

CSBA POLICY GUIDE SHEET

November 2025

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 1000 - Concepts and Roles

Policy updated as part of CSBA's process to regularly review policy documents that otherwise would not be revised, due to no applicable changes to law, regulations, new guidance, or other directives, and amended for timeliness, organization, and to add a reference to Board Bylaw 9005 - Governance Standards.

Board Policy 1114 - District-Sponsored Social Media

Policy updated in conjunction with the accompanying administrative, with minor revisions.

Board Policy 2120 - Superintendent Recruitment and Selection

Policy updated to reference CSBA's, "California Consultants and Leadership" search services, which provides guidance to districts recruiting and selecting a Superintendent. Additionally, policy updated to remove from the list related to the Governing Board's search and selection process items which are rarely carried out by the Board, and to add duties that a professional advisor may facilitate. In addition, policy updated to clarify material related to discussing, negotiating, and voting on the Superintendent's contract. Policy also updated to reflect **NEW LAW (SB 521, 2025)**, which prohibits the employment of a person as Superintendent if within the past five years the candidate was convicted of any felony involving accepting or giving, or offering to give, any bribe, conflict of interest, the embezzlement of public money, extortion or theft of public money, perjury, or conspiracy to commit any of those crimes arising directly out of their official duties as a public employee.

Board Policy 3470 - Debt Issuance and Management

Policy updated to (1) add communication to the public to the list of debt issuance program activities that the Superintendent administers and coordinates, (2) remove reference to Qualified Zone Academy Bonds which are no longer authorized to be issued, (3) add types of temporary borrowing or short-term transfers to the list of potential financing sources for the district, (4) add that the method of sale for any district-issued debt be the most cost-effective, (5) add that before any sale of bonds, the Governing Board adopt a resolution stating the Board's express approval of the method of sale and a statement of the reasons for the method of sale selected, and (6) include additional information regarding the report to the California Debt Investment and Advisory Commission, which the district is required to submit annually following a bond issuance.

Board Policy 4000 - Concepts and Roles

Policy updated as part of CSBA's process to regularly review policy documents that otherwise would not be revised, due to no applicable changes to law, regulations, new guidance, or other directives, and amended to (1) clarify that it is the academic achievement, personal growth, and well-being of district students, in addition to the success of district programs, that hinges on district personnel, and (2) reflect The California Labor Management Initiative's, "Resource Guidebook: Building Partnerships to Create Great Public Schools," which provides guidance to support education leaders in developing labor-management partnerships that benefit students, staff, and the community.

Board Policy 5000 - Concepts and Roles

Policy updated as part of CSBA's process to regularly review policy documents that otherwise would not be revised, due to no applicable changes to law, regulations, new guidance, or other directives, and amended for timeliness, to include material related to school safety, and to reference applicable related Board policies and administrative regulations.

Board Policy 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities

Policy updated to more closely align with law the Governing Board's belief that the district's relationship with parents/guardians is one of mutual support and respect, and that the partnership with parents/guardians is specific to their children. Additionally, policy updated to clarify that the notification parents/guardians

receive regarding their rights, includes, but is not limited to, rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), in accordance with Board Policy/Exhibit (1) 5145.6 - Parent/Guardian Notifications. In addition, 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. Policy also updated to include that the Superintendent or designee may establish a parent center at a school with a substantial number of students with a home language other than English, to encourage parent/guardian understanding of and participation in their children's educational programs.

Board Policy 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance

Policy updated to clarify that the Board policy and accompanying administrative regulation apply to students transferring into and out of the district. Additionally, policy updated to reflect **NEW LAW (SB 897, 2024)** which (1) extends the school district of choice program indefinitely, (2) requires the accounting of requests for district of choice transfers to include foster youth and student experiencing homelessness status, and (3) provides that compliance of all provisions of a district's school district of choice program are subject to the annual district audit required by law.

Board Policy 5138 - Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation

Policy updated to clarify the distinction between students providing peer mediation and those receiving it. Additionally, policy updated to include, in the development of a conflict resolution and/or peer mediation program (1) the expectation for confidentiality regarding who participated, what was discussed, and how any conflict was resolved, and (2) the selection of and requirements to train as a peer mediator.

Board Policy 6020 - Parent Involvement

Policy updated to reference the U.S. Department of Education's June 2025 Dear Colleague Letter which provides school choice guidance and explains how states can use federal funds to both expand education choice and turn around underperforming schools. Additionally, policy updated to ensure compliance with the California Department of Education's federal program monitoring instrument. In addition, policy updated to add material related to the establishment and convening of a parent advisory committee (PAC) and, as applicable, an English learner parent advisory committee (ELPAC), which was moved from the accompanying administrative regulation, as it is more appropriately placed in Board policy. Policy also updated to add that the Superintendent or designee annually attend a regular meeting of the PAC or ELPAC, if applicable.

Board Policy 6143 - Courses of Study

Policy updated to clarify, in accordance with various provisions of state and federal law and related court cases, the actual or perceived characteristics of an individual or group that may serve as a basis for unlawful discrimination in education programs and activities, and reflect **NEW LAW (SB 1137, 2024)** which provides that prohibited discrimination includes discrimination not just because of one protected class under state law, but also because of the combination of two or more protected bases. Additionally, policy updated to clarify that the Governing Board adopt a course of study for elementary and secondary grades that, in addition to preparing students for the next level of study and/or employment, includes all required instructional content. In addition, 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.

Delete - Board Policy 6146.2 - Certificate of Proficiency/High School Equivalency

Policy deleted as unnecessary as the requirements stated within vest with the California Department of Education and/or the State Board of Education rather than being the obligation of a school district.

Board Policy 7000 - Concepts and Roles

Policy updated as part of CSBA's process to regularly review policy documents that otherwise would not be revised, due to no applicable changes to law, regulations, new guidance, or other directives, and amended to clarify that (1) one of the major responsibilities of the Governing Board, in addition to providing healthful,

safe and adequate facilities that enhance the instructional program, is to provide facilities that align with the needs of the district, and (2) in some instances, the best use of facilities may be reuse by a third party, and in other instances, may be lease or sale. Additionally, policy updated to clarify that, in order to plan for long-range facilities needs, the Superintendent or designee may develop, for Board approval, a school facilities master plan in accordance with Board Policy 7110 - Facilities Master Plan and that, in accordance with the plan, the Board will (1) select and purchase school sites for future expansion, as needed, and facilities for new school sites or other district use, (2) sell or lease facilities, including joint occupancy or joint use, when no other better use is identified, (3) authorize the use of school facilities by district residents and community groups, and (4) consider the use of district property for workforce housing.

Board Policy 7131 - Relations with Local Agencies

Policy updated to add that (1) the Governing Board is required to meet with appropriate local agency recreation and park authorities to review possible methods of coordinating the planning, design, and construction of new school facilities and school sites, or major additions to existing school facilities and recreation and park facilities in the community, and (2) the district is required to recommend measures for inclusion in the city/county general plan to ensure the availability of adequate school facilities to address a new development. Additionally, policy updated to clarify material related to development within the district, including that in order to adequately mitigate additional students generated by such development, the Board may make certain findings required by law and that upon such findings, notify the city council or county board of supervisors. In addition, policy updated to add material related to a district workforce housing development.

Board Bylaw 9310 - Board Policies

Bylaw updated to reflect current Board policy development and adoption process practice. Additionally, bylaw updated to include new "Definitions" section which more clearly defines the use of "Board policy," "Board bylaw," and "administrative regulation." In addition, bylaw updated to add section headers to differentiate between the development and adoption of Board policies versus administrative regulations. Bylaw also updated to delete the section "Monitoring and Evaluation" and include that content in the new "Board Policy Development and Adoption" section.

Board Bylaw 9321 - Closed Session

Bylaw updated to add (1) that public comment is required to occur prior to closed session, and (2) that a copy of a document that becomes public after action was taken during closed session be provided to any person who has made a standing request for all documentation as part of a request for notice of meeting, in addition to providing such document to any person present at the conclusion of the closed session who has submitted a written request. Additionally, bylaw updated to reflect **NEW ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION** which states that only a person with "an official or essential role to play in a particular closed session" agenda item may attend closed session for that particular item, and to add new section "Attendance in Closed Session" to address who is permitted to attend a particular closed session item. In addition, bylaw updated to clarify that for purposes of a closed session agenda item on personnel matters that "employee" includes an officer or independent contractor who functions as an officer or employee but excludes Governing Board members and other independent contractors. Bylaw also updated to clarify that disclosure of an approved agreement concluding labor negotiations identify the item approved and the other parties to the negotiation. Additionally, bylaw updated to reflect **NEW LAW (SB 1445, 2024)** which authorizes the Board to allow student board members to make restorative justice recommendations that would be considered in closed session expulsion hearings. In addition, bylaw updated to reflect **NEW LAW (AB 2715, 2024)** which authorizes the Board to hold a closed session with additional types of law enforcement or security personnel and to hold a closed session on a threat to critical infrastructure controls or critical infrastructure information.