

PUHSD – BOARD POLICIES

JUSTIFICATION FOR SERIES 5000 (STUDENTS)

(Pending Board Approval September 15, 2021)

Background

Board Policy 5113.1 - Chronic Absence and Truancy

Policy updated to designate the attendance supervisor as the person responsible for performing various assignments related to absence and truancy; reflect a tiered approach for reducing chronic absence which includes universal strategies and letters to parents/guardians; expand material regarding early intervention; add the provision of training and information to staff for the implementation of a trauma-informed approach to chronic absence; reflect chronic absence as a measure of district and school performance on the California School Dashboard; and add grade level to the list of specific data to be provided to the board regarding attendance, absence, and truancy.

Administrative Regulation 5113.1 - Chronic Absence and Truancy

Regulation updated to reflect law allowing the referral of a chronic absentee (rather than a student who is "irregular in attendance") to a school attendance review board (SARB), a truancy mediation, or a comparable program and requiring documentation of the interventions undertaken at the school when making such a referral. Regulation also revised to give students who are absent the opportunity to make up missed work for full credit and support to limit the impact of absences on grades. Regulation clarifies that parents/guardians of students between 13 and 18 years of age must be notified, upon initial identification of their child for truancy, that the student may be subject to suspension, or delay of driving privilege.

Administrative Regulation 5113.11 - Attendance Supervision

Regulation updated to reflect the requirements to investigate complaints of violations of compulsory education laws, gather and transmit to the county superintendent of schools the number and type of referrals made to the SARB and of requests for petitions made to the juvenile court, and refer a matter to court if a parent/guardian continually and willfully fails to respond to SARB directives or services.

Board Policy 5141.22 - Infectious Diseases

Policy reflects **NEW LAW (AB 262, 2019)** which requires local health officers to notify and update districts of an outbreak, or imminent outbreak, of a communicable disease and requires districts to comply with any orders issued by the health officers and all applicable privacy laws. Policy also clarifies that any allowable exclusions apply only to on-campus instruction and provides that the superintendent or designee will, when necessary, inform the local health official of any potential outbreak.

Administrative Regulation 5141.22 - Infectious Diseases

Regulation updated to add section on "Prevention and Mitigation Plan" reflecting general best practices based on COVID-19 guidance. Regulation also adds recommendations from CDE's [Science Safety Handbook](#) pertaining to experiments involving human blood sampling.

Administrative Regulation 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Policy and regulation updated to reflect **NEW LAW (SB 419)** which prohibits districts from suspending students in grades 4-8 for disrupting school activities or willfully defying the authority of school personnel. Policy also references **NEW LAW (AB 982)** which requires a district to provide a student who is suspended for two or more days with the homework assigned during the period of suspension. Regulation adds new section on "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 9-12" reflecting the option to suspend, but not expel, a student in grades 9-12 for disruption or willful defiance.

Administrative Regulation 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment

Regulation updated to reflect **NEW FEDERAL REGULATIONS (85 Fed. Reg. 30026)** which require that allegations of sexual harassment that meet the federal definition be investigated through Title IX complaint procedures, as described in AR 5145.71 - Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures, rather than the district's uniform complaint procedures.

Board Policy 5145.6 - Parental Notifications

Policy updated for gender neutrality and to update legal references based on new laws reflected in the accompanying exhibit.

Exhibit 5145.6 - Parental Notifications

Exhibit updated to reflect **NEW LAW (SB 74, 2020)** which extends the suspension of certain mandated activities through the 2020-21 school year; reflect **NEW FEDERAL REGULATION (85 Fed. Reg. 30026)** which requires notice of the contact information of the district's Title IX Coordinator; delete legal cites for the Open Enrollment Act, which is no longer operational; delete reference to BP 5141.33 which is no longer applicable to exclusions from school; reflect **NEW LAW (SB 1109, 2018)** which requires dissemination of an opioid fact sheet to parents/guardians of student athletes; reflect **NEW LAW (AB 2370, 2018)** which requires child care centers with buildings constructed before 2010 to test drinking water for lead and notify parents/guardians of the results of that test; add notice requirements for districts receiving Impact Aid for children residing on Indian lands; reflect **NEW FEDERAL REGULATION (85 Fed. Reg. 30026)** which requires notifications to the parents/guardians of a student who complains of sexual harassment regarding rights, the complaint process, and the availability of supportive measures; and move the classroom notice requirement pertaining to complaints about health and safety in California State Preschool Programs to AR/E 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures consistent with CDE's Federal Program Monitoring instrument.

Board Policy 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment

Policy updated to include examples of actions to reinforce the district's sexual harassment policy, consistent with **NEW LAW (AB 34, 2019)** which requires posting the sexual harassment policy on the district's web site and **NEW LAW (AB 543, 2019)** which requires displaying a poster and providing the sexual harassment policy in student orientations. Policy also reflects **NEW FEDERAL REGULATIONS (85 Fed. Reg. 30026)** which require that complaints of behavior that meets the federal definition of sexual harassment be addressed through new Title IX complaint procedures. Title of compliance officer changed to Title IX Coordinator throughout policy pursuant to federal regulations.

Administrative Regulation 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment

Regulation updated to reflect **NEW FEDERAL REGULATIONS (85 Fed. Reg. 30026)** which amend the process for resolving complaints of sexual harassment, including, but not limited to, requirements to designate a Title IX Coordinator and disseminate the Coordinator's contact information. Regulation also reflects **NEW LAW (AB 543, 2019)** which requires the district to create a poster notifying students of the district's sexual harassment policy and to display the poster in specified locations, and requires the district to provide a copy of the policy to students as part of any orientation program for new and continuing students. Regulation reflects **NEW LAW (AB 34, 2019)** which requires the district to post the district's sexual harassment policy and the definition of sexual harassment in a prominent location on the district's web site.

NEW - Administrative Regulation 5145.71 - Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures

New regulation reflects **NEW FEDERAL REGULATIONS (85 Fed. Reg. 30026)** which establish a Title IX complaint procedure for addressing complaints of behavior that meets the federal definition of sexual harassment. Regulation describes the types of behavior subject to these complaint procedures, the process for filing a complaint with the Title IX Coordinator, the offer of supportive measures to the complainant, the option for the parties to participate in an informal resolution process, required notifications, the investigation process, issuance of a written decision, the right to appeal the decision, and the requirement to maintain records of sexual harassment complaints and training materials for seven years.

NEW - Exhibit 5145.71 - Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures

New exhibit presents a sample of the required notification to students and parents/guardians regarding the district's Title IX sexual harassment policy, the district's Title IX coordinator, and grievance procedures pursuant to 34 CFR 106.8.