

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

The Governing Board affirms the importance of providing all students with quality vocational education experiences that teach life skills, demonstrate the value of work, and provide training that leads to entry-level employment. The Board views vocational education and academic education as complementary educational programs. Vocational courses should give students abundant opportunities to obtain or reinforce basic academic skills. Teachers should emphasize as often as possible the practical applications of academics to the working world.

The Board recognizes that vocational education is best presented in a well-articulated sequence of courses, with instruction first given in broad clusters of skills basic to similar occupations. A comprehensive vocational education includes research into various employment options, vocational counseling, establishment of career goals, and the development of job skills, good work attitudes and job hunting strategies. Because the equipment used in business and industry changes rapidly, as do the skills needed to operate it, the Board especially desires that the district's vocational education program be updated regularly to reflect current vocational practices, changes in technology and labor market conditions.

(cf. 1700 - Relations Between Private Industry and the Schools)

(cf. 3440 - Inventories)

(cf. 6141 - Curriculum Development and Evaluation)

Equal access shall be provided to handicapped and disadvantaged individuals in recruitment, enrollment, and placement activities of the vocational education program.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination)

(cf. 1312.5 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination)

Every three years, the Board shall compare the district's existing vocational curriculum, course content and course sequence with model state curriculum standards. (Education Code 51226, 52376)

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures for the systematic review of district vocational education classes to determine the degree to which each class may offer an alternative means for completing and receiving credit for specific portions of the course of study prescribed by the district for high school graduation. The Superintendent or designee shall present the Board with evidence that enables the Board to ensure that these classes are equivalent in content and rigor to the courses prescribed for graduation. (Education Code 52376)

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements/Standards of Proficiency)

Advisory Committee

The Board shall appoint a vocational education advisory committee as required by law to develop recommendations on the vocational education program and provide liaison between the district and potential employers. (Education Code 8070)

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION (continued)

The Board expects that this advisory committee will provide staff with useful information about new technologies and the changing needs of community businesses.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

Participation in ROC/ROP

At a public hearing or regular Board meeting, the Board shall annually review and assess the participation of 11th and 12th grade students in regional occupational centers and programs. Unless it is determined that no additional students would benefit from such participation, the Board shall prepare an annual plan to increase participation by these students. The plan shall be adopted at a public hearing or regular Board meeting. (Education Code 52304.1)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

8070 Appointment of vocational education advisory committee

48430 Legislative intent; continuation education schools and classes

51225.3 Requirements for graduation commencing with 1988-89 school year

51226 Model curriculum standards

51228 Graduation requirements; minimum standards; required curriculum; pupil demonstration of competence

52300-52335.8 Regional occupational centers, especially

52304.1 Review of participation in centers and programs

52350-52355 Prevocational education

52370-52376 High school vocational courses

52450-52462 Agricultural Vocational Education

52910 -52911 Career-Vocational Education and Training

52980-52982 Pilot projects in applied academic areas & programs

54728 Funds allocated pursuant to 52300-52335.8; use (under School-Based Motivation and Maintenance Program) for preparing individuals for employment

54761 Calculation; base funding; deposit; use

CARL D. PERKINS VOCATIONAL AND APPLIED TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION ACT

Public Law 98-524, 204

FEDERAL REGISTER

Vol. 45, No. 92, 5/9/90, p. 30929

Vol. 50, No. 159, 8/16/85, p. 3308

Management Resources:

CDE LEGAL ADVISORIES

0125.90 Procedures for requesting guidance from the U.S. Department of Education

CDE PROGRAM ADVISORIES

1107.89 Implementation of new procedures for noncompliance

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION**Handicapped and Disadvantaged Students**

Vocational programs and activities for handicapped persons shall be provided in the least restrictive environment and planned in coordination with appropriate representatives of vocational education and special education staffs. (Public Law 98-524, 204)

By the beginning of the ninth grade, information shall be provided to handicapped and disadvantaged students and to their parents/guardians concerning the opportunities available in vocational education programs and the requirements for eligibility to enroll. (Public Law 98-524, 204)

Individual student records shall identify the category of disadvantage or handicap which warrants any special services which are provided. Each handicapped or disadvantaged student who enrolls in a vocational education program shall receive:

1. Assessment of his/her interests, abilities and special needs with respect to successfully completing the vocational education program.
2. Special services designed to meet identified needs, including adaptation of curriculum, instructional equipment and facilities.
3. Guidance, counseling and career development activities conducted by appropriately trained counselors.
4. Counseling services designed to facilitate the transition from school to post-school employment/career opportunities. (Public Law 98-524, 204)

(cf. 5147 - Dropout Prevention)

When receiving funds through the federal Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act, Title II, Part A Basic Grant, the district shall give priority to sites or programs that serve the highest concentrations of persons who are members of special populations.

Notifications

Before the beginning of each school year, the district shall publicly announce that its vocational programs and courses will be offered without regard to race, color, national origin, sex or handicap. This announcement shall be made through media that reach the general public, minorities, women and handicapped persons and shall include a brief summary of program offerings and admission criteria, as well as the name, address and telephone number of the district's nondiscrimination coordinator. If the district contains a community of national origin minority persons with limited English skills, the announcement will be disseminated to that community in its language and state that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in vocational education programs.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION (continued)**Program Criteria**

In consultation with the district's regional occupational center/program and local community college, the Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement a vocational education program which meets at least the following criteria: (Education Code 52376)

1. Provides a series of vocational education programs, each with a sequence of courses leading to specific competencies that will enable students to manage personal work life and attain entry level employment in business or industry upon graduation from high school. This plan shall be consistent with local agreements with regional occupational centers/programs and community colleges regarding responsibilities for the provision and articulation of services among those local agencies. The Superintendent or designee shall also develop and implement plans for articulation of vocational or technical courses, or both, with the community colleges to extend the sequence of courses through grades 13 and 14.
2. Conducts or obtains access to data on local business and industry to ensure that the vocational education programs offered will prepare students in competencies for which employment opportunities exist.
3. Provides counseling and guidance services to students to help them meet all necessary requirements for high school graduation and make informed career preparation choices. Such counseling may serve students in grades 6 to 12, inclusive.
4. Involves business and industry in cooperative projects with the schools to provide work experience opportunities, instructors from business and industry, assistance with needs assessments and program evaluations, and access to business and industry employment placement services.
5. Provides access to employment placement services to help graduating students obtain employment.