

**UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES**

The Governing Board recognizes that the district has the primary responsibility to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations governing educational programs. The Board encourages early resolution of complaints whenever possible. To resolve complaints which may require a more formal process, the Board adopts the uniform system of complaint processes specified in 5 CCR 4600-4670 and the accompanying administrative regulation.

**Complaints Subject to UCP**

The district's uniform complaint procedures (UCP) shall be used to investigate and resolve the following complaints:

1. Any complaint alleging district violation of applicable state or federal laws or regulations governing any program subject to the UCP which is offered by the district, including adult education programs; After School Education and Safety programs; agricultural career technical education; American Indian education centers and early childhood education program assessments; bilingual education; California Peer Assistance and Review programs for teachers; state career technical and technical education, career technical, and technical training programs; federal career technical education; child care and development programs; child nutrition programs; compensatory education; consolidated categorical aid programs; Economic Impact Aid; the federal Every Student Succeeds Act; migrant education; Regional Occupational Centers and Programs; school safety plans; special education programs; California State Preschool Programs; Tobacco-Use Prevention Education programs; and any other district-implemented state categorical program that is not funded through the local control funding formula pursuant to Education Code 64000.

*(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)*  
*(cf. 3555 - Nutrition Program Compliance)*  
*(cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)*  
*(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)*  
*(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)*  
*(cf. 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education)*  
*(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)*  
*(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)*  
*(cf. 6174 - Education for English Learners)*  
*(cf. 6175 - Migrant Education Program)*  
*(cf. 6178 - Career Technical Education)*  
*(cf. 6178.1 - Work-Based Learning)*  
*(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)*  
*(cf. 6200 - Adult Education)*

2. Any complaint, by a student, employee, or other person participating in a district program or activity, alleging the occurrence of unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) in district programs and activities, including in those programs or

## **UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)**

activities funded directly by or that receive or benefit from any state financial assistance, based on the person's actual or perceived characteristics of race or ethnicity, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information, or any other characteristic identified in Education Code 200 or 220, Government Code 11135, or Penal Code 422.55, or based on the person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics (5 CCR 4610)

*(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)*

*(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)*

*(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)*

3. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the requirement to provide reasonable accommodation to a lactating student on school campus to express breast milk, breastfeed an infant child, or address other breastfeeding-related needs of the student (Education Code 222).

*(cf. 5146 - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)*

4. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with requirements to provide a pregnant or parenting student the accommodations specified in Education Code 46015, including those related to the provision of parental leave, right of return to the school of previous enrollment or to an alternative education program, if desired, and possible enrollment in school for a fifth year of instruction to enable the student to complete state and Board-imposed graduation requirements (Education Code 46015).

5. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the prohibition against requiring students to pay fees, deposits, or other charges for participation in educational activities (5 CCR 4610)

*(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)*

*(cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)*

6. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with applicable requirements of Education Code 52060-52077 related to the implementation of the local control and accountability plan, including the development of a local control funding formula budget overview for parents/guardians (Education Code 52075)

*(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)*

*(cf. 3100 - Budget)*

7. Any complaint alleging noncompliance with requirements related to the development of a school plan for student achievement or the establishment of a school site council, as required for the consolidated application for specified federal and/or state categorical funding (Education Code 64000-64001, 65000-65001)

**UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)**

*(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)*

8. Any complaint, by or on behalf of a student who is a foster youth as defined in Education Code 51225.2, alleging district noncompliance with any requirement applicable to the student regarding placement decisions; the responsibilities of the district's educational liaison to the student; the award of credit for coursework satisfactorily completed in another school, district, or country; school or records transfer; or the grant of an exemption from Board-imposed graduation requirements (Education Code 48853, 48853.5, 49069.5, 51225.1, 51225.2)

*(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)*

9. Any complaint, by or on behalf of a student who transfers into the district after the second year of high school and is a homeless child or youth as defined in 42 USC 11434a, a former juvenile court school student currently enrolled in the district, a child of a military family as defined in Education Code 49701, or a migrant student as defined in Education Code 54441, or by or on behalf of an immigrant student participating in a newcomer program as defined in Education Code 51225.2 in the third or fourth year of high school, alleging district noncompliance with any requirement applicable to the student regarding the grant of an exemption from Board-imposed graduation requirements (Education Code 51225.1)

*(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)*

*(cf. 6173.2 - Education of Children of Military Families)*

*(cf. 6173.3 - Education for Juvenile Court School Students)*

10. Any complaint, by or on behalf of a student who is a homeless child or youth as defined in 42 USC 11434a, a former juvenile court school student, a child of a military family as defined in Education Code 49701, a migrant child as defined in Education Code 54441, or a newly arrived immigrant student who is participating in a newcomer program as defined in Education Code 51225.2, alleging district noncompliance with requirements for the award of credit for coursework satisfactorily completed in another school, district, or country (Education Code 51225.2)

11. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the requirements of Education Code 51228.1 and 51228.2 that prohibit the assignment of a student in grades 9-12 to a course without educational content for more than one week in any semester or to a course the student has previously satisfactorily completed, without meeting specified conditions (Education Code 51228.3)

*(cf. 6152 - Class Assignment)*

12. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the physical education instructional minutes requirement for students in elementary school (Education Code 51210, 51223)

*(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)*

**UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)**

13. Any complaint alleging retaliation against a complainant or other participant in the complaint process or anyone who has acted to uncover or report a violation subject to this policy

14. Any other complaint, at the District's discretion, as specified in a district policy

The Board recognizes that alternative dispute resolution (ADR) can, depending on the nature of the allegations, offer a process to reach a resolution to the complaint that is acceptable to all parties. ADR such as mediation may be offered to resolve complaints that involve more than one student and no adult. However, mediation shall not be offered or used to resolve any complaint involving sexual assault or where there is a reasonable risk that a party to the mediation would feel compelled to participate. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the use of ADR is consistent with state and federal laws and regulations.

The district shall protect all complainants from retaliation. In investigating complaints, the confidentiality of the parties involved shall be protected as required by law. For any complaint alleging retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the Superintendent or designee shall keep the identity of the complainant, and/or the subject of the complaint if different from the complainant, confidential when appropriate and as long as the integrity of the complaint process is maintained.

*(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)*  
*(cf. 5125 - Student Records)*  
*(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)*

When an allegation that is not subject to UCP is included in a UCP complaint, the district shall refer the non-UCP allegation to the appropriate staff or agency and shall investigate and, if appropriate, resolve the UCP-related allegation(s) through the district's UCP.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training to district staff to ensure awareness and knowledge of current law and requirements related to UCP, including the steps and timelines specified in this policy and the accompanying administrative regulation.

*(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)*

Any complaint related to sufficiency of textbooks or instructional materials, emergency or urgent facilities conditions that pose a threat to the health or safety of students or staff, teacher vacancies and misassignments, or health and safety violations in any license-exempt California State Preschool Program shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with the procedures in AR 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures. (Education Code 8235.5, 35186)

*(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)*

## **UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)**

### *Legal Reference:*

#### **EDUCATION CODE**

200-262.4 *Prohibition of discrimination*  
8200-8498 *Child care and development programs*  
8500-8538 *Adult basic education*  
18100-18203 *School libraries*  
32280-32289 *School safety plan, uniform complaint procedures*  
33380-33384 *California Indian Education Centers*  
35186 *Williams uniform complaint procedures*  
44500-44508 *California Peer Assistance and Review Program for Teachers*  
46015 *Parental leave for students*  
48853-48853.5 *Foster youth*  
48985 *Notices in language other than English*  
49010-49014 *Student fees*  
49060-49079 *Student records, especially:*  
49069.5 *Records of foster youth*  
49490-49590 *Child nutrition programs*  
49701 *Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children*  
51210 *Courses of study grades 1-6*  
51223 *Physical education, elementary schools*  
51225.1-51225.2 *Foster youth, homeless children, former juvenile court school students, military-connected students, migrant students, and newly arrived immigrant students; course credits; graduation requirements*  
51226-51226.1 *Career technical education*  
51228.1-51228.3 *Course periods without educational content*  
52060-52077 *Local control and accountability plan, especially:*  
52075 *Complaint for lack of compliance with local control and accountability plan requirements*  
52160-52178 *Bilingual education programs*  
52300-52462 *Career technical education*  
52500-52616.24 *Adult schools*  
54000-54029 *Economic Impact Aid*  
54400-54425 *Compensatory education programs*  
54440-54445 *Migrant education*  
54460-54529 *Compensatory education programs*  
56000-56865 *Special education programs*  
59000-59300 *Special schools and centers*  
64000-64001 *Consolidated application process; school plan for student achievement*  
65000-65001 *School site councils*

#### **GOVERNMENT CODE**

11135 *Nondiscrimination in programs or activities funded by state*  
12900-12996 *Fair Employment and Housing Act*

#### **HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE**

1596.792 *California Child Day Care Act; general provisions and definitions*  
1596.7925 *California Child Day Care Act; health and safety regulations*  
104420 *Tobacco-Use Prevention Education*

#### **PENAL CODE**

422.55 *Hate crime; definition*  
422.6 *Interference with constitutional right or privilege*

**UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)**

*CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2*

*11023 Harassment and discrimination prevention and correction*

*CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5*

*3080 Applicability of uniform complaint procedures to complaints regarding students with disabilities*

*4600-4670 Uniform complaint procedures*

*4680-4687 Williams uniform complaint procedures*

*4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs*

*UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20*

*1221 Application of laws*

*1232g Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act*

*1681-1688 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972*

*6301-6576 Title I Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged*

*6801-7014 Title III language instruction for limited English proficient and immigrant students*

*UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29*

*794 Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973*

*UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42*

*2000d-2000e-17 Title VI and Title VII Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended*

*2000h-2-2000h-6 Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964*

*6101-6107 Age Discrimination Act of 1975*

*12101-12213 Title II equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities*

*CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28*

*35.107 Nondiscrimination on basis of disability; complaints*

*CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34*

*99.1-99.67 Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act*

*100.3 Prohibition of discrimination on basis of race, color or national origin*

*104.7 Designation of responsible employee for Section 504*

*106.8 Designation of responsible employee for Title IX*

*106.9 Notification of nondiscrimination on basis of sex*

*110.25 Notification of nondiscrimination on the basis of age*

*Management Resources:*

*CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS*

*Sample UCP Board Policies and Procedures*

*U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS*

*Dear Colleague Letter, September 22, 2017*

*Dear Colleague Letter: Title IX Coordinators, April 2015*

*Dear Colleague Letter: Responding to Bullying of Students with Disabilities, October 2014*

*Dear Colleague Letter: Harassment and Bullying, October 2010*

*Revised Sexual Harassment Guidance: Harassment of Students by School Employees, Other Students, or Third Parties, January 2001*

*U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PUBLICATIONS*

*Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons, 2002*

**UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)**

*WEB SITES*

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

*California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>*

*Family Policy Compliance Office: <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco>*

*U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/ocr>*

*U.S. Department of Justice: <http://www.justice.gov>*

Policy

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November 21, 2019

**VACAVILLE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Vacaville, California