

Perris Union High School District – BOARD POLICIES

JUSTIFICATION FOR SERIES 6000 (INSTRUCTION)

(Pending Board Approval December 14, 2022)

Background

Board Policy 6142.5 - Environmental Education

Policy updated to reflect law which required that the state-adopted environmental principles and concepts be integrated into content standards, curriculum frameworks, and textbook criteria. Policy also reflects legislative intent that governing boards undertake specified actions to promote instruction in environmental literacy, including by embedding environmental literacy in the local priorities addressed in the district's local control and accountability plan, collaborating with other agencies to enhance the environmental curriculum, providing professional development in environmental literacy, and ensuring equity in the provision of environment-based learning opportunities.

Board Policy 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education

Policy updated to reflect the 2019 state curriculum framework for health education, including emphasis on the physical, mental, and social well-being of students and integration of health education with other content areas of the district's curriculum. Policy also reflects law which authorizes districts to provide age-appropriate comprehensive sexual health education prior to grade 7, and law which authorizes instruction in grades K-12 in sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention provided students are allowed to be excused from such instruction with the written request of the parent/guardian.

Administrative Regulation 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education

Regulation updated to more directly reflect state content standards for injury prevention and safety and for personal and community health. Regulation also adds a new section on "High School Health Education" for districts that require a course in health education for graduation, which reflects law requiring that the course in health education include instruction in sexual harassment and violence and instruction in performing compression-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Section on "Students Excused from Health Instruction" expanded to address excusals from (1) comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education; (2) instruction in sexual abuse and/or sexual assault awareness and prevention; (3) any exam, survey, or questionnaire which contains questions about the student's or family's personal beliefs or practices in sex, family life, morality, or religion; and (4) anonymous, voluntary, and confidential tests, questionnaires, and surveys containing age-appropriate questions about students' attitudes concerning or practices relating to sex.

Administrative Regulation 6162.51 - State Academic Achievement Tests

Regulation updates information regarding administration of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, including provisions that: (1) the district may administer the California Science Test (CAST) in any of grades 10-12, (2) the California Alternate Assessments in science should be administered to students with significant cognitive disabilities who are unable to take the CAST with accommodations, and (3) the California Spanish Test is the primary language assessment that is available to be administered to English learners. Regulation also adds optional language regarding the use of Smarter Balanced interim and formative assessments to provide

timely feedback regarding students' progress and assist teachers in continually adjusting instruction to improve learning. Testing windows and testing variations updated to reflect current state regulations, as renumbered.

Board Policy 6120 - Response to Instruction and Intervention

Policy updated to emphasize the importance of learning and behavioral outcomes and progress monitoring as it relates to response to instruction and intervention (RtI²), reference multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) and the integration of RtI² into such frameworks, expand the list of individuals that may be included in designing the district's RtI² system, add the examination of student social-emotional well-being as one of the bases for design, provide more detail regarding strategies and interventions including ten core components of the RtI² model identified by the California Department of Education, and that RtI² may be utilized as one component when considering the referral of a student for evaluation for special education or other services.

Board Policy 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements

Policy updated to clarify requirements for mathematics coursework, reflect **NEW LAW (AB 104, 2021)** which requires districts to exempt a student from district graduation requirements if the student was in the third or fourth year of high school during the 2020–21 school year and is not on track to graduate in four years, and to provide a student who was enrolled in the third or fourth year of high school during the 2020-21 school year and is not on track to graduate in the 2020-21 or 2021–22 school years the opportunity to complete the statewide coursework required for graduation, which may include, but is not limited to, completion of the coursework through a fifth year of instruction, credit recovery, or other opportunity to complete the required coursework.

Administrative Regulation 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements

Regulation updated to include material regarding the provision of information about graduation requirements and credit recovery opportunities to students, parents/guardians, and the public, and to reflect requirements regarding the provision of notice to eligible students about the availability of exemptions from local graduation requirements when applicable.

Board Policy 6164.4 - Identification and Evaluation of Individuals for Special Education

Policy updated to reference the U.S. Department of Education's (USDOE) Return to School Roadmap: Child Find Under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act which reaffirms the obligation to fully implement the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) during the COVID-19 pandemic, including the requirement to meet child find obligations, and encourages districts to reexamine the efficacy of existing child find practices in light of the educational disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Administrative Regulation 6164.4 - Identification and Evaluation of Individuals for Special Education

Regulation updated to reference USDOE's Return to School Roadmap: Child Find Under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act which recommends that districts undertake new child find activities in light of the educational disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and emphasizes that students who are experiencing long-term COVID effects be referred for special education evaluation if their symptoms are adversely impacting their ability to participate and learn in the general curriculum. Regulation also updated to provide that the child find process includes the collection and screening of data to determine if students are making adequate progress, to include the district's obligation to ensure that evaluations of children suspected of having a disability are not delayed or denied because of the implementation of response to intervention strategies, clarify material regarding referrals for initial evaluations, evaluation plans and informed

parent/guardian consent, reflect the timeline for the determination of whether the student is eligible for special education and the educational needs of the student and when an Individualized Education Program (IEP) meeting and the development of an IEP occurs, clarify the qualifications of personnel who administer evaluations and reevaluations, add that the normal process of second-language acquisition as well as manifestations of dialect and social linguistic variance not be diagnosed as a disabling condition, and clarify material regarding Independent Educational Evaluations. Regulation also updated to reference M.M. v. Lafayette School District, a Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals decision which held that the district violated IDEA when it failed to provide parents with their child's response to instruction (RTI) data when seeking informed consent for an initial evaluation.

Board Policy 6164.41 - Children with Disabilities Enrolled by their Parents in Private School

Policy updated to reorganize and clarify material.

Administrative Regulation 6164.41 - Children with Disabilities Enrolled by their Parents in Private School

Regulation updated to reference USDOE's Return to School Roadmap: Child Find Under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act which recommends best practices for keeping parents/guardians, teachers, and private school officials informed of the child find process, enhance the section regarding consultation with private school representatives, and reference USDOE's Questions and Answers on Serving Children with Disabilities Placed by their Parents in Private School which emphasizes that districts may not require a private school to implement a RTI process before evaluating parentally-placed private school children. Regulation also updated to add that evaluation of all identified parentally-placed private school children with disabilities be conducted as specified in BP/AR - Identification and Evaluation of Individuals for Special Education including obtaining parent/guardian consent, that the district is required to make a free appropriate public education available to a child residing in the district who is eligible for an IEP, and to clarify material regarding the qualification requirements of private elementary and secondary school teachers providing equitable services to parentally-placed private school children.

Board Policy 6164.5 - Student Success Teams

Policy updated to reference that the student success team (SST) process is not required by law and that the policy reflects best practices, clarify those who are encouraged to collaborate in SSTs, include social and emotional difficulties when evaluating the strengths and needs of students and establishing interventions, emphasize the importance of each student maximizing their potential, specify who may refer students to SSTs, add types of materials appropriate for collection, analysis and review by the SST, provide for the development of a plan to support the student and adjustments to such plan, reflect that the SST process shall not delay or deny a referral for evaluation for eligibility for special education, reference MTSS and the integration of SSTs with such supports, and add staff development which may be provided to strengthen the effectiveness of SSTs.

Administrative Regulation 6164.5 - Student Success Teams

Regulation updated to reference that the SST process is not required by law and that the regulation reflects best practices, emphasize the importance of school counselors in the SST membership, provide that the makeup of each individual SST is at the district's discretion, reference the ability of districts to appoint a districtwide or schoolwide SST coordinator, identify teachers specifically as school staff with whom consultation may occur, add types of materials appropriate for collection to inform SST members, and add the development of a plan, and adjustments to the plan and related interventions, as one of the SST responsibilities.