

**SUN SAFETY**

The Governing Board recognizes that overexposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun and artificial sources such as sunlamps and tanning beds is linked to the development of skin cancer, eye damage, premature aging, and a weakened immune system and that children are particularly vulnerable to the effects of overexposure. The Board desires to support the prevention of excessive UV radiation exposure by students and to assist students in developing sun-safe habits to use throughout their lives.

The Superintendent or designee may establish a developmentally appropriate prevention/intervention program for grades K-12 to prevent student overexposure to UV radiation. He/she may coordinate sun safety and UV radiation education and policy efforts with the California Department of Health Services, the local health department, and other local agencies and/or community organizations. He/she may involve students, parents/guardians, and the community in support of such school-based programs.

*(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)*

*(cf. 5141.6 - Student Health and Social Services)*

The Superintendent or designee may incorporate sun safety elements into the curriculum in order to increase students' understanding of the health risks associated with overexposure to UV radiation from the sun or artificial sources and to encourage students to engage in preventive practices.

*(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)*

Students shall be encouraged to take reasonable measures to protect their skin and eyes from overexposure to the sun while on campus, while attending school-sponsored activities, or while under the supervision and control of district employees.

*(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education)*

*(cf. 6153 - School-Sponsored Trips)*

To encourage and assist students to avoid overexposure to the sun when they are outdoors:

1. Students may be allowed to wear sun-protective clothing, including, but not limited to, hats. (Education Code 35183.5)

*(cf. 5132 - Dress and Grooming)*

2. Students may be allowed to wear UV-protective sunglasses outdoors.
3. Students shall be allowed to use sunscreen during the school day without a physician's note or prescription. (Education Code 35183.5)
4. Students shall be allowed to use UV-protective lip balm.

**SUN SAFETY** (continued)

The Superintendent or designee may evaluate the adequacy of shaded and/or indoor areas for recreation at each school and may consider the provision of sufficient shaded areas in plans for new construction or modernization of facilities.

*(cf. 7000 - Facilities Master Plan)*

The Superintendent or designee may monitor the UV Index and modify outdoor school activities with regard to the risk of harm associated with the Index level.

Staff shall be encouraged to model recommended sun-safe behaviors, such as avoiding excessive sun exposure, using sunscreen, and wearing hats and other sun-protective clothing.

The Superintendent or designee shall inform school staff and parents/guardians of the district's sun safety measures and shall encourage parents/guardians to provide sunscreen, lip balm, hats, and other sun-protective clothing for their children to use at school. The Superintendent or designee also may provide information to parents/guardians about the risks of overexposure to UV radiation and preventive measures they may take to protect their children during nonschool hours.

*Legal Reference: (see next page)*

**SUN SAFETY** (continued)

*Legal Reference:*

*EDUCATION CODE*

*35183.5 Sun protection*

*51210 Courses of study, grades 1-6*

*51220 Courses of study, grades 7-12*

*51890-51891 Comprehensive health education programs*

*Management Resources:*

*CSBA GOVERNANCE AND POLICY SERVICES BRIEFS*

*Sun Safety in Schools, July 2006*

*CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS*

*Health Framework for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2003*

*CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES PUBLICATIONS*

*School Systems: The Importance of Promoting and Providing Sun Protection, 2006*

*California Early Childhood Sun Protection Curriculum, rev. April 1999*

*CALIFORNIA STATE PTA RESOLUTIONS*

*Sun Safety: Skin Cancer Prevention Measures at School, May 1, 2005*

*CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL PUBLICATIONS*

*Guidelines for School Programs to Prevent Skin Cancer, April 26, 2002*

*NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE BOARDS OF EDUCATION*

*Fit, Healthy and Ready to Learn: Part II: Policies to Promote Sun Safety and Prevent Skin Cancer, 2002*

*WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION PUBLICATIONS*

*Sun Protection and Schools: How to Make a Difference, 2003*

*Sun Protection: A Primary Teaching Resource, 2003*

*WEB SITES*

*American Association for Health Education: <http://www.aahperd.org/aahe>*

*American Cancer Society: <http://www.cancer.org>*

*American School Health Association: <http://www.ashaweb.org>*

*California Department of Education, Health Services: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he>*

*California Department of Health Services, Skin Cancer Prevention Program:*

*<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/cdic/cpns/skin>*

*California State PTA: <http://www.capta.org>*

*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov>*

*National Association of State Boards of Education: <http://www.nasbe.org>*

*National Council on Skin Cancer Prevention: <http://www.skincancerprevention.org>*

*National Safety Council, Environmental Health Center: <http://www.nsc.org/ehc/sunSAFE.htm>*

*Sun Safety for Kids: <http://www.sunsafetyforkids.org>*

*U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission: <http://www.cpsc.gov>*

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Sunwise Program: <http://www.epa.gov/sunwise>*

*UV Index: <http://www.epa.gov/sunwise/uvindex.html>*

*World Health Organization: <http://www.who.int>*

Policy

Approved: February 1, 2007

Revised:

**VACAVILLE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Vacaville, California