

**Policy 6173.1: Education For Foster Youth**

**Status:** ADOPTED

**Original Adopted Date:** 03/01/2008 | **Last Revised Date:** 02/01/2026 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 02/01/2026

The Governing Board recognizes that foster youth may face significant barriers to achieving academic success due to their family circumstances, disruption to their educational program, and their emotional, social, and other health needs that may be addressed with the provision of a safe, positive learning environment that is free from discrimination and harassment and that promotes students' self-esteem and academic achievement.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide foster youth with full access to the district's educational program and implement strategies necessary for the improvement of the academic achievement of foster youth. Additionally, as identified in the district's local control and accountability plan (LCAP), the Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies to build a foster youth's feeling of connectedness with school, including, but not limited to, strategies that promote positive discipline and conflict resolution, the development of resiliency and interpersonal skills, and the involvement of foster parents, group home administrators, and/or other caretakers in school programs and activities.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that placement decisions for foster youth are based on the students' best interests as defined in law and as specified in the accompanying administrative regulation. The Superintendent or designee shall designate a staff person as the district liaison for foster youth to help facilitate the enrollment, placement, and transfer of foster youth.

The Superintendent or designee and district liaison shall ensure that all appropriate staff, including, but not limited to, each principal, school registrar, and attendance clerk, receive training on the enrollment, placement, and transfer of foster youth and other related rights.

To address the needs of foster youth and help ensure the maximum utilization of available funds, the Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with local agencies and officials including, but not limited to, the county placing agency, social services, probation officers, and juvenile court officers. The Superintendent or designee shall explore the feasibility of entering into agreements with these groups to coordinate services and protect the rights of foster youth.

At least annually and in accordance with the established timelines, the Superintendent or designee shall report to the Board on the outcomes for foster youth regarding the goals and specific actions identified in the LCAP, including, but not limited to, school attendance, student achievement test results, promotion and retention rates by grade level, graduation rates, and suspension/expulsion rates. As necessary, evaluation data shall be used to determine and recommend revisions to the LCAP for improving or increasing services for foster youth.

**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 Governing Board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
5 CCR 4600-4670	Uniform complaint procedures
Ed. Code 39807.5	<a href="#">Payment of transportation costs by parents/guardians; waiver for foster youth</a>
Ed. Code 42238.01-42238.07	<a href="#">Local control funding formula</a>
Ed. Code 42920-42926	<a href="#">Foster children educational services</a>
Ed. Code 48645-48647	<a href="#">Juvenile court schools</a>
Ed. Code 48850-48859	<a href="#">Education of foster youth and homeless students</a>
Ed. Code 48915.5	<a href="#">Recommended expulsion; foster youth with disabilities</a>
Ed. Code 48918.1	<a href="#">Notice of recommended expulsion</a>
Ed. Code 49061	<a href="#">Definitions; directory information</a>

**Policy 6173.1: Education For Foster Youth**

**Status:** ADOPTED

**Original Adopted Date:** 06/14/2017 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 06/14/2017

The Board of Education recognizes that foster youth may face significant barriers to achieving academic success due to their family circumstances, disruption to their educational program, and their emotional, social, and other health needs. To enable such students to achieve state and district academic standards, the Superintendent or designee shall provide them with full access to the district's educational program and implement strategies identified as necessary for the improvement of the academic achievement of foster youth in the district's local control and accountability plan (LCAP).

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that placement decisions for foster youth are based on the students' best interests as defined in law and administrative regulation. To that end, he/she shall designate a staff person as the district liaison for foster youth to help facilitate the enrollment, placement, and transfer of foster youth.

The Superintendent or designee and district liaison shall ensure that all appropriate staff, including, but not limited to, each principal, school registrar, and attendance clerk, receive training on the enrollment, placement, and transfer of foster youth and other related rights.

The Board desires to provide foster youth with a safe, positive learning environment that is free from discrimination and harassment and that promotes students' self-esteem and academic achievement. The Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies to build a foster youth's feeling of connectedness with his/her school, including, but not limited to, strategies that promote positive discipline and conflict resolution, the development of resiliency and interpersonal skills, and the involvement of foster parents, group home administrators, and/or other caretakers in school programs and activities.

To address the needs of foster youth and help ensure the maximum utilization of available funds, the Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with local agencies and officials including, but not limited to, the county placing agency, social services, probation officers, and juvenile court officers. The Superintendent or designee shall explore the feasibility of entering into agreements with these groups to coordinate services and protect the rights of foster youth.

At least annually and in accordance with the established timelines, the Superintendent or designee shall report to the Board on the outcomes for foster youth regarding the goals and specific actions identified in the LCAP, including, but not limited to, school attendance, student achievement test results, promotion and retention rates by grade level, graduation rates, and suspension/expulsion rates. As necessary, evaluation data shall be used to determine and recommend revisions to the LCAP for improving or increasing services for foster youth.

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<b>State</b>	<b>Description</b>
Ed. Code 49069.5	<a href="#">Students in foster care; grades and credits</a>
Ed. Code 49076	<a href="#">Access to student records</a>
Ed. Code 51225.1	<a href="#">Exemption from district graduation requirements</a>
Ed. Code 51225.2	<a href="#">Course credits</a>
Ed. Code 51225.3	<a href="#">High school graduation requirements</a>
Ed. Code 52060-52077	<a href="#">Local control and accountability plan</a>
Ed. Code 56055	<a href="#">Rights of foster parents pertaining to foster youth's education</a>
Ed. Code 56325	<a href="#">Unofficial transcripts for transfer students</a>
H&S Code 120341	<a href="#">Foster youth; school placement and immunization records</a>
H&S Code 1522.41	<a href="#">Training and certification of group home administrators</a>
W&I Code 10553.1	Indian and tribal organizations
W&I Code 16000-16014	<a href="#">Foster care placement</a>
W&I Code 300	<a href="#">Minors subject to jurisdiction</a>
W&I Code 309	<a href="#">Investigation and release of child</a>
W&I Code 317	<a href="#">Appointment of legal counsel</a>
W&I Code 361	<a href="#">Limitations on parental control</a>
W&I Code 366.27	<a href="#">Educational decision by relative providing living arrangements</a>
W&I Code 602	<a href="#">Minors violating law; ward of court</a>
W&I Code 726	<a href="#">Limitations on parental control</a>
W&I Code 727	<a href="#">Order of care; ward of court</a>
<b>Federal</b>	<b>Description</b>
20 USC 1415	<a href="#">Procedural safeguards</a>
20 USC 6311	<a href="#">State plan</a>
29 USC 794	<a href="#">Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Section 504</a>
42 USC 11431-11435	McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
42 USC 670-679b	Federal assistance for foster care programs
<b>Management Resources</b>	<b>Description</b>
Alliance for Children's Rights Publication	<a href="#">Foster Youth Education Toolkit, December 2016</a>
California Child Welfare Council Publication	<a href="#">Partial Credit Model Policy and Practice Recommendations</a>
California Foster Youth Education Task Force Pub	<a href="#">California Foster Youth Education Law Fact Sheets, January 2021</a>
Cities, Counties and Schools Partnership Pub.	<a href="#">Our Children: Emancipating Foster Youth. A Community Action Guide</a>
CSBA Publication	<a href="#">Our Foster Youth: What School Boards Can Do, May 2016</a>
CSBA Publication	<a href="#">Foster Youth: Supports for Success, Governance Brief, May 2016</a>
U.S. Department of Education Publication	<a href="#">Ensuring Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care, Non-Regulatory Guidance, June 2016</a>
Website	<a href="#">CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services</a>
Website	<a href="#">Alliance for Children's Rights</a>
Website	<a href="#">Foster Ed</a>
Website	<a href="#">National Center for Youth Law</a>



<b>Management Resources</b>	<b>Description</b>
Website	<a href="#">California Department of Education, Foster Youth Services</a>
Website	<a href="#">California Department of Social Services, Foster Youth Ombudsman Office</a>
Website	<a href="#">California Foster Youth Education Task Force</a>
Website	<a href="#">California Youth Connection</a>
Website	<a href="#">Cities Counties and Schools Partnership</a>
Website	<a href="#">CSBA</a>
Website	<a href="#">California Child Welfare Council</a>

<b>Cross References</b>	<b>Description</b>
0200	<a href="#">Goals For The School District</a>
0410	<a href="#">Nondiscrimination In District Programs And Activities</a>
0415	<a href="#">Equity</a>
0450	<a href="#">Comprehensive Safety Plan</a>
0450	<a href="#">Comprehensive Safety Plan</a>
0460	<a href="#">Local Control And Accountability Plan</a>
0460	<a href="#">Local Control And Accountability Plan</a>
0500	<a href="#">Accountability</a>
1312.3	<a href="#">Uniform Complaint Procedures</a>
1312.3	<a href="#">Uniform Complaint Procedures</a>
1312.3-E(1)	<a href="#">Uniform Complaint Procedures</a>
1312.3-E(2)	<a href="#">Uniform Complaint Procedures</a>
1400	<a href="#">Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies And The Schools</a>
3100	<a href="#">Budget</a>
3100	<a href="#">Budget</a>
3250	<a href="#">Transportation Fees</a>
3250	<a href="#">Transportation Fees</a>
3260	<a href="#">Fees And Charges</a>
3260	<a href="#">Fees And Charges</a>
3515.4	<a href="#">Recovery For Property Loss Or Damage</a>
3515.4	<a href="#">Recovery For Property Loss Or Damage</a>
3540	<a href="#">Transportation</a>
3541	<a href="#">Transportation Routes And Services</a>
3553	<a href="#">Free And Reduced Price Meals</a>
3553	<a href="#">Free And Reduced Price Meals</a>
4131	<a href="#">Staff Development</a>
4231	<a href="#">Staff Development</a>
4331	<a href="#">Staff Development</a>
5111	<a href="#">Admission</a>
5111	<a href="#">Admission</a>
5111.1	<a href="#">District Residency</a>



<b>Cross References</b>	<b>Description</b>
5111.1	<a href="#">District Residency</a>
5113.1	<a href="#">Chronic Absence And Truancy</a>
5113.1	<a href="#">Chronic Absence And Truancy</a>
5113.11	<a href="#">Attendance Supervision</a>
5116.1	<a href="#">Intradistrict Open Enrollment</a>
5116.1	<a href="#">Intradistrict Open Enrollment</a>
5116.2	<a href="#">Involuntary Student Transfers</a>
5117	<a href="#">Interdistrict Attendance</a>
5117	<a href="#">Interdistrict Attendance</a>
5121	<a href="#">Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement</a>
5121	<a href="#">Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement</a>
5123	<a href="#">Promotion/Acceleration/Retention</a>
5123	<a href="#">Promotion/Acceleration/Retention</a>
5125	<a href="#">Student Records</a>
5125	<a href="#">Student Records</a>
5125.2	<a href="#">Withholding Grades, Diploma Or Transcripts</a>
5131	<a href="#">Conduct</a>
5131.2	<a href="#">Bullying</a>
5131.2	<a href="#">Bullying</a>
5131.6	<a href="#">Alcohol And Other Drugs</a>
5131.6	<a href="#">Alcohol And Other Drugs</a>
5132	<a href="#">Dress And Grooming</a>
5132	<a href="#">Dress And Grooming</a>
5137	<a href="#">Positive School Climate</a>
5138	<a href="#">Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation</a>
5141.22	<a href="#">Infectious Diseases</a>
5141.22	<a href="#">Infectious Diseases</a>
5141.26	<a href="#">Tuberculosis Testing</a>
5141.31	<a href="#">Immunizations</a>
5141.31	<a href="#">Immunizations</a>
5141.32	<a href="#">Health Screening For School Entry</a>
5141.6	<a href="#">School Health Services</a>
5141.6	<a href="#">School Health Services</a>
5144.1	<a href="#">Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process</a>
5144.1	<a href="#">Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process</a>
5144.2	<a href="#">Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process (Students With Disabilities)</a>
5145.3	<a href="#">Nondiscrimination/Harassment</a>
5145.3	<a href="#">Nondiscrimination/Harassment</a>
5145.6	<a href="#">Parent/Guardian Notifications</a>
5145.6-E(1)	<a href="#">Parent/Guardian Notifications</a>



<b>Cross References</b>	<b>Description</b>
5145.9	<a href="#">Hate-Motivated Behavior</a>
5147	<a href="#">Dropout Prevention</a>
5148.2	<a href="#">Before/After School Programs</a>
5148.2	<a href="#">Before/After School Programs</a>
5148.3	<a href="#">Preschool/Early Childhood Education</a>
5148.3	<a href="#">Preschool/Early Childhood Education</a>
6000	<a href="#">Concepts And Roles</a>
6011	<a href="#">Academic Standards</a>
6020	<a href="#">Parent Involvement</a>
6020	<a href="#">Parent Involvement</a>
6145	<a href="#">Extracurricular And Cocurricular Activities</a>
6145	<a href="#">Extracurricular And Cocurricular Activities</a>
6145.2	<a href="#">Athletic Competition</a>
6145.2	<a href="#">Athletic Competition</a>
6146.1	<a href="#">High School Graduation Requirements</a>
6146.3	<a href="#">Reciprocity Of Academic Credit</a>
6146.3	<a href="#">Reciprocity Of Academic Credit</a>
6159	<a href="#">Individualized Education Program</a>
6159	<a href="#">Individualized Education Program</a>
6159.2	<a href="#">Nonpublic, Nonsectarian School And Agency Services For Special Education</a>
6159.2	<a href="#">Nonpublic, Nonsectarian School And Agency Services For Special Education</a>
6159.3	<a href="#">Appointment Of Surrogate Parent For Special Education Students</a>
6159.3	<a href="#">Appointment Of Surrogate Parent For Special Education Students</a>
6159.4	<a href="#">Behavioral Interventions For Special Education Students</a>
6162.51	<a href="#">State Academic Achievement Tests</a>
6162.51	<a href="#">State Academic Achievement Tests</a>
6164.2	<a href="#">Guidance/Counseling Services</a>
6164.4	<a href="#">Identification And Evaluation Of Individuals For Special Education</a>
6164.4	<a href="#">Identification And Evaluation Of Individuals For Special Education</a>
6164.6	<a href="#">Identification And Education Under Section 504</a>
6164.6	<a href="#">Identification And Education Under Section 504</a>
6172	<a href="#">Gifted And Talented Student Program</a>
6172	<a href="#">Gifted And Talented Student Program</a>
6173	<a href="#">Education For Homeless Children</a>
6173	<a href="#">Education For Homeless Children</a>
6173-E(1)	<a href="#">Education For Homeless Children</a>
6173-E(2)	<a href="#">Education For Homeless Children</a>
6173.4	<a href="#">Education For American Indian Students</a>
6174	<a href="#">Education For English Learners</a>
6174	<a href="#">Education For English Learners</a>



<b>Cross References</b>	<b>Description</b>
6177	<a href="#">Summer Learning Programs</a>
6179	<a href="#">Supplemental Instruction</a>
6184	<a href="#">Continuation Education</a>
6184	<a href="#">Continuation Education</a>
6190	<a href="#">Evaluation Of The Instructional Program</a>
9320	<a href="#">Meetings And Notices</a>

