements related to students experiencing homelessness who graduated in the fourth or fifth year of high school with an exemption from district-established graduation requirements that are in addition to the statewide course requirements, as that material is in Board Policy 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements, in the section, "Exemption from District-Adopted Graduation Requirements for Highly Mobile Students," which includes such exemptions for all highly mobile students.

Board Policy 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth

Policy updated to delete reporting requirements related to foster youth who graduated in the fourth or fifth year of high school with an exemption from district-established graduation requirements that are in addition to the statewide course requirements, as that material is in Board Policy 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements in the section, "Exemption from District-Adopted Graduation Requirements for Highly Mobile Students," which includes such exemptions for all highly mobile students.

Board Policy 6173.2 - Education of Children of Military Families

Policy updated to reference the requirement for the California Department of Education to establish a California Purple Star School Designation Program to reduce the burden on military-connected students and their families.

Board Policy 6173.4 - Education for American Indian Students

Policy updated to reference the Native American Studies Model Curriculum, which is a state funded comprehensive, standards-aligned curriculum dedicated to Native American Studies that offers lessons that integrate Native perspectives across academic disciplines.

Board Policy 6175 - Migrant Education Program

Policy updated to clarify that first priority for services to students who are migratory is for those students who have made a qualifying move within the previous one-year period.

Board Bylaw 9320 - Meetings and Notices

Bylaw updated to clarify (1) when the Governing Board may meet in open or closed session, (2) that the existence of a Board meeting includes gathering remotely or electronically, (3) that a series of communications by a majority of the Board should not occur through official or personal social media accounts, and (4) that written notice of special Board meetings should be posted in any location required for remote meetings and attendance. Additionally, bylaw updated to delete material related to disability-related accommodations as it already exists and is more appropriated place in Board Bylaw 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials. In addition, bylaw updated to reflect (1) **NEW LAW (SB 707, 2025)** which permits a remote Board meeting based on a proclaimed state of emergency or local emergency without the requirement to post the physical location of Board members, and (2) the requirement for the notice of an emergency Board meeting to the local media that have requested such notice to be by telephone or email. Bylaw also updated to delete material related to traditional teleconferencing, teleconferencing by individual Board members due to just cause, teleconferencing by individual Board members due to emergency circumstances, and teleconference meetings during a proclaimed state of emergency, as that content has been moved to new Board Bylaw 9320.1 - Remote Meetings and Attendance.

NEW - Board Bylaw 9320.1 - Remote Meetings and Attendance

New bylaw addresses circumstances in which the Governing Board is legally permitted to meet remotely and in which an individual remote Board member is permitted to attend and participate in a Board meeting. Additionally, bylaw includes the traditional method of remote attendance and reflects **NEW LAW (SB 707, 2025)** which permits (1) remote attendance and participation as an accommodation and due to just cause, and (2) remote Board meetings during a proclaimed state of emergency.

Board Bylaw 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials

Bylaw updated to clarify that (1) closed session items should be agendized in accordance with Board Bylaw 9321 - Closed Session, and (2) for a regular Board meeting, the Governing Board may consider an item not included in the agenda in accordance with Board Bylaw 9323.2 - Actions by the Board. Additionally, bylaw updated to add new section heading, "Public Comment," which (1) includes clarification that the agenda provide members of the public the opportunity to address the Board on any agenda item, including items to be considered in closed session and items listed on the consent agenda, (2) provides options depending on if it is district practice to have one public comment period for all open session agenda items or separate public comment for each open session agenda item, and (3) reflects **NEW LAW (SB 707, 2025)** which adds requirements to the exception to public comment requirements. In addition, bylaw updated to add new section heading, "Disability-Related Accommodations or Modifications." Bylaw also updated to add material related to Board member requests for a specific matter within the subject matter of the Board to be placed on the agenda, both when the Board member is acting in the capacity as a member of the public and acting in the capacity as a Board member. Additionally, bylaw updated to add new section, "Special Meeting Agenda Dissemination to Members of the Public," which clarifies requirements related to the dissemination of special meeting agendas.

Board Bylaw 9323 - Meeting Conduct

Bylaw updated to (1) clarify that the chair of a given Governing Board meeting will be the Board president or, if the Board president is absent, another Board member, (2) delete the time for which a regular Board

meeting should be adjourned, and instead provide a blank to reflect district practice, (3) add material related to removal of an item from the consent agenda, specifying that the Board chair determine when the removed item be considered on the agenda, (4) expand material related to the prohibition from requiring members of the public to provide identifying information as a condition of attending a Board meeting and/or providing public comment, and related exceptions, (5) delete material related to public participation that is either unnecessary or is contained within more closely related Board bylaws, (6) delete the time for which an individual providing public comment is allowed to address the Board, and instead provide a blank to reflect district practice, (6) provide clarifying language related to an individual speaker giving some or all of the speaker's time to another speaker, and (7) add language related to the public comment period when a remote Board member is attending and participating based on just cause. Additionally, bylaw updated to add new section heading, "Disruptions," which (1) reflects **NEW COURT DECISION (Berkeley People's Alliance v. City of Berkeley)** in which the California Court of Appeal held that state law requires a legislative body to clear the meeting room when a meeting is willfully disrupted and order cannot be restored by removing disruptive individuals and does not permit the legislative body to relocate the meeting to a different room in lieu of clearing the meeting room.