

**ATHLETIC COMPETITION**

The Board of Education recognizes that the district's athletic program constitutes an integral component of the educational program and helps to build a positive school climate. The athletic program also promotes the physical, social, and emotional well-being and character development of participating students. The athletic program shall be designed to meet students' interests and abilities and shall be varied in scope to attract wide participation.

*(cf. 3541.1 - Transportation for School-Related Trips)*  
*(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)*  
*(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)*  
*(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)*  
*(cf. 7110 - Facilities Master Plan)*

All athletic teams shall be supervised by qualified coaches to ensure that student athletes receive appropriate instruction and guidance related to safety, health, sports skills, and sportsmanship. Athletic events shall be officiated by qualified personnel.

*(cf. 4127/4227/4327 - Temporary Athletic Team Coaches)*

The Board encourages business and community support for district athletic programs, subject to applicable district policies and regulations governing advertisements and donations.

*(cf. 1260 - Educational Foundation)*  
*(cf. 1321 - Solicitation of Funds from and by Students)*  
*(cf. 1325 - Advertising and Promotion)*  
*(cf. 1700 - Relations Between Private Industry and the Schools)*  
*(cf. 3290 - Gifts, Grants and Bequests)*

**Nondiscrimination and Equivalent Opportunities in the Athletic Program**

The district's athletic program shall be free from discrimination and discriminatory practices prohibited by state and federal law. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that equivalent athletic opportunities are provided for males and females.

*(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)*  
*(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)*  
*(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)*

Any complaint regarding the district's athletic program shall be filed in accordance with the district's uniform complaint procedures.

*(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)*

## **ATHLETIC COMPETITION (continued)**

### **California Interscholastic Federation**

The Board maintains membership in the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) and requires that interscholastic athletic activities be conducted in accordance with Board policy, administrative regulations, and CIF bylaws and rules. The Superintendent or designee shall have responsibility for the district's interscholastic athletic program, while the principal or designee at each participating school shall be responsible for site-level decisions, as appropriate.

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board shall annually designate the appropriate number of representatives per CIF to the local CIF league. Appointees shall represent the district in performing all duties required by the CIF league. In making this selection, the Board shall consider the employee's understanding of the district's goals for student learning and interscholastic and extracurricular activities, knowledge of the athletic programs, awareness of the implications of league decisions for the school and the district, and individual interpersonal communication and leadership skills.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district representatives to CIF report as requested by the Superintendent or Board, on league, section, and statewide issues, as well as activities and prospective actions related to athletic programs.

*(cf. 0500 - Accountability)*

### **Student Eligibility**

Eligibility requirements for participation in the district's interscholastic athletic program, including requirements pertaining to academic achievement and residency, shall be the same as those set by the district for participation in extracurricular and cocurricular activities.

*(cf. 3530 - Risk Management/Insurance)*

*(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)*

*(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)*

*(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)*

*(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)*

*(cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)*

*(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)*

*(cf. 6173.2 - Education of Children of Military Families)*

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that students participating in interscholastic athletics governed by CIF satisfy CIF eligibility requirements.

Students shall not be charged a fee to participate in an athletic program.

*(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)*

## **ATHLETIC COMPETITION (continued)**

### **Sportsmanship**

The Board values the quality and integrity of the athletic program and the character development of student athletes. Student athletes, coaches, parents/guardians, spectators, and others are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play during all athletic competitions. They shall also abide by the core principles of trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship and the Codes of Conduct adopted by CIF.

Students and staff may be subject to disciplinary action for improper conduct.

*(cf. 3515.2 - Disruptions)*

*(cf. 4118 - Suspension/Disciplinary Action)*

*(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)*

*(cf. 5131 - Conduct)*

*(cf. 5131.1 - Bus Conduct)*

*(cf. 5131.4 - Student Disturbances)*

*(cf. 5144 - Discipline)*

*(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)*

*(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Individuals with Disabilities))*

### **Health and Safety**

The Board desires to give student health and safety the highest consideration in planning and conducting athletic activities.

Students shall have a medical clearance before participating in interscholastic athletic programs. Care shall be taken to ensure that all athletic trainings and competitions are conducted in a manner that will not overtax the physical capabilities of the participants. When appropriate, protective equipment shall be used to prevent or minimize injuries.

*(cf. 5131.61 - Drug Testing)*

*(cf. 5131.63 - Steroids)*

*(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)*

*(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)*

*(cf. 5141.7 - Sun Safety)*

*(cf. 5143 - Insurance)*

Coaches and appropriate district employees shall take every possible precaution to ensure that athletic equipment is kept in safe and serviceable condition. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all athletic equipment is cleaned and inspected for safety before the beginning of each season.

*(cf. 5142 - Safety)*

## ATHLETIC COMPETITION (continued)

In the event that an injury occurs, the coach or other appropriate district employee shall observe universal precautions and shall remove the student athlete from the activity and/or seek medical treatment for the student as appropriate.

*(cf. 4119.42/4219.42/4319.42 - Exposure Control Plan for Bloodborne Pathogens)*

*(cf. 4119.43/4219.43/4319.43 - Universal Precautions)*

*(cf. 5141 - Health Care and Emergencies)*

*(cf. 5141.21 - Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions)*

*(cf. 5141.22 - Infectious Diseases)*

### Legal Reference:

#### EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination

17578 Cleaning and sterilizing of football equipment

17580-17581 Football equipment

32221.5 Required insurance for athletic activities

33353-33353.5 California Interscholastic Federation; implementation of policies, insurance program

33354 California Department of Education authority over interscholastic athletics

35160.5 District policies; rules and regulations

35179 Interscholastic athletics

35179.5 Interscholastic athletics; limitation on full-contact practices

48850 Interscholastic athletics; students in foster care

48900 Grounds for suspension and expulsion

48930-48938 Student organizations

49020-49023 Athletic programs; legislative intent, equal opportunity

49030-49034 Performance-enhancing substances

49458 Health examinations, interscholastic athletic program

49475 Health and safety, concussions and head injuries

49700-49701 Education of children of military families

51242 Exemption from physical education for high school students in interscholastic athletic program

#### PENAL CODE

245.6 Hazing

#### CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs, especially:

4920-4922 Nondiscrimination in intramural, interscholastic, and club activities

5531 Supervision of extracurricular activities of students

5590-5596 Employment of noncertificated coaches

#### UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1681-1688 Discrimination based on sex or blindness, Title IX

#### CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

106.31 Nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities

106.33 Comparable facilities

106.41 Nondiscrimination in athletic programs

#### COURT DECISIONS

Mansourian v. Regents of University of California, (2010) 594 F. 3d 1095

Kahn v. East Side Union High School District, (2004) 31 Cal. 4th 990t

McCormick v. School District of Mamaroneck, (2004) 370 F.3d 275

Hartzell v. Connell, (1984) 35 Cal. 3d 899

**ATHLETIC COMPETITION (continued)**

*Management Resources:*

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*Final Guidance: AB 1266, Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students, Privacy, Programs, Activities and Facilities, March 2014*

*Student Fees Litigation Update, Education Legal Alliance Advisory, May 20, 2011*

*A School Board Member's Guide to CIF and Interscholastic Sports, 1997*

CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION PUBLICATIONS

*Guidelines for Gender Identity Participation*

*California Interscholastic Federation Constitution and Bylaws*

*A Guide to Equity in Athletics*

*Acute Concussion Evaluation (ACE) Care Plan, 2006*

*Pursuing Victory with Honor, 1999*

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION PUBLICATIONS

*Heads Up: Concussion in High School Sports, Tool Kit, June 2010*

*Heads Up: Concussion in Youth Sports, Tool Kit, July 2007*

OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

*Intercollegiate Athletics Policy Clarification: The Three-Part Test - Part Three, Dear Colleague letter, April 20, 2010*

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

California Interscholastic Federation: <http://www.cifstate.org>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Concussion Resources: <http://www.cdc.gov/concussion>

National Federation of State High School Associations: <http://www.nfhs.org>

National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment: <http://www.nocsae.org>

U.S. Anti-Doping Agency: <http://www.usada.org>

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www2.ed.gov/ocr>

Policy  
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**SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
San Diego, California

