

Policy 4131: Staff Development

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 11/01/2008 | Last Revised Date: 09/01/2021 | Last Reviewed Date: 09/01/2021

CSBA NOTE: Staff development is not one of the enumerated items within the scope of collective bargaining pursuant to Government Code 3543.2. However, the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) has found that some aspects of staff development may be negotiable if they are related to an enumerated subject of bargaining, such as working hours, wages, or other enumerated terms or conditions of employment; see *United Faculty of Contra Costa Community College District v. Contra Costa Community College District*. Because the terms "staff development" and "training" are not always clear, their negotiability, in the absence of an agreement, may be determined by PERB on a case-by-case basis.

The following paragraph has been expanded to emphasize the importance of student well-being and related professional development in the area of social-emotional development and learning. Social-emotional learning is a strategy utilized to improve school climate, which benefits all students including students at higher risk of harassment. See Items #4 and 7 below regarding diverse student populations and school climate, respectively.

The Governing Board believes that, in order to maximize student learning, achievement, and well-being, certificated staff members must be continuously learning and improving relevant skills. The Superintendent or designee shall develop a program of ongoing professional development which includes opportunities for teachers to enhance their instructional and classroom management skills, become informed about changes in pedagogy and subject matter, and strengthen practices related to social-emotional development and learning.

CSBA NOTE: Education Code 52060-52077 require districts to develop a local control and accountability plan (LCAP) which includes goals aligned with state and local priorities, specific actions aligned to meet those goals, and a budget aligned to fund those specific actions; see BP/AR 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan. The district's staff development program should be aligned with its priorities and goals as outlined in the LCAP and other applicable district and school plans.

The Superintendent or designee shall involve teachers, site and district administrators, and others, as appropriate, when creating, reviewing, and amending the district's staff development program. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's staff development program is aligned with district priorities for student learning, achievement and well-being, school improvement objectives, the local control and accountability plan, and other district and school plans.

CSBA NOTE: Items #1-11 below are optional and may be revised to reflect district practice.

The district's staff development program shall assist certificated staff in developing knowledge and skills, including, but not limited to:

1. Mastery of subject-matter knowledge, including current state and district academic standards
2. Use of effective, subject-specific teaching methods, strategies, and skills

CSBA NOTE: The State Board of Education's California Digital Learning Integration and Standards Guidance, adopted pursuant to SB 98 (Ch. 24, Statutes of 2020), provides recommendations for staff development regarding technology-based learning. It encompasses curriculum and instructional guidance for mathematics, English language arts, and English language development, including a framework for addressing critical standards, formative and diagnostic assessment, recommended aggregate time for instruction and independent work by grade, and guidance on embedding social-emotional supports for students into technology-based learning curriculum. Although this guidance was written in response to COVID-19, it is intended to be used as a resource for the re-envisioning of education and digital teaching and learning.

Education Code 51745-51749.6, as amended by AB 130 (Ch. 44, Statutes of 2021), contain specified requirements for districts offering technology-based instruction pursuant to an independent study program. See BP/AR 6158 - Independent Study.

3. Use of technologies to enhance instruction and learning, including face-to-face, remote, or hybrid instruction

CSBA NOTE: Pursuant to Education Code 218, the California Department of Education (CDE) has developed and/or updated resources, available on its web site, for use in schools serving students in grades 7-12 for in-service training for the support of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning (LGBTQ) students, and strategies to increase support for LGBTQ students which improve overall school climate. Pursuant to Education Code 218, districts that serve students in grades 7-12 are encouraged to use such

resources to provide training at least once every two years to teachers and other certificated staff.

4. Sensitivity to and ability to meet the needs of diverse student populations, including, but not limited to, students with characteristics specified in Education Code 200 and/or 220, Government Code 11135, and/or Penal Code 422.55
5. Understanding of how academic and career technical instruction can be integrated and implemented to increase student learning
6. Knowledge of strategies that encourage parents/guardians to participate fully and effectively in their children's education
7. Effective classroom management skills and strategies for establishing a climate that promotes respect, fairness, acceptance, and civility, including conflict resolution, hatred prevention, and positive behavioral interventions and supports
8. Ability to relate to students, understand their various stages of growth and development, and motivate them to learn
9. Ability to interpret and use data and assessment results to guide instruction

CSBA NOTE: The following paragraph has been expanded to include social-emotional learning and trauma-informed practices.

The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning describes social-emotional learning as, "the process through which all young people and adults acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to develop healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions."

Trauma-informed practices include recognizing and responding appropriately to students who have experienced trauma in order to minimize disruption to learning, academic achievement, and physical and emotional well-being.

10. Knowledge of topics related to student mental and physical health, safety, and welfare, which may include social-emotional learning and trauma-informed practices
11. Knowledge of topics related to employee health, safety, and security

CSBA NOTE: The following optional paragraph may be revised to reflect district practice. Education Code 44277 encourages districts to establish individualized professional growth programs for teachers and other educators based on a needs assessment and to evaluate such programs based on specified criteria. Districts may assist teachers with preliminary credentials to meet the qualifications required for a professional clear credential, and are required to provide support and guidance to teachers participating in internship programs (Education Code 44325-44328, 44450-44468, and 44830.3) and teachers who possess a short-term staff permit (5 CCR 80021), a provisional internship permit (5 CCR 80021.1), or an emergency permit (Education Code 44300; 5 CCR 80023-80026.6); see AR 4112.2 - Certification and AR 4112.21 - Interns.

The Superintendent or designee shall, in conjunction with teachers, interns, and administrators, as appropriate, develop an individualized program of professional growth to increase competence, performance, and effectiveness in teaching and classroom management and, as necessary, to assist them in meeting state or federal requirements to be fully qualified for their positions.

Professional learning opportunities offered by the district shall be evaluated based on the criteria specified in Education Code 44277. Such opportunities may be part of a coherent plan that combines school activities within a school, including lesson study or co-teaching, and external learning opportunities that are related to academic subjects taught, provide time to meet and work with other teachers, and support instruction and student learning.

Learning activities may include, but are not limited to, mentoring projects for new teachers, extra support for teachers to improve practice, and collaboration time for teachers to develop new instructional lessons, select or develop common formative assessments, or analyze student data. (Education Code 44277)

The district's staff evaluation process may be used to recommend additional individualized staff development for individual employees.

The Board may budget funds for actual and reasonable expenses incurred by staff who participate in staff development activities.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide a means for continual evaluation of the benefit of staff development activities to both staff and students and shall regularly report to the Board regarding the effectiveness of the staff development program. Based on the Superintendent's report, the Board may revise the program as necessary to ensure that the staff development program supports the district's priorities for student achievement and well-being.

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References

	Description
5 CCR 13025-13044	Professional development and program improvement
5 CCR 80021	Short-term staff permit
5 CCR 80021.1	Provisional internship permit
5 CCR 80023-80026.6	Emergency permits
Ed. Code 200	Equal rights and opportunities in state educational institutions
Ed. Code 218	Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning student resources
Ed. Code 220	Prohibition of discrimination
Ed. Code 44032	Travel expense payment
Ed. Code 44259.5	Standards for teacher preparation
Ed. Code 44277	Professional growth programs for individual teachers
Ed. Code 44300	Emergency permits
Ed. Code 44325-44328	District interns
Ed. Code 44450-44468	University internship program
Ed. Code 44830.3	Employing district interns
Ed. Code 45028	Salary schedule and exceptions
Ed. Code 48980	Parent/Guardian notifications
Ed. Code 51744-51749.6	Independent study
Ed. Code 52060-52077	Local control and accountability plan
Ed. Code 56240-56245	Staff development; service to persons with disabilities
Ed. Code 99200-99204	Subject matter projects
Gov. Code 11135	Prohibition of discrimination
Gov. Code 3543.2	Scope of representation
Pen. Code 422.55	Definition of hate crime

Federal References

	Description
20 USC 1681-1688	Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; discrimination based on sex
20 USC 6601-6692	Preparing, training, and recruiting high quality teachers and principals
29 USC 794	Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Section 504
42 USC 12101-12213	Americans with Disabilities Act
42 USC 2000d-2000d-7	Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964

Management Resources References**Description**

California Department of Education Publication	Social and Emotional Learning in California: A Guide to Resources, October 2018
California Department of Education Publication	California Digital Learning Integration and Standards Guidance, June 2021
Commission on Teacher Credentialing Publication	California Standards for the Teaching Profession (CSTP), October 2009
CSBA Publication	Governing to the Core: Professional Development for Common Core, Governance Brief, May 2013
Public Employment Relations Board Decision	United Faculty of Contra Costa Community College District v. Contra Costa Community College District (1990) PERB Dec. No. 804, 14 PERC P21-085
Website	CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services
Website	Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning
Website	California Department of Education, Supporting LGBTQ+ Students
Website	California Subject Matter Project
Website	California Public Employment Relations Board
Website	California Department of Education, Professional Learning
Website	Commission on Teacher Credentialing
Website	CSBA

Cross References**Description**

0000	Vision
0100	Philosophy
0200	Goals For The School District
0410	Nondiscrimination In District Programs And Activities
0415	Equity
0420	School Plans/Site Councils
0420	School Plans/Site Councils
0440	District Technology Plan
0440	District Technology Plan
0450	Comprehensive Safety Plan
0450	Comprehensive Safety Plan
0460	Local Control And Accountability Plan
0460	Local Control And Accountability Plan
0500	Accountability
1100	Communication With The Public
1113	District And School Websites
1113	District And School Websites
1113-E(1)	District And School Websites
1114	District-Sponsored Social Media
1114	District-Sponsored Social Media
1240	Volunteer Assistance
1240	Volunteer Assistance
1312.3	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.3	Uniform Complaint Procedures

Cross References**Description**

1312.3-E(1)	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.3-E(2)	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1313	Civility
3100	Budget
3100	Budget
3230	Federal Grant Funds
3230	Federal Grant Funds
3260	Fees And Charges
3260	Fees And Charges
3350	Travel Expenses
3511.1	Integrated Waste Management
3511.1	Integrated Waste Management
3514	Environmental Safety
3514	Environmental Safety
3514.1	Hazardous Substances
3514.1	Hazardous Substances
3515	Campus Security
3515	Campus Security
3515.2	Disruptions
3515.2	Disruptions
3516	Emergencies And Disaster Preparedness Plan
3516	Emergencies And Disaster Preparedness Plan
3516.2	Bomb Threats
3516.3	Earthquake Emergency Procedure System
3542	School Bus Drivers
3550	Food Service/Child Nutrition Program
3550	Food Service/Child Nutrition Program
3580	District Records
3580	District Records
4000	Concepts And Roles
4030	Nondiscrimination In Employment
4030	Nondiscrimination In Employment
4040	Employee Use Of Technology
4040-E(1)	Employee Use Of Technology
4100	Certificated Personnel
4112.2	Certification
4112.2	Certification
4112.21	Interns
4112.21	Interns
4112.22	Staff Teaching English Learners

Cross References**Description**

4112.23	Special Education Staff
4113	Assignment
4113	Assignment
4113.5	Working Remotely
4115	Evaluation/Supervision
4115	Evaluation/Supervision
4116	Probationary/Permanent Status
4116	Probationary/Permanent Status
4119.11	Sexual Harassment
4119.11	Sexual Harassment
4119.12	Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures
4119.12-E(1)	Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures
4119.21	Professional Standards
4119.21-E(1)	Professional Standards
4119.41	Employees With Infectious Disease
4119.42	Exposure Control Plan For Bloodborne Pathogens
4119.42	Exposure Control Plan For Bloodborne Pathogens
4119.42-E(1)	Exposure Control Plan For Bloodborne Pathogens
4119.43	Universal Precautions
4119.43	Universal Precautions
4131.1	Teacher Support And Guidance
4131.1	Teacher Support And Guidance
4157	Employee Safety
4157	Employee Safety
4158	Employee Security
4158	Employee Security
4161	Leaves
4161	Leaves
4161.3	Professional Leaves
4213.5	Working Remotely
4219.11	Sexual Harassment
4219.11	Sexual Harassment
4219.12	Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures
4219.12-E(1)	Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures
4219.21	Professional Standards
4219.21-E(1)	Professional Standards
4219.41	Employees With Infectious Disease
4219.42	Exposure Control Plan For Bloodborne Pathogens
4219.42	Exposure Control Plan For Bloodborne Pathogens
4219.42-E(1)	Exposure Control Plan For Bloodborne Pathogens

Cross References**Description**

4219.43	Universal Precautions
4219.43	Universal Precautions
4222	Teacher Aides/Paraprofessionals
4222	Teacher Aides/Paraprofessionals
4257	Employee Safety
4257	Employee Safety
4258	Employee Security
4258	Employee Security
4261	Leaves
4261	Leaves
4313.5	Working Remotely
4319.11	Sexual Harassment
4319.11	Sexual Harassment
4319.12	Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures
4319.12-E(1)	Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures
4319.21	Professional Standards
4319.21-E(1)	Professional Standards
4319.41	Employees With Infectious Disease
4319.42	Exposure Control Plan For Bloodborne Pathogens
4319.42	Exposure Control Plan For Bloodborne Pathogens
4319.42-E(1)	Exposure Control Plan For Bloodborne Pathogens
4319.43	Universal Precautions
4319.43	Universal Precautions
4357	Employee Safety
4357	Employee Safety
4358	Employee Security
4358	Employee Security
4361	Leaves
4361	Leaves
5020	Parent Rights And Responsibilities
5020	Parent Rights And Responsibilities
5030	Student Wellness
5113.1	Chronic Absence And Truancy
5113.1	Chronic Absence And Truancy
5121	Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement
5121	Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement
5131	Conduct
5131.2	Bullying
5131.2	Bullying
5131.6	Alcohol And Other Drugs

Cross References**Description**

5131.6	Alcohol And Other Drugs
5131.63	Steroids
5131.63	Steroids
5137	Positive School Climate
5138	Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation
5141.21	Administering Medication And Monitoring Health Conditions
5141.21	Administering Medication And Monitoring Health Conditions
5141.22	Infectious Diseases
5141.22	Infectious Diseases
5141.4	Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting
5141.4	Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting
5141.5	Mental Health
5141.52	Suicide Prevention
5141.52	Suicide Prevention
5144	Discipline
5144	Discipline
5145.12	Search And Seizure
5145.12	Search And Seizure
5145.3	Nondiscrimination/Harassment
5145.3	Nondiscrimination/Harassment
5145.7	Sexual Harassment
5145.7	Sexual Harassment
5145.71	Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures
5145.71-E(1)	Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures
5145.9	Hate-Motivated Behavior
5146	Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students
5147	Dropout Prevention
5148	Child Care And Development
5148	Child Care And Development
5148.2	Before/After School Programs
5148.2	Before/After School Programs
5148.3	Preschool/Early Childhood Education
5148.3	Preschool/Early Childhood Education
6000	Concepts And Roles
6011	Academic Standards
6020	Parent Involvement
6020	Parent Involvement
6111	School Calendar
6116	Classroom Interruptions
6120	Response To Instruction And Intervention

Cross References

	Description
6141	Curriculum Development And Evaluation
6141	Curriculum Development And Evaluation
6141.4	International Baccalaureate Program
6141.5	Advanced Placement
6142.1	Sexual Health And HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction
6142.1	Sexual Health And HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction
6142.2	World Language Instruction
6142.2	World Language Instruction
6142.3	Civic Education
6142.5	Environmental Education
6142.6	Visual And Performing Arts Education
6142.7	Physical Education And Activity
6142.7	Physical Education And Activity
6142.8	Comprehensive Health Education
6142.8	Comprehensive Health Education
6142.91	Reading/Language Arts Instruction
6142.92	Mathematics Instruction
6142.93	Science Instruction
6142.94	History-Social Science Instruction
6152.1	Placement In Mathematics Courses
6152.1	Placement In Mathematics Courses
6154	Homework/Makeup Work
6158	Independent Study
6158	Independent Study
6162.5	Student Assessment
6162.6	Use Of Copyrighted Materials
6162.6	Use Of Copyrighted Materials
6163.1	Library Media Centers
6163.4	Student Use Of Technology
6163.4-E(1)	Student Use Of Technology
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6170.1	Transitional Kindergarten
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6172	Gifted And Talented Student Program
6172	Gifted And Talented Student Program
6173	Education For Homeless Children
6173	Education For Homeless Children

Cross References

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