Students

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL: BICYCLE AND ELECTRIC BICYCLE SAFETY

The Board of Education recognizes bicycling and electric bicycling as transportation options that can support student mobility, physical activity, and access to school.

The Board also recognizes that electric bicycles may travel at greater speeds and present safety considerations different from traditional bicycles. Therefore, the district establishes requirements designed to promote safe operation, appropriate supervision, bicycle security, pedestrian safety, and compliance with applicable law.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures governing the operation, possession, parking, storage, and use of bicycles and electric bicycles by students on district property.

All students operating bicycles or electric bicycles to or from school shall comply with applicable federal, California and local laws.

Nothing in this policy authorizes conduct prohibited by law. Where applicable law establishes a minimum safety requirement, students shall comply with that requirement. The Superintendent or designee may establish additional reasonable safety requirements for bicycles and electric bicycles on district property.

Age and Classification

Students shall comply with all applicable age restrictions governing electric bicycles.

1. Students **under 12 years of age shall not operate a Class 1 or Class 2 electric bicycle within the City of San Diego** in locations covered by San Diego Municipal Code §84.19.

2. Students **under 16 years of age shall not operate a Class 3 electric bicycle** pursuant to California Vehicle Code §21213.

3. A bicycle or electric bicycle that does not meet the California statutory definition of an electric bicycle shall not be treated as an authorized e-bike under district policy.

The City of San Diego's Electric Bicycle Safety Pilot Program is scheduled to remain in effect until January 1, 2029, unless extended or otherwise amended by state law.

Safety Education

The Superintendent or designee shall approve bicycle and electric bicycle safety education for students who ride bicycles or e-bikes to school.

Safety education should address, as appropriate:

- Applicable traffic laws;
- Electric bicycle classifications;
- Age restrictions;
- Helmet requirements;

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- Defensive riding;
- Pedestrian safety;
- Intersection safety;
- Visibility;
- Safe routes to school;
- Bicycle maintenance;
- Battery and charging safety;
- Passenger requirements; and
- Safe campus procedures.

Permit Program

The Superintendent or designee shall establish an e-bike permit program for students who bring electric bicycles onto district property.

The permit shall require:

- A completed application;
- Parent/guardian acknowledgement;
- E-bike identification information;
- Proof of required safety education;
- Agreement to comply with district rules; and
- Display of a district-issued permit sticker or other identification.

The district shall not charge a student for a district-issued e-bike permit.

Campus Safety

Students shall walk electric bicycles while on campus unless specifically authorized otherwise by a school administrator for an approved activity.

Electric bicycles shall be parked only in designated areas and shall not obstruct entrances, exits, accessible routes, fire lanes, emergency equipment, sidewalks, or pedestrian pathways.

Charging and Battery Safety

Student-owned electric bicycles and batteries shall not be charged using district electrical outlets.

Students shall not bring damaged, recalled, leaking, swollen, overheated, or otherwise unsafe batteries onto district property.

Security and Liability

Students are responsible for securing their bicycles and electric bicycles.

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The district does not guarantee the security of electric bicycles brought onto district property and, to the extent permitted by law, is not responsible for loss, theft, vandalism, or damage to personal e-bikes, batteries, or accessories.

Enforcement

The district shall emphasize education, prevention, and progressive responses to violations of this policy.

Responses may include safety instruction, parent/guardian notification, loss or suspension of bicycle/e-bike privileges, removal of an e-bike from campus, or disciplinary action consistent with applicable district policy.

Nothing in this policy limits the authority of law enforcement to enforce applicable law.

Equity and Accessibility

Implementation of this policy shall be consistent with applicable nondiscrimination, disability accommodation, and student accessibility requirements.

The district shall provide reasonable accommodations when required by law and shall not use this policy to prohibit an otherwise lawful mobility device or accommodation.

Review

The Superintendent or designee shall periodically review this policy and recommend revisions as necessary to reflect changes in state law, the San Diego Municipal Code, safety standards, technology, and district operations.

Legal References

EDUCATION CODE
32280-32289 — School safety plans
44807 — Duty concerning student conduct and safety
44808 — Liability for student conduct away from school grounds

VEHICLE CODE
21200 et seq. — Bicycle operation
21212 — Bicycle helmet requirements
21213 — Class 3 electric bicycle requirements
21214.7 — San Diego Electric Bicycle Safety Pilot Program
312.5 — Electric bicycle definitions and classifications

STREETS AND HIGHWAYS CODE
894 — Electric bicycle safety and training programs

SAN DIEGO MUNICIPAL CODE
84.18 — Motorized transportation devices
84.19 — Electric bicycle age restriction

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84.20 — Electric bicycle safety citation/training provisions
84.21 — Additional electric bicycle safety requirements

SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
San Diego, CA

Policy Adopted: [insert date]