



Chico Unified School District

1163 East Seventh Street, Chico, CA 95928-5999
(530) 891-3000

Board Policy: #4119.24
4219.24
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Maintaining Appropriate Adult-Student Interactions

For purposes of this policy employees include interns, volunteers, contractors, and other persons with an employment relationship with the district.

The Governing Board desires to provide a safe and positive school environment that promotes the learning, engagement, safety and well-being of district students. The Board expects all adults with whom students may interact at school or in school-related activities, to maintain the highest professional and ethical standards in their interactions with students both within and outside the educational setting in accordance with this policy and Board Policy 4119.21/4219.21/4319.21 – Professional Standards. Such adults shall not engage in threatening, unsafe, unlawful or inappropriate interactions with students and shall avoid boundary-blurring behaviors that undermine trust in the adult-student relationship and lead to the appearance of impropriety.

Adults shall not intrude on a student's physical or emotional boundaries unless necessary in an emergency or to serve a legitimate purpose related to instruction, counseling, student health, or student or staff safety.

The district's employee code of conduct addressing interactions with students shall be provided to parents/guardians at the beginning of each school year and shall be posted on school and/or district websites. (Education Code 44050)

Inappropriate Conduct

Employees shall remain vigilant of their position of authority and not abuse it when relating with students.

The Board prohibits inappropriate conduct between employees and students. (Education Code 32100)

Inappropriate employee conduct includes, but is not limited to:

1. Initiating inappropriate physical contact.
2. Attempting to form a romantic or sexual relationship with any student or engaging in sexual harassment of a student, including sexual advances, flirtations, requests for sexual favors, inappropriate comments about a student's body or appearance, or other verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature.
3. Engaging in inappropriate socialization or fraternization with a student or soliciting, encouraging, or maintaining an inappropriate written, verbal, or physical relationship with a student.
4. Being alone with a student outside of the view of others.
5. Visiting a student's home or inviting a student to visit the employee's home without parent/guardian consent, unless in an emergent situation.
6. Maintaining personal contact with a student during or outside the school day that has no legitimate educational purpose, by phone, letter, text message, social media internet platforms, electronic communications, or other means of communication, without including the student's parent/guardian.

In accordance with Board Policy/Administrative Regulation 4040 - Employee Use of Technology, employees shall use district equipment or technological resources, when available, when communicating



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electronically with students. Employees shall not communicate with students through any medium that is designed to eliminate records of the communications. The Superintendent or designee may monitor employee usage of district technology at any time without advance notice or consent.

7. Creating or participating in social networking sites for communication with students, other than those created by the district, without the prior written approval of the principal or designee.
8. Inviting or accepting requests from students, or former students who are minors, to connect on personal social networking sites (e.g., "friending" or "following" on social media), unless the site is dedicated to school business.
9. Singling out a particular student for personal attention and friendship, including giving gifts and/or nicknames to individual students.
10. Addressing a student in an overly familiar manner, such as by using a term of endearment.
11. Socializing or spending time with students outside of school-sponsored events, except as participants in community activities.
12. Sending or accompanying students on personal errands unrelated to any legitimate educational purpose.
13. Transporting a student in a personal vehicle without prior authorization.
14. Encouraging students to confide personal or family problems and/or relationships.
15. Disclosing personal, family, or other private matters to students or sharing personal secrets with students.
16. Engaging in any conduct that endangers or threatens to endanger students, including, but not limited to, physical violence or threats of violence.
17. Engaging in harassing or discriminatory behavior towards students, or failing or refusing to intervene when an act of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying against a student is observed.
18. Physically abusing, sexually abusing, neglecting, or otherwise willfully harming or injuring a child.
19. Using profane, obscene, or abusive language against students.

Violations of Policy

Any employee who observes or has knowledge of another employee's violation of this policy shall report the information to the Superintendent or designee or appropriate agency for investigation pursuant to the applicable complaint procedures. Other adults with knowledge of any violation of this policy are encouraged to report the violation to the Superintendent or designee. The Board prohibits retaliation against anyone who reports a violation of this policy. Immediate intervention shall be implemented when necessary to protect student safety or the integrity of the investigation.

Employees who engage in any conduct in violation of this policy, including retaliation against a person who reports the violation or participates in the complaint process, shall be subject to discipline, up to and including dismissal. Any other adult who violates this policy may be barred from school grounds and activities in accordance with law. Additionally, the Superintendent or designee may also notify law enforcement as



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appropriate.

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 board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
5 CCR 80303	<u>Reports of change in employment status; alleged misconduct</u>
5 CCR 80304	<u>Notice of sexual misconduct</u>
Ed. Code 32100	<u>Professional boundaries between adults and students and the safety of learning environments</u>
Ed. Code 44030.5	<u>Reporting change in employment status due to alleged misconduct</u>
Ed. Code 44050	<u>Employee code of conduct; interaction with students</u>
Ed. Code 44242.5	<u>Reports and review of alleged misconduct</u>
Ed. Code 44940	<u>Compulsory leave of absence for certificated persons</u>
Ed. Code 48980	<u>Parent/Guardian notifications</u>
Pen. Code 11164-11174.3	<u>Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act</u>

Management Resources	Description
Website	<u>CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services</u>

Cross References

Code	Description
0420.4	Charter School Authorization
0420.41	Charter School Oversight
0450	Comprehensive Safety Plan
1240	Volunteer Assistance
4040	Employee Use Of Technology
4111	Recruitment And Selection
4112	Appointment And Conditions Of Employment
4112.5	Criminal Record Check
4112.6	Personnel Files
4116	Probationary/Permanent Status
4119.21	Professional Standards
4121	Temporary/Substitute Personnel
4211	Recruitment And Selection



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Code	Description
4212	<i>Appointment And Conditions Of Employment</i>
4212.5	<i>Criminal Record Check</i>
4212.6	<i>Personnel Files</i>
4216	<i>Probationary/Permanent Status</i>
4218	<i>Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action</i>
4218.1	<i>Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action (Merit System)</i>
4219.21	<i>Professional Standards</i>
4311	<i>Recruitment And Selection</i>
4312.5	<i>Criminal Record Check</i>
4312.6	<i>Personnel Files</i>
4319.21	<i>Professional Standards</i>
5131	<i>Conduct</i>
5141.4	<i>Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting</i>
5142	<i>Safety</i>
5145.7	<i>Sexual Harassment</i>
7110	<i>Facilities Master Plan</i>