

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT**

To encourage students to challenge themselves academically and to enable students to be more competitive when applying for admission to postsecondary institutions, the Governing Board shall provide opportunities for college-level coursework that will prepare interested high school students to pass Advanced Placement (AP) examinations.

*(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)*  
*(cf. 6172 - Gifted and Talented Student Program)*  
*(cf. 6172.1 - Concurrent Enrollment in College Classes)*

The Board desires to provide at least four AP courses at each high school. The Superintendent or designee shall recommend subject areas for AP courses at each school based on student interest and the availability of qualified certificated staff, instructional materials, and other resources. The Superintendent or designee shall also explore alternative methods of delivering AP courses, such as online courses or distance learning.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's educational program provides opportunities for students to acquire the skills necessary to successfully undertake AP coursework. To the extent possible, the Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with feeder middle schools in developing and implementing a preparation program.

*(cf. 6141 - Curriculum Development and Evaluation)*  
*(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)*

All students who meet course prerequisites shall have equal access to AP courses.

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

Grades for AP courses shall be assigned in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation.

*(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)*

The Superintendent or designee shall make efforts to encourage students to participate in AP courses and to take end-of-course AP exams by creating support systems for AP students, such as resource centers and programs to recognize student accomplishments. In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall explore partnerships with colleges and universities to help encourage students to pursue postsecondary education.

*(cf. 5126 - Awards for Achievement)*  
*(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)*

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT (Continued)**

To increase the capacity of district schools to offer these courses, the Superintendent or designee shall provide staff development and support to AP teachers. Such professional development may include, but not be limited to, opportunities for teachers to obtain course-specific information, as well as information on instructional methods and data-driven decisions; mentoring for prospective AP teachers; and opportunities for staff within the district to share course syllabi and practices.

*(cf. 4111 - Recruitment and Selection)*

*(cf. 4113 - Assignment)*

*(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)*

The Board desires that every district AP course receive authorization to use the AP designation by the College Board. To that end, the Superintendent or designee shall coordinate the process for submitting courses for approval as part of the AP course audit.

*Legal Reference:*

*EDUCATION CODE*

*48980 Parental notifications*

*52200-52212 Gifted and talented education program*

*52240-52244 Advanced Placement program*

*CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5*

*3840 Advanced Placement as program option for gifted and talented students*

*Management Resources:*

*WEB SITES*

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

*Advancement Via Individual Determination: <http://www.avidcenter.org>*

*California Colleges.edu: <http://californiacolleges.edu>*

*California Department of Education, Advanced Placement Programs:*

*<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/gs/ps/apgen.asp>*

*College Board: <http://www.collegeboard.org/ap>*

*U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov>*

Policy

Adopted: September 1, 2005

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**VACAVILLE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Vacaville, California