Policy 5147: Dropout Prevention   **Status:** DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: 01/13/2009 | **Last Revised Date:** 04/30/2019 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 04/30/2019

The Governing Board expects all students to remain in school until graduation in order to acquire critical knowledge and skills and be prepared for postsecondary education and/or employment. The Superintendent or designee shall identify factors that impede student success in school and shall implement integrated, systemic support and strategies that address dropout prevention and promote timely intervention and recovery.

The Superintendent or designee, in collaboration with **parents/guardians, school staff, and** community agencies and organizations as appropriate, shall develop districtwide and schoolwide strategies that support regular school attendance for all students. Dropout prevention strategies shall include efforts to provide a safe and positive learning environment that engages and motivates students, encourages students' connectedness to the schools, offers meaningful educational opportunities, and promotes student health and well-being.

In order to make up lost instructional time and offset absences, the district may implement attendance recovery programs. Any attendance recovery program shall be provided as a voluntary, limited-term option for a classroom-based, regular education program for students in grades TK-12 in accordance with Education Code 46211.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies to provide targeted support to individual students who are at risk of dropping out of school. Students may be identified based on indicators such as chronic absenteeism, truancy, or tardiness; below-grade-level academic achievement as evidenced by student assessment results and/or teacher evaluations; and personal, social, health, or economic circumstances that may affect student performance and behavior in school.

Strategies to support students at risk of dropping out of school may include, but are not limited to:

1. Meetings and/or home visits with the student and parent/guardian to identify and address barriers to the student's success and inform them of the state's compulsory education law

2. Individualized instruction that responds to the needs and unique learning styles of students

3. Supplemental instruction during or outside the school day that is designed to help students overcome academic deficiencies**, including attendance recovery programs**

4. Enrollment in alternative or specialized educational programs

5. Assistance locating employment or work-based learning opportunities which link classroom learning with real-world experiences

6. Academic guidance and personal counseling services

7. Referral to a student success team, school attendance review board, or other team that addresses persistent attendance problems

8. Referral to school and/or community support services, such as a student assistance program~~,~~**; substance abuse program;** health services~~,~~ **or school nurse; school social worker or** social services~~, a substance abuse program,~~**; school counselor, school psychologist or other student support personnel for case management and counseling;** and other resources

9. Continued monitoring of student attendance**, including tracking student attendance and identifying students with attendance problems as early as possible, so the school may provide appropriate support services and interventions**

10. Employment of qualified outreach consultants to perform duties related to dropout identification, prevention, intervention, and recovery as assigned

11. **Creating small, personalized learning communities to facilitate monitoring and support**

12. **Offering courses or programs that connect schoolwork with college and career success, including career technical education**

The strategies may be incorporated into the district's local control and accountability plan and linked to district goals for student engagement, school climate, and student achievement.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that employees are trained to support at-risk students and are prepared to implement intervention strategies or to make appropriate referrals to support services.

When a student leaves school prior to the end of a school year, or when a student successfully completed the prior school year but did not begin attending the next grade or school that he/she**the student** was expected to attend or had pre-registered to attend, the Superintendent or designee shall make efforts to determine whether the student has dropped out or has transferred to another educational setting. The Superintendent or designee may contact the student's parents/guardians to verify school enrollment and, if necessary, shall implement intervention and recovery efforts.

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain required documentation for students who transfer from or otherwise withdraw from a school in the district. (20 USC 6311)

The Superintendent or designee shall annually report to the Board on measures of student engagement, including school attendance rates, chronic absenteeism rates, middle school and high school dropout rates, and high school graduation rates. The Board shall monitor district progress in increasing student retention in school and may require revisions in district plans and strategies as needed.

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

State References	**Description**
Ed. Code 35160	Authority of governing boards
Ed. Code 46211	Attendance recovery programs
Ed. Code 48200	Compulsory education
Ed. Code 48260-48273	Truancy
Ed. Code 48400-48403	Compulsory continuation education
Ed. Code 48430-48438	Continuation education
Ed. Code 48660-48666	Community day schools
Ed. Code 49600-49604	Educational counseling
Ed. Code 51260-51269	Gang and substance abuse prevention curriculum
Ed. Code 51745	Independent study
Ed. Code 52059.5-52077	Local control and accountability plan
Ed. Code 52300-52462	Career technical education
Ed. Code 54690-54697	Partnership academies
Ed. Code 60900-60901	California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System
Ed. Code 64001	School plan for student achievement; consolidated application programs
W&I Code 18986.40-18986.46	Interagency children's services programs

Federal References	**Description**
20 USC 6301-6322	Title I programs

Management Resources References	Description
California Department of Education Publication	[School Attendance Improvement Strategies](#)
California Department of Education Publication	[SAP Bulletin 11: Nine Components of SAPs](#)
California Department of Education Publication	[Student Assistance Programs](#)
California Department of Education Publication	[Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate Program Instrument](#)
CSBA Publication	[California High School Graduation and Dropout Rates, Fact Sheet, May 2013](#)
CSBA Publication	[Seize the Data: Using Chronic Absence Data to Drive Student Engagement, March 2024](#)
Institute of Education Sciences Publication	[Preventing Dropout in Secondary Schools, September 2017](#)
US Department of Education Publication	[Every Student Succeeds Act High School Graduation Rate Non-Regulatory Guidance, January 2017](#)
Website	[Institute of Education Sciences](#)
Website	[California Department of Education, Dropout Prevention](#)
Website	[CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services](#)
Website	[California Dropout Research Project](#)
Website	[National Dropout Prevention Center](#)
Website	[U.S. Department of Education](#)
Website	[CSBA](#)

Cross References	Description
0460	[Local Control And Accountability Plan](#)
0460	[Local Control And Accountability Plan](#)
4131	[Staff Development](#)
5030	[Student Wellness](#)
5113	[Absences And Excuses](#)
5113	[Absences And Excuses](#)
5113.1	[Chronic Absence And Truancy](#)
5113.1	[Chronic Absence And Truancy](#)
5113.11	[Attendance Supervision](#)
5113.2	[Work Permits](#)
5113.2	[Work Permits](#)
5123	[Promotion/Acceleration/Retention](#)
5123	[Promotion/Acceleration/Retention](#)
5131.6	[Alcohol And Other Drugs](#)
5131.6	[Alcohol And Other Drugs](#)
5136	[Gangs](#)
5136	[Gangs](#)
5141.6	[School Health Services](#)
5141.6	[School Health Services](#)
5146	[Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students](#)
5148.2	[Before/After School Programs](#)
5148.2	[Before/After School Programs](#)

Cross References	Description
6146.1	High School Graduation Requirements
6146.2	Certificate Of Proficiency/High School Equivalency
6146.2	Certificate Of Proficiency/High School Equivalency
6158	Independent Study
6158	Independent Study
6164.2	Guidance/Counseling Services
6164.5	Student Success Teams
6164.5	Student Success Teams
6172	Gifted And Talented Student Program
6172	Gifted And Talented Student Program
6173.1	Education For Foster Youth
6173.1	Education For Foster Youth
6173.4	Education For American Indian Students
6177	Summer Learning Programs
6178.1	Work-Based Learning
6178.1	Work-Based Learning
6178.2	Regional Occupational Center/Program
6179	Supplemental Instruction
6184	Continuation Education
6184	Continuation Education