

Students

Health Examinations

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of periodic health examinations conducted according to state health regulations. To determine the health status of students, facilitate the removal of handicaps to learning, and determine whether special adaptations of the school program may be necessary, the Board shall require that periodic examinations be conducted which include tests for vision, hearing, scoliosis, child health and disability prevention and other health assessments as required by law. All personnel employed to examine students shall exercise proper care of each student being examined and shall ensure that the examination results are kept confidential. (E.C. 94450)

A parent/guardian may annually file a statement with the principal withholding consent to any physical examination of his/her child. The child shall be exempt, but shall be subject to exclusion due to a suspected contagious or infectious disease. (E.C. 49451) (cf. 5141.22 - Infectious Diseases) The principal of each school shall notify parents/guardians of the rights of students and parents/guardians relating to health examinations. The Board may from time to time require reports regarding the numbers of students found to have physical problems and the effort made to correct them. (E.C. 49457)

Vision and Hearing

Students shall have their vision and hearing tested by qualified personnel authorized by the district. (E.C. 49452, 49454) Students shall have their vision and hearing examined in grades K, 2, 5, 8 and 10. Examination shall include visual acuity and a pure tone audiometric assessment. Color vision shall be tested for male students in first grade. The results of the vision and hearing appraisals shall be entered into the student's health record. External observations of the student's eyes, visual performance and perception shall be done by the school nurse and the classroom teacher. (E.C. 49455)

In addition to waiver of vision or hearing assessment based upon religious belief, evaluation of a student's vision may be waived at parent/guardian's request if the parent/guardian presents a certificate from either a medical doctor or an optometrist stating the results of an examination of the student's vision including visual acuity, and, in male children, color vision.

Visual defects, hearing defects or any other defects found as a result of a vision or hearing examination shall be reported to the parent/guardian with a request that remedial action be taken to correct or cure the defect. The written report shall not include a recommendation to a designated individual or class of vision care practitioner. (E.C. 49456)

The student may be referred to a public clinic, or diagnostic and treatment center operated by a public hospital or by the state, county or city department of public health. (E.C. 49456)

Scoliosis Screening

The Board shall provide for the screening of students for the condition known as scoliosis. Every female student in the 7th grade and every male student in the 8th grade shall be screened. The screening shall follow the standards established by the State Department of Education and shall be performed by qualified personnel as specified by law. (E.C. 49452.5)

Persons performing the screening shall not solicit, encourage or advise treatment of the student for scoliosis. The same shall apply to any other condition discovered in the course of the screening for scoliosis. (E.C. 49452.5)

The parent/guardian of any student suspected of having scoliosis shall be notified. The notice shall include an explanation of scoliosis, the significance of treatment at an early age, and the public services available for treatment. A referral to the appropriate community resources for diagnosis and treatment shall be made. (E.C. 49452.5) (cf. 5111 - Admission)

Child Health and Disability Prevention

The Board shall cooperate with the County Public Health Department in notifying the parents/guardians of kindergarten and first grade students about the requirements to obtain or waive a health screening for their children within 18 months prior to entering first grade and no later than 90 days after entering first grade. Compliance efforts shall be implemented by designated school personnel for all students enrolled in kindergarten and until the 91st calendar day of enrollment in first grade.

Interscholastic Athletic Competition

All students who participate as cheerleaders, song leaders, or athletes in organized competitive sports shall first undergo and file with the District a current medical examination. Upon sustaining an injury or serious illness, a student may be required to have another examination before participating further. This requirement does not apply to participants in occasional play day for field day activities.

If a student sustains an injury or serious illness, the student may be required by school personnel to have another examination prior to further interscholastic competition. A student who has been excused from the physical education program because of a medical reason may not participate in any interscholastic athletic competition. All students engaging in interscholastic athletic competition are required to meet accident insurance requirements prescribed by law. (cf. 5143 - Insurance)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 48211-48214 Persons excluded
- 49400-49410 General powers-school boards (re pupil health)
- 49450-49457 Physical examinations (of pupils)

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

124025-124100 Child Health and Disability Prevention Program

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

590-596 Vision Screening