

NOVATO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Policy

Series 0000

BP 0450

MISCELLANEOUS

COMPREHENSIVE SAFETY PLANS

The Governing Board recognizes that students and staff have the right to a safe and secure campus where they are free from physical and psychological harm. The Board is fully committed to maximizing school safety and to creating a positive learning environment that teaches strategies for violence prevention and emphasizes high expectations for student conduct, responsible behavior and respect for others.

The Superintendent or designee shall oversee the development of a comprehensive districtwide safety plan that identifies major safety concerns as well as the district's goals and priorities for safe schools. The plan shall include violence prevention strategies and actions to be taken in the event of a crisis.

Each principal or designee shall ensure the development of a site-level plan, in accordance with law, tailored to the specific concerns of each school. The plan shall take into account the school's staff, available resources and building design, as well as other factors unique to the site.

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils) (cf 1 220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

The school safety plan shall be reviewed and updated annually by March 1 of each year. (Education Code 35294.6)

The Board shall approve the comprehensive districtwide and/or school safety plan(s) in order to ensure compliance with state law, Board policy and administrative regulation.

By October 15 of each year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the State Department of Education of any schools that have not complied with the requirements of Education Code 35294. 1. (Education Code 35294.8)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

| | |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 231.5 | Sexual harassment |
| 32260-32262 | Interagency School Safety Demonstration Act of 1 985 |
| 35147 | School site councils and advisory committees |
| 351 83 | School dress code; uniforms |

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|-------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 35291 | Rules |
| 35291.5 | School-adopted discipline rules |
| 35294-35294.9 | School safety plans |
| 35294.10-35294.15 | School Safety and Violence Prevention Act |
| 48900-48926 | Suspension and expulsion |
| 48950 | Speech and other communication |
| PENAL CODE | |
| 11164-11174.3 | Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act |

CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

Article 1, Section 28(c) Right to Safe Schools

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Protecting Our Schools: Governing Board Strategies to Combat School Violence, 1995,
revised
1999

CDE PUBLICATIONS

Safe Schools: A Planning Guide for Action, 1 995

WEB SITES

CDE, Safe Schools and Violence Prevention Office: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/spbranch/safety/safetyhome>

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

Adopted March 20, 2001

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COMPREHENSIVE SAFETY PLAN

Development of School Site Safety Plan

The school site leadership team shall write and develop a comprehensive safety plan relevant to the needs and resources of that particular school. The site leadership team shall consult with local law enforcement in the writing and development of the plan, as well as other school site leadership teams and safety committees, when practical. (Education Code 35294.1, 35294.2)

(cf. 0420-School Plans/Site Councils)

In addition, the school site leadership team may consult with other local agencies as appropriate, including health care and emergency services.

(cf. 1400-Relations between other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)

The school site leadership may delegate the responsibility for writing and developing a school safety plan to a school safety planning committee. This committee shall be composed of the following members: (Education Code 35294-1)

1. The principal or designee
2. One teacher who is a representative of the recognized certificated employee organization
3. One parent/guardian whose child attends the school
4. One classified employee who is a representative of the recognized classified employee organization
5. Other members, if desired

Before adopting its comprehensive school safety plan, the school site leadership team or school safety planning committee shall hold a public meeting at the school in order to allow members of the public the opportunity to express an opinion about the school safety plan. (Education Code 35294.8)

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

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Elements of the Safety Plan

The safety plan shall include, but not be limited to: (Education Code 35294.2)

1. An assessment of the current status of school crime committed on campuses and at school-related functions

(cf. 3515.1 - Crime Data Reporting)

2. Appropriate strategies and programs that will provide or maintain a high level of school safety and address the school's procedures for complying with existing laws related to school safety, which shall include the development of all of the following:

- a. Child abuse reporting procedures consistent with Penal Code 11164

(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Reporting Procedures)

- b. Routine and emergency disaster procedures

(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)

(cf. 3516.1 - Fire Drills and Fires)

(cf. 3516.2 - Bomb Threats)

(cf. 3516.3 - Earthquake Emergency Procedure System)

(cf. 3516.5 - Emergency Schedules)

(cf. 3543 - Transportation Safety and Emergencies)

- c. Policies pursuant to Education Code 48915(c) and other school-designated serious acts which would lead to suspension, expulsion or mandatory expulsion recommendations

(cf. 5131.7 Weapons and Dangerous Instruments)

(cf. 5144.1 Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

(cf. 5144.2 Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

- d. Procedures to notify teachers of dangerous students pursuant to Education Code 49079

(cf. 4158/4258/4358 - Employee Security)

- e. A sexual harassment policy pursuant to Education Code 231.5

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

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- f. If the school has adopted a dress code prohibiting students from wearing “gang-related apparel,” the provisions of that dress code

(cf. 5132 - Dress and Grooming)

- g. Procedures for safe ingress and egress of students, parents/guardians and employees to and from school

(cf. 5142 - Safety)

- h. A safe and orderly environment conducive to learning at the school

(cf. 51 31 Conduct)

(cf. 5137 Positive School Climate)

- i. The rules and procedures on school discipline adopted pursuant to Education Code 35291 and 35291.5

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

Among the strategies for providing a safe environment, the plan shall also include:

1. A positive school climate that promotes respect for diversity, personal and social responsibility, effective interpersonal and communication skills, self-esteem, anger management and conflict resolution.

(cf. 5138 Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation)

(cf. 5145.3 Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

(cf. 5145.9 Hate-Motivated Behavior)

(cf. 6141.2 Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs)

2. Disciplinary policies and procedures that contain prevention strategies as well as behavioral expectations and consequences for violations.

(cf. 4118 - Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

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

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses) (cf. 51 36 - Gangs)

(cf. 5145.12 - Search and Seizure)

3. Curriculum that emphasizes prevention and alternatives to violence. This curriculum may include multicultural education, character/ values education, media analysis skills, conflict resolution and community service learning.

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(cf. 6141.6 - Multicultural Education)

(cf. 6142.4 - Learning through Community Service)

4. Parent involvement strategies, including strategies to help ensure parental support and reinforcement of the school's rules and increase the number of adults on campus.

(cf. 1 240 - Volunteer Assistance)

(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

5. Prevention and intervention strategies related to the sale or use of drugs and alcohol which shall reflect expectations for drug-free schools and support for recovering students.

(cf. 5131.6 - Alcohol and Other Drugs)

(cf. 51 31.61 - Drug Testing)

(cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)

6. Collaborative relationships among the city, county, community agencies, local law enforcement, the judicial system and the schools that lead to the development of a set of common goals and community strategies for violence prevention instruction.

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)

7. Assessment of the school's physical environment, including a risk management analysis and development of ground security measures such as procedures for the closing of campuses to outsiders, securing the campus perimeter, and protecting buildings against vandalism. In addition, methods for effective enforcement and prevention may be considered, including the presence of law enforcement on campus.

(cf. 1250 - Visitors/Outsiders)

(cf. 3515 - Campus Security)

(cf. 3515.3 - District Police Department)

(cf. 3530 - Risk Management/Insurance)

(cf. 5112.5 - Open/Closed Campus)

(cf. 5131.5 - Vandalism, Theft and Graffiti)

8. Crisis intervention strategies, which may include the following:

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- a. Identification of possible crises that may occur, determination of necessary tasks that need to be addressed, and development of procedures relative to each crisis, including the involvement of law enforcement and other public safety agencies as appropriate

(cf. 3515.2 - Disruptions)

(cf. 3515.5 - Sex Offender Notification)

(cf. 5131.4 - Campus Disturbances)

- b. Assignment of staff members responsible for each identified task and procedure
- c. Development of an evacuation plan based on an assessment of buildings and grounds and opportunities for student and staff to practice the evacuation plan
- d. Coordination of communication to schools, Governing Board members, parents/guardians and the media

(cf. 1112 - Media Relations)

(cf. 9010 - Public Statements)

- e. Development of a method for the reporting of violent incidents
- f. Development of follow-up procedures that may be required after the crisis has occurred, such as counseling
9. Staff training in violence prevention and intervention techniques, including preparation to implement the elements of the safety plan

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

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Evaluation of the Safety Plan

The school site leadership team or safety planning committee shall evaluate, and amend as necessary, the safety plan at least once a year to ensure that the plan is properly implemented. (Education Code 35294.2)

The principal or designee shall ensure that an updated file of all safety-related plans and materials is readily available for inspection by the public. (Education Code 35294.2)

Adopted March 20, 2001