

YOUR RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

as an Employee, Student, Parent or Guardian, Advisory Committee

Member, Private School Official, and Other Interested Party

Of A Child in California Public Schools, 2019-20

Ceres Unified School District

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Parent Notice Of Rights And Responsibilities

The State of California requires that parents be notified of their rights and responsibilities in certain matters pertaining to their children's education.

- 1. Absence for Religious Exercises and Instruction:** Pupils may be excused, with written permission from a parent or guardian, in order to participate in religious exercises or receive moral and religious instruction away from school property. Every pupil so excused must attend at least the minimum school day. No pupil shall be excused from school for such purpose on more than four days per school month. (Ed. Code, § 46014)
- 2. Comprehensive Sexual Health Education and HIV/AIDS Prevention Education:** A parent or guardian has the right to excuse their child from comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education. A parent or guardian who wishes to exercise this right must state their request in writing. (Ed. Code § 51938) A parent or guardian may inspect the written and audio visual educational materials used in comprehensive sexual health education and HIV/AIDS prevention education. Parents have a right to request that the District provide them with a copy of the California Healthy Youth Act (Ed. Code section, § 51930 et. seq)

Parents or guardians shall be notified in writing if the District plans to administer an anonymous, voluntary and confidential test, questionnaire or survey containing age-appropriate questions about the pupils' attitudes concerning or practices related to sex in grades 7 to 12 and given the opportunity to review the test, questionnaire or survey. A Parent or guardian has the right to excuse their child from the test, questionnaire, or survey by stating their request in writing. (Ed. Code, § 51938)

Every child's parent will be notified prior to the commencement of any comprehensive sexual health education and HIV/AIDS prevention education instruction as to the date of such instruction and whether the instruction will be taught by District personnel or by outside consultants. If outside consultants are used, the name of the organization of each guest speaker will be identified.

- 3. Excuse From Instruction in Health:** Upon written request of a parent, a pupil may be excused from any part of instruction in health which conflicts with the parent(s)' religious training or beliefs (including personal moral convictions). (Ed. Code, § 51240)
- 4. Administration of Medication:** Medication prescribed by a physician for a child may be administered during the school day by a registered nurse or other designated school personnel, or self-administered by the child if the medication is prescription auto-injectable epinephrine or prescription inhaled asthma medication, but only if the parent consents in writing and provides detailed written instructions from a physician, or a physician assistant as specified by law. Forms for administering medication may be obtained from the school secretary. (Ed. Code, §§ 49423, 49423.1, 49423.5, 49480)
- 5. Students on Medication:** Parents are to notify the principal if their child is on a continuing medication regimen. This notification shall include the name of the medication being taken, the dosage, and the name of the supervising physician. With parental consent, the principal or school nurse may confer with the physician regarding possible effects of the drug, including symptoms of adverse side effects, omission or overdose and counsel with school personnel as deemed appropriate. (Ed. Code, § 49480)

6. **Immunizations:** The District shall exclude from school any pupil who has not been immunized properly, unless the pupil is exempted from the immunization requirement pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 120370. The immunization exemption based on personal beliefs has been eliminated. (Health & Saf. Code, § 120325). A student who, prior to January 1, 2016, submitted a letter or affidavit on file at the District, stating beliefs opposed to immunization, is permitted to enroll in that institution until the student enrolls in the next grade span. Grade span means: 1) birth to preschool; 2) kindergarten and grades 1 through 6, inclusive, including transitional kindergarten; and 3) grades 7 through 12, inclusive. On or after July 1, 2016, the District shall exclude from school for the first time or deny admittance or deny advancement to any student to the 7th grade unless the student has been immunized for his or her age as required by law. (Health & Saf. Code, § 120335). A student may still be exempted from the immunization requirement based on medical condition or circumstances. A parent or guardian must file with the District a statement from a licensed physician saying that the immunization is not considered safe and is not recommended based upon the nature or duration of the medical condition or circumstances, including, but not limited to, the family medical history. (Health & Saf. Code, § 120370)

A parent or guardian may consent in writing for a physician, surgeon, or health care practitioner acting under the direction of a supervising physician and surgeon to administer an immunizing agent to a pupil at school. (Ed. Code, §§ 48216, 48980(a), 49403, Health & Saf. Code, §§ 120325, 120335)
7. **Physical Exams and Testing:** The District is required to conduct certain physical examinations and vision, hearing and scoliosis testing of students unless the parent has a current written objection on file. However, the child may be sent home if he or she is believed to be suffering from a recognized contagious or infectious disease. (Ed. Code, §§ 49451, 49452, 49452.5 and 49455; Health & Saf. Code, § 124085)
8. **Confidential Medical Services:** For students in grades 7 through 12, the District may release a student for the purpose of obtaining confidential medical services without obtaining the consent of the student's parent or guardian. (Ed. Code, § 46010.1)
9. **Medical Coverage for Injuries:** Medical and hospital services for pupils injured at school or school-sponsored events, or while being transported, may be insured at parent's expense. No pupil shall be compelled to accept such services without his or her consent or, if the pupil is a minor, without the consent of a parent or guardian. (Ed. Code, § 49472)
10. **Medical and Hospital Services Not Provided:** The District does not provide medical and hospital services for students injured while participating in athletic activities. However, all members of school athletic teams must have accidental injury insurance that covers medical and hospital expenses. (Ed. Code, §§ 32221.5, 49471)
11. **Mental Health Services:** The District shall notify pupils and parents or guardians no less than twice each school year of the steps to initiate access to available pupil mental health services on campus and/or in the community. (Ed. Code, § 49428)

Student Wellness, Mental Health, and Accessing Services at Your School

Are you having difficulty with your son or daughter? Can your child understand or regulate their emotions? Does your family struggle with communication? Are drugs or other substances affecting your home?

As a school district that is Committed to Excellence and Responsive to Every Student, Ceres Unified takes great pride in providing a variety of support programs and services to our students and families. Through an award-winning, comprehensive mental health program, each school is equipped with the staff and the resources to assist you in addressing your concerns. We also rely on partners and service providers in our community for additional treatment options available for students and families.

All students and their parents or caregivers can request mental health support, including assistance with social or emotional needs, at their school site. The first step is to talk to your teacher, student support specialist, or a principal or other site administrator about your concerns. These team members will work together along with you and your child to find the best available school-based support. These team members will also provide further instructions if needed to get the right supports in place for your child.

Mental health services and/or additional resources may also be accessed at the Ceres Healthy Start Family Resource Center, located at 2491 Lawrence St. in Ceres, or by calling (209) 556-1559.

If more support is needed than what is available at school, you can call the Stanislaus County mental health services access and information line at (888) 376-6246. This information and referral line is provided by Stanislaus County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services. When you call this line, a staff person will do an assessment and assist with any immediate needs. You will then be referred to or linked to other services as appropriate.

If your or someone you know is in a mental health crisis, call the 24-hour hotline at (209) 558-4600.

Find more information, including additional resources or contacts, on our website at <http://gg.gg/studentsservicesCUSD>

A resource guide of local community-based support groups and similar services are also available online at www.friendsaregoodmedicine.com

CUSD is sharing this information with students and families in accordance with Ed Code 49428, to notify them how to initiate mental health services in school settings and the local area. The contacts provided here are the recommended starting points to accessing mental health services. The process to initiate and access clinical mental health treatment may vary depending on health insurance providers and availability of services. Sometimes working with multiple agencies and health insurance can be frustrating when you're trying to help a child get needed mental health supports. We encourage you to not give up, continue to advocate for your child and be patient with mental health providers as they work to address your needs as quickly and effectively as they're able.

12. **Services for Students with Exceptional Needs or a Disability:** State and federal law require that a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment be offered to qualified pupils with disabilities ages 3 through 21 years. Students classified as individuals with exceptional needs for whom a special education placement is unavailable or inappropriate may receive services in a private nonsectarian school. Please contact the local director of special education for specific information. (Ed. Code, § 56040 et seq.) In addition, services are available for students who have a disability which interferes with their equal access to educational opportunities. (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973,

34 C.F.R. § 104.32) The District official listed below is responsible for handling requests for services under Section 504 and may be reached at the following address and telephone:

Kristi Britton
Director of Special Education
2503 Lawrence Street
Ceres, California 95307
(209) 556-1530

13. No Academic Penalty for Excused Absence: No pupil may have his or her grade reduced or lose academic credit for any absence or absences which are excused for the reasons specified below when missed assignments and tests that can reasonably be provided are satisfactorily completed within a reasonable period of time. (Ed. Code, §§ 48205, 48980(j))

A pupil shall be excused from school when the absence is:

- (a) Due to the pupil's illness.
- (b) Due to quarantine under the direction of a county or city health officer.
- (c) For the purpose of having medical, dental, optometrical, or chiropractic services rendered.
- (d) For the purpose of attending the funeral services of a member of the pupil's immediate family, so long as the absence is not more than one day if the service is conducted in California and not more than three days if the service is conducted outside California.
- (e) For the purpose of jury duty in the manner provided for by law.
- (f) Due to the illness or medical appointment during school hours of a child of whom the pupil is the custodial parent, including
- (g) For justifiable personal reasons, including but not limited to, an appearance in court, attendance at a funeral service, observance of a holiday or ceremony of the pupil's religion, attendance at religious retreats, attendance at an employment conference, or attendance at an educational conference on the legislative or judicial process offered by a nonprofit organization, when the pupil's absence is requested in writing by the parent or guardian and approved by the principal or a designated representative pursuant to uniform standards established by the governing board.
- (h) For the purpose of serving as a member of a precinct board for an election pursuant to section 12302 of the Elections Code.
- (i) For the purpose of spending time with a member of the pupil's immediate family, who is an active duty member of the uniformed services, as defined in Section 49701, and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from, deployment to a combat zone or combat support position. Absences granted pursuant to this paragraph shall be granted for a period of time to be determined at the discretion of the superintendent of the school district.
- (j) For the purpose of attending the pupil's naturalization ceremony to become a United States citizen.
- (k) Authorized at the discretion of a school administrator based on the facts of the pupil's circumstances, which are deemed to constitute a valid excuse, including, but not limited to, working for a period of not more than five consecutive days in the entertainment or allied industries or participate with a not-for-profit performing arts organization in a performance for a public school pupil audience for a maximum of up to five days per school year provided the pupil's parent or guardian provides a written note to the school authorities explaining the reason for the pupil's absence. (Ed. Code, §§ 48260, 48205, 48225.5)

A pupil absent from school under this section shall be allowed to complete all assignments and tests missed during the absence that can be reasonably provided and, upon satisfactory completion within a reasonable period of time, shall be given full credit therefor. The teacher of the class from which a pupil is absent shall determine which tests and assignments shall be reasonably equivalent to, but not necessarily identical to, the tests and assignments that the pupil missed during the absence.

For purposes of this section, attendance at religious retreats shall not exceed four hours per semester.

Absences pursuant to this section are deemed to be absences in computing average daily attendance and shall not generate state apportionment payments.

"Immediate family," as used in this section refers to mother, father, grandmother, grandfather, or a grandchild of the pupil or of the spouse of the pupil, and the spouse, son, son-in-law, daughter, daughter-in-law, brother, or sister of the pupil, or any relative living in the immediate household of the pupil. (Ed. Code, §§ 45194, 48205)

14. Equal Opportunity: Equal opportunities for both sexes in all educational programs and activities run by the District is a commitment made by the District to all students. (Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.) Inquiries on all matters, including complaints, regarding the implementation of Title IX in the District may be referred to the District official listed below at the following address and telephone:

David Viss
Director of Personnel Services
2503 Lawrence Street
Ceres, California 95307
(209) 556-1510

15. Complaints (Special Education): Parents may file a complaint concerning violations of federal or state law or regulations governing special education related services. Parents may submit a description of the manner in which the parent believes special education programs for handicapped do not comply with state or federal law or regulations to:

Kristi Britton
Director of Special Education
2503 Lawrence Street
Ceres, California 95307
(209) 556-1530

16. Release of Student Information: The District does not release information or records concerning a child to noneducational organizations or individuals without parent consent except by court order, receipt of a lawfully issued subpoena, or when otherwise allowed by law. The following categories of directory information may be made available to various persons, agencies or institutions unless the parent or guardian notifies the District in writing not to release such information:

Name, address, telephone, date of birth, email address, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, diplomas and awards received, and most recent previous educational institution attended. (Ed. Code, §§ 49060 et seq., 49073, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, 34 C.F.R. § 99.7) In accordance with state and federal law, the District may also make available photographs, videos, and class rosters.

Directory information will not be released regarding a pupil identified as a homeless child or youth unless a parent, or pupil accorded parental rights, has provided written consent that directory information may be released. (Ed. Code, § 49073(c), 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, 42 U.S.C. § 11434a(2))

17. Information Obtained from Social Media: A school district that considers a program to gather or maintain in its records any information obtained through social media of any enrolled student shall notify students and their parents or guardians about the proposed program and provide an opportunity for public comment at a regularly scheduled public meeting of the Governing board of the school district. The notification shall include, but is not limited to, an explanation of the process by which a student or a student's parent or guardian may access the student's records to examine the information gathered or maintained, and an explanation of the process by which a student or student's parent or guardian may request the removal of information or make corrections to information gathered or maintained. (Ed. Code, § 49073.6)

18. Inspection of Student Records: State law requires that the District notify parents of the following rights which pertain to student records. (Ed. Code, §§ 49063, 49069, 34 C.F.R. § 99.7)

- a. A parent or guardian has the right to inspect and review student records relating directly to his or her child during school hours or obtain a copy of such records within five (5) business days of his/her request.
- b. Any parent who wishes to review the types of student records and information contained therein may do so by contacting the principal at his/her child's school. The principal of each school is ultimately responsible for maintenance of student records.
- c. A parent with legal custody has a right to challenge information contained in his/her child's records. Any determination to expunge a student's record is made after a review of said record(s) by site administrators and certificated staff. Following an inspection and review of student records, the parent may challenge the content of the student's record. The right to challenge becomes the sole right of the student when the student becomes eighteen (18) years of age.

A parent may file a written request with the Superintendent of the District to remove any information recorded in the written records concerning the child which is alleged to be:

- (i) Inaccurate.
- (ii) An unsubstantiated personal conclusion or inference.
- (iii) A conclusion or inference outside of the observer's area of competence.
- (iv) Not based on the personal observation of a named person with the time and place of the observation noted.
- (v) Misleading.
- (vi) In violation of the privacy or other rights of the pupil.

Within thirty (30) days, the Superintendent or designee shall meet with the parent/guardian and the certificated employee who recorded the information, if any, and if the person is still employed with the District, and sustain or deny the allegations. If the allegations are sustained, the Superintendent shall order the correction, removal or destruction of the information. If the Superintendent denies the allegations, the parent may appeal the decision to the Governing Board within thirty (30) days. The Board shall determine whether or not to sustain or deny the allegations. If the Board sustains the allegations, it shall order the Superintendent to immediately correct, remove or destroy the information from the written records of the student. (Ed. Code, § 49070)

If the final decision of the Board is unfavorable to the parents, or if the parent accepts an unfavorable decision by the District Superintendent, the parent shall have the right to submit a written statement of objections to the information. This statement shall become a part of the student's school record until such time as the information objected to is removed.

Both the Superintendent and the Board have the option of appointing a hearing panel in accordance with Education Code sections 49070-49071 to assist in the decision making. The decision as to whether a hearing panel is to be used shall be made at the discretion of the Superintendent or the Board and not of the challenging party.

- d. A Student Records Log is maintained for each student. The Student Records Log lists persons, agencies or organizations requesting and/or receiving information from the records to the extent required by law. Student Records Logs are located at each school and are open to

inspection by parents or guardians. (Ed. Code, § 49064)

- e. School officials and employees having a legitimate educational interest, as well as persons identified in Education Code sections 49076 and 49076.5 and in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, may access student records without first obtaining parental consent. “School officials and employees” are persons employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and District-employed law enforcement personnel), a Board member, a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special service (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist), or a parent, student, foster family agency, short-term residential treatment staff, or caregiver whose access to student records is legally authorized. A “legitimate educational interest” is one held by a school official or employee whose duties and responsibilities create a reasonable need for access. (Ed. Code, §§ 49063(d), 49076, 49076.5, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g)
- f. Parents and guardians have the right to authorize the release of student records to themselves. Only parents and guardians with legal custody can authorize the release of student records to others.
- g. Parents and guardians will be charged 0.20 cents per page for the reproduction of student records.
- h. Parents have a right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education for alleged violations of parent rights related to student records. (20 U.S.C. § 1232g(g))
- i. Parents may obtain a copy of the District’s complete student records policy by contacting the Superintendent.

19. Family Education Rights Privacy Act (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act: “FERPA”): In addition, parents have certain rights regarding student information and records which are guaranteed under federal law. A handout notifying parents of these rights is attached.

20. Student Discipline: District and School rules pertaining to student discipline are available to parents or guardians of district students in the school office. (Ed. Code, § 35291) Students may be subject to discipline for off-campus misconduct if the misconduct is related to school activity or attendance and causes or is reasonably likely to cause a substantial disruption to school activity. For example, a student using technology such as a home computer, cellular phone, or other electronic device may be disciplined for bullying, engaging in unlawful harassment, or making threats against students, staff, or district property even if such misconduct occurred off-campus and during nonschool hours. (Ed. Code, § 48900(r))

21. Dissection of Animals: If a student has a moral objection to dissecting (or otherwise harming or destroying) animals, or any part of an animal, the pupil must notify the teacher regarding such objection, and the objection must be substantiated with a note from the pupil’s parent or guardian. If the pupil chooses to refrain from participating in such a project or test, and if the teacher believes that an adequate alternative education project or test is possible, then the teacher may work with the pupil to develop and agree upon an alternate education project or test for the purpose of providing the pupil an alternate avenue for obtaining the knowledge, information or experience required by the course of study. (Ed. Code, §§ 32255-32255.6)

22. Temporary Disability: A temporary disability which makes it impossible or inadvisable for a student to attend class may entitle the student to receive individualized instruction. It is the responsibility of the pupil’s parent or guardian to notify the school district in which the pupil is deemed to reside of the pupil’s need for individualized instruction.

Home Instruction: The district in which the student resides is to provide individual instruction if the student is receiving the instruction in his or her home. Individual instruction in a pupil’s home pursuant to section 48206.3 shall commence no later than five working days after a school district has determined that the pupil shall receive this instruction.

Hospital or Health Facility Instruction: The school district in which the hospital or other residential health facility, excluding a state hospital, is located must provide individual instruction to a student with a temporary disability. Within five working days of receipt of the notification, the district must determine whether the pupil will be able to receive individual instruction, and, if so, when the individual instruction will begin. A student with a temporary disability who is in a hospital or other residential health facility, other than a state hospital, which is located outside the student’s school district of residence shall be deemed to comply with the residency requirements of the school district in which the hospital is located. A school district may continue to enroll a pupil with a temporary disability who is receiving individual instruction in a hospital or residential health facility to facilitate the timely reentry of the pupil after the hospitalization has ended, or in order to provide a partial week of instruction. On days in which the student is not receiving individual instruction in a hospital or other residential health facility, he or she may attend school in his or her district of residence if well enough to do so. A pupil receiving individual instruction who is well enough to return to a school shall be allowed to return to the school, including a charter school, that he or she attended immediately before receiving individual instruction, if returning during the same school year. (Ed. Code, §§ 48206.3, 48207, 48207.3, 48207.5, 48208, 48980(b))

Pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, and recovery therefrom shall be treated in the same manner and under the same policies as any other temporary disabling condition. (Ed. Code, § 221.51)

23. Student Residency: A student may be enrolled in the District if (1) the student’s parent, legal guardian or other person having control and charge of the student resides in the District (Ed. Code, § 48200); (2) the District has approved interdistrict attendance (Ed. Code, § 46600); (3) the student is placed in a regularly established children’s institution, licensed foster home, or family home; (4) the student is a foster child who remains in his or her school of origin pursuant to Education Code section 48853.5(f) and (g); (5) the student is emancipated and lives within the District; (6) the student lives in the home of an adult who has submitted a caregiver affidavit; (7) the student resides in a state hospital within the District; or (8) the student’s parent or legal guardian resides outside of the boundaries of the school district but is employed and lives with the student at the place of his/her employment within the school district boundaries for a minimum of three days during the school week. (Ed. Code, § 48204). The law allows, but does not require, a district to accept a student for enrollment where at least one parent or legal guardian of the student is physically employed within the district’s boundaries for a minimum of 10 hours during the school week. (Ed. Code, § 48204). A student also complies with the residency requirements for school attendance in a school district if he or she is a student whose parent is transferred or pending transfer to a military installation within the state while on active duty pursuant to an official military order. However, the parent must provide proof of residence in the school district within ten days after the published arrival date provided on official documentation. (Ed. Code, § 48204.3) A student also complies with the residency

requirement if the student's parent/guardians were residents of the state but departed California against their will if the student provides official documentation evidencing the departure of her/his parent/guardians against their will; that the student moved outside of California as a result of her/his parent/guardians departing California against their will, and that the student lived and was enrolled in school in California immediately before moving outside of California. (Ed. Code, § 48204.4)

24. Attendance Options: All districts must inform parents at the beginning of the school year how to enroll in a school within the district that is different than the one assigned. Students who attend schools other than those assigned by the district are referred to as “transfer students” throughout this notification. There is one process for choosing a school within the district which the parent lives (intradistrict transfer), and three separate processes for selecting schools in other districts (interdistrict transfer). (Ed. Code, § 48980(h)) There is also a process under the Open Enrollment Act for students enrolled in “low-achieving schools,” as identified annually by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. (Ed. Code, § 48350 et seq.)

Parents interested in interdistrict or intradistrict transfers should contact:

Jose Beltran
Director of Child Welfare and Attendance
2503 Lawrence Street
Ceres, California 95307
(209) 556-1540

The general requirements and limitations of each process are described as follows:

- a. **Choosing a School Within the District in Which Parent Lives:** Education Code section 35160.5(b) requires the school board of each district to establish a policy that allows parents to choose the schools their children will attend, regardless of where the parent lives in the district. The law limits choice within a school district as follows:
 - Students who live in the attendance area of a school must be given priority to attend that school over students who do not live in the school's attendance area.
 - In cases in which there are more requests to attend a school than there are openings, the selection process must be “random and unbiased,” which generally means students must be selected through a lottery process rather than on a first-come, first-served basis. A district cannot use a student's academic or athletic performance as a reason to accept or reject a transfer. However, a district may consider special circumstances that might be harmful or dangerous to a particular pupil in the current attendance area of the pupil, including physical threats of bodily harm or threats to the emotional stability of the pupil documented by a state or local agency, licensed or registered professional, or court order.
 - Each district must decide the number of openings at each school which can be filled by transfer students. Each district also has the authority to keep appropriate racial and ethnic balances among its schools, meaning that a district can deny a transfer request if it would upset this balance or would leave the district out of compliance with a court-ordered or voluntary desegregation program.
 - A district is not required to provide transportation assistance to a student that transfers to another school in the district under these provisions.
 - If a transfer is denied, a parent does not have an automatic right to appeal the decision. A district may, however, voluntarily decide to put in place a process for parents to appeal a decision.
- b. **Choosing a School Outside the District in Which Parent Lives:** Parents have two different options for choosing a school outside the district in which they live. The two options are:
 - i. **Interdistrict Transfers (Ed. Code, §§ 46600–46610):** The law allows two or more districts to enter into an agreement for the transfer of one or more students for a period of up to five years. New agreements may be entered into for additional periods of up to five years each. The agreement must specify the terms and conditions under which transfers are permitted. The law on interdistrict transfers also provides for the following:
 - Once a pupil is enrolled in a school pursuant to an interdistrict transfer agreement, the pupil must be allowed to continue to attend the school in which he or she is enrolled without reapplying, unless revocation of the interdistrict transfer is a term and condition of the agreement between the districts; however, a district must not rescind existing transfer permits for pupils entering grade 11 or 12 in the subsequent school year.
 - Upon request, a pupil determined to be the victim of an act of bullying by a pupil of the district of residence must be given priority for interdistrict attendance under any existing interdistrict attendance agreement or additional consideration for the creation of an interdistrict attendance agreement. (Ed. Code, §§ 46600(b), 48900(r))
 - If either district denies a transfer request, a parent may appeal that decision to the county board of education. There are specified timelines in the law for filing an appeal and for the county board of education to make a decision.
 - A school district of residence shall not prohibit the transfer of a student who is a homeless child or youth, a current or former migratory child, a foster youth, the victim of an act of bullying, or a child of an active military duty parent to a school district of proposed enrollment if the school district of proposed enrollment approves the transfer application. A school district that elects to accept an interdistrict transfer pursuant to this subdivision shall accept all pupils who apply to transfer under this subdivision until the school district is at maximum capacity and shall ensure that pupils admitted under this subdivision are selected through an unbiased process that prohibits an inquiry into or evaluation or consideration of whether or not a pupil should be enrolled based on his or her academic, performance, athletic

performance, physical condition, proficiency in English, family income, actual or perceived characteristics, such as disability (mental and physical), gender (includes gender identity, gender expression, and gender-related appearance and behavior whether or not stereotypically associated with the person's assigned sex at birth), actual or potential parental, family, or marital status, pregnancy (including childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery therefrom), nationality (includes citizenship, country of origin and national origin), immigration status, race or ethnicity (includes ancestry, color, ethnic group identification and ethnic background), religion (includes all aspects of religious belief, observance and practice, including agnosticism and atheism), sexual orientation (heterosexuality, homosexuality or bisexuality), or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. Upon request of the parent on behalf of a pupil eligible for transfer pursuant to this subdivision, a school district of enrollment will provide transportation assistance to a pupil who is eligible for free or reduced-price meals. A school district of enrollment may provide transportation assistance to any pupil admitted under this subdivision. (Ed. Code, § 46600(d))

ii. “Allen Bill” Transfers (Ed. Code, § 48204(b)): The law allows, but does not require, each school district to adopt a policy whereby the student may be considered a resident of the school district in which his/her parents (or legal guardian(s)) physically work for a minimum of 10 hours during the school week if that is different from the school district in which the student resides. This code section does not require that a school district accept a student requesting a transfer on this basis, but a student may not be rejected on the basis of race/ethnicity, sex, parental income, academic achievement, or any other “arbitrary” consideration. Other provisions of Education Code section 48204(b) include:

- Either the district in which the parent (or legal guardian) lives or the district in which the parent (or legal guardian) physically works may prohibit the student's transfer if it is determined that there would be a negative impact on the district's desegregation plan.
- The district in which the parent (or legal guardian) physically works may reject a transfer if it determines that the cost of educating the student would be more than the amount of state funds the district would receive for educating the student.
- There are set limits (based on total enrollment) on the net numbers of students that may transfer out of a district under this law, unless the district approves a greater number of transfers.
- There is no required appeal process for a transfer that is denied. However, the district that declines to admit a student is encouraged to provide in writing to the parent the specific reasons for denying the transfer.

c. Districts of Choice (Ed. Code, §§ 48300-48317): The law allows, but does not require, each school district to become a “district of choice”—that is, a district that accepts transfer students from outside the district under the terms of the referenced Education Code sections. The school board of a district that decides to become a “district of choice” must determine the number of students it is willing to accept in this category each year and make sure that the students are selected through an “unbiased process,” which prohibits student enrollment and district communications about enrollment based upon actual or perceived academic or athletic performance, physical condition, proficiency in English, any other personal characteristic as specified in Education Code section 200, and family income (except for purposes of determining attendance priority for students eligible for free or reduced-price meals). If the number of transfer applications exceeds the number of students the school board elects to accept, transfer approval must be determined by a random public drawing held at a regular board meeting. Other provisions of the “district of choice” option include:

- A school district of residence may deny a transfer if it will negatively affect the racial and ethnic balance of the district, or a court-ordered or voluntary desegregation plan. The district a student would be leaving may also limit the total number of students transferring out of the district each year to a specified percentage of its total enrollment, depending on the size of the district.
- A school district of residence shall not prohibit the transfer of a student who is a child of an active military duty parent or adopt policies to block or discourage students from applying for transfer to a school district of choice.
- No student who currently attends a school or lives within the attendance area of a school can be forced out of that school to make room for a student transferring under these provisions.
- A school district of choice must give priority for attendance in the following order: 1) to siblings of students already attending school in the district; 2) to students eligible for free or reduced-price meals; and 3) to children of military personnel.
- A school district of choice must post application information on its Internet Website, including any applicable form, transfer timeline, and explanation of the selection process.
- A parent may request transportation assistance within the boundaries of the “district of choice.” The district is required to provide transportation only to the extent it already does so.

d. Applying to Attend a School under the Open Enrollment Act: The Open Enrollment Act allows the parent of a pupil enrolled in a “low-achieving school” to submit an application for the pupil to transfer to another public school served by the school district of residence or another school district. (Ed. Code, § 48350 et seq.) The parent must submit an application requesting a transfer to the school district in which the parent does not reside, but in which the parent intends to enroll the pupil. With some exceptions, the application must be submitted prior to January 1 of the school year before the school year for which the pupil is requesting a transfer. Both of the school districts from which and to which the parent has applied to transfer may prohibit or limit pupil transfers if the transfer would negatively impact a court-ordered or voluntary desegregation plan or the racial/ethnic balance of the district. Additionally, the school district in which the parent does not reside, but in which the parent intends to enroll the pupil may adopt specific, written standards for acceptance and rejection of applications pursuant to the Open Enrollment Act. (Ed. Code, § 48356)

e. Transferring a Student Convicted of a Felony/Misdemeanor: Education Code section 48929 authorizes the governing board of a school district to transfer a student enrolled in the district who has been convicted of a violent felony as defined in Penal Code section 667.5 or misdemeanor listed

in Penal Code section 29805 to another school within the district when the student and victim of the crime are enrolled in the same school. The governing board must first adopt a policy at a regular meeting and provide notice of the policy to parents or guardians as part of the annual parent notifications under Education Code section 48980. The policy must: 1) require notice to the student and student's parent or guardian of the right to request to meet with the principal or designee of the school or school district; 2) require the school to first attempt to resolve the conflict before transfer by using restorative justice, counseling, or other services; 3) include whether the transfer decision is subject to periodic review and include the procedure to conduct the review; and 4) provide the process the board will use to consider and approve or disapprove the recommendation of the school principal or other school or school district designee to transfer the student.

25. Sexual Harassment Policy: Each student will receive a written copy of the district policy on sexual harassment. The purpose of this policy is to provide notification of the prohibition against sexual harassment as a form of sexual discrimination and to provide notification of available remedies. A copy of the District's policy on sexual harassment is attached. (Ed. Code, §§ 231.5, 48980(g))

26. Notice of Alternative Schools: California state law authorizes all school districts to provide for alternative schools. Section 58500 of the Education Code defines alternative school as a school or separate class group within a school which is operated in a manner designed to:

- a. Maximize the opportunity for students to develop the positive values of self-reliance, initiative, kindness, spontaneity, resourcefulness, courage, creativity, responsibility, and joy.
- b. Recognize that the best learning takes place when the student learns because of the student's desire to learn.
- c. Maintain a learning situation maximizing student self-motivation and encouraging the student in his or her own time to follow his or her own interests. These interests may be conceived by the student totally and independently or may result in whole or in part from a presentation by the student's teachers of choices of learning projects.
- d. Maximize the opportunity for teachers, parents and students to cooperatively develop the learning process and its subject matter. This opportunity shall be a continuous permanent process.
- e. Maximize the opportunity for the students, teachers, and parents to continuously react to the changing world, including but not limited to the community in which the school is located.

In the event any parent, pupil, or teacher is interested in further information concerning alternative schools, the county superintendent of schools, the administrative office of this district, and the principal's office in each attendance unit have copies of the law available for parent information. This law particularly authorizes interested persons to request the governing board of the district to establish alternative school programs in each district. (Ed. Code, § 58501)

27. Nutrition Program: The State Department of Education has established a statewide program to provide nutritious meals and milk at school for pupils, and to provide free meals to the neediest children. In some instances, nominal cash payments may be required. (Ed. Code, § 49510 et seq.)

28. Leaving School Grounds: The Governing Board of the Ceres School District, pursuant to Section 44808.5 of the Education Code, has decided to permit 11th and 12th grade pupils enrolled at Ceres High School and Central Valley High School who meet a particular criteria to leave school grounds during the lunch period. (Consult the Ceres High School and Central Valley High School Handbook regarding permission.) Section 44808.5 of the Education Code further states: "Neither the school district nor any officer or employee thereof shall be liable for the conduct or safety of any pupil during such time as the pupil has left the school grounds." (Ed. Code § 44808.5)

29. U.S. Department of Education Programs: The following applies only to programs directly funded by the U.S. Department of Education:

All instructional materials, including teacher's manuals, films, tapes, or other supplementary material which will be used in connection with any survey, analysis, or evaluation shall be available for inspection by the parents or guardians of the children.

No student shall be required, as part of any applicable U.S. Department of Education funded program, to submit to a survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning:

- a. political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parents;
- b. mental and psychological problems of the student or his/her family;
- c. sex behavior or attitudes;
- d. illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior;
- e. critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
- f. legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
- g. religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parent; or
- h. income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program)

without the prior consent of the student (if the student is an adult or emancipated minor), or in the case of an unemancipated minor, without the prior written consent of the parent.

(20 U.S.C. § 1232h)

In compliance with this section, attached to this Notice are the following documents:

- A schedule of activities involving the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information;

- A schedule of any survey containing one or more of the items referenced as (a)-(h) in the foregoing paragraph regarding “U.S. Department of Education Programs.”
- A schedule of any nonemergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school and scheduled in advance, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of any student. (20 U.S.C. § 1232h)

30. Fingerprint Programs: With the written consent of the parent or guardian, kindergarten or newly enrolled students may be fingerprinted. The fingerprint document may not be retained by the District but must be delivered to the parent or guardian. A fee shall be charged to the parent or guardian to reimburse the District for its actual cost. (Ed. Code, §§ 32390, 48980(f))

31. Uniform Complaint Procedures:

Complaints Alleging Discrimination, Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying:

State and federal law prohibit discrimination in education programs and activities. The District is primarily responsible for compliance with federal and state laws and regulations. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 5, § 4620.)

Under state law, all pupils have the right to attend classes on school campuses that are safe, secure, and peaceful. (Ed. Code, § 32261.) State law requires school districts to afford all pupils equal rights and opportunities in education, regardless of their actual or perceived characteristics, such as disability (mental and physical), gender (includes gender identity, gender expression, and gender-related appearance and behavior whether or not stereotypically associated with the person’s assigned sex at birth), actual or potential parental, family, or marital status, pregnancy (including childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery therefrom), nationality (includes citizenship, country of origin and national origin), immigration status, race or ethnicity (includes ancestry, color, ethnic group identification and ethnic background), religion (includes all aspects of religious belief, observance and practice, including agnosticism and atheism), sexual orientation (heterosexuality, homosexuality or bisexuality), or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.. (Ed. Code, §§ 210-214, 220 et seq., 234 et seq., Cal. Code Regs., tit. 5, § 4900 et seq., 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq., 29 U.S.C. § 794, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq., 42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq., 34 C.F.R. § 106.9) The District prohibits discrimination, harassment, intimidation, bullying, and retaliation in all acts related to school activity or attendance. In addition to being the subject of a complaint, a pupil engaging in an act of bullying as defined by Education Code section 48900(r) may be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion.

The District’s Uniform Complaint Procedure may be used in cases where individuals or a group have suffered discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 5, §§ 4610, 4630, 4650, Ed. Code, § § 234 et seq., 48900(r))

- Any individual, public agency or organization has the right to file a written complaint alleging that he/she has personally suffered unlawful discrimination or that an individual or specific class of individuals has been subjected to unlawful discrimination. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 5, § 4630(b)(1))
- Copies of the District’s complaint procedures are available free of charge. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 5, § 4622)
- Complaints must usually be filed with the superintendent/designee of the District.
- Discrimination complaints must be filed within six (6) months of the date the alleged discrimination occurred, or within six (6) months of the date the complainant first obtained knowledge of the facts of the alleged discrimination. Within that six (6) month period, complainant may file a written request with the district superintendent or designee for an extension of up to ninety (90) days following the six (6) month time period. Extensions will not be automatically granted, but may be granted for good cause. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 5, § 4630(b))

Complaints Other Than Discrimination, Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying:

The District has a written complaint procedure which may be used in cases where any individual, public agency or organization alleges violations of state or federal law, other than those relating to discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying.

- Written complaints may be made regarding:
 - Adult Education
 - After School Education and Safety
 - Agricultural Career Technical and/or Vocational Education
 - American Indian Education Centers and American Indian Early Childhood Education
 - Bilingual Education
 - California Peer Assistance and Review Programs for Teachers
 - Consolidated Categorical Aid Programs
 - Migrant Child Education Programs
 - Every Student Succeeds Act (formerly No Child Left Behind)
 - Career Technical and Technical Education and Technical Training Programs
 - Child Care and Development
 - Child Nutrition
 - Compensatory Education
 - Consolidated Categorical Aid
 - Economic Impact Aid
 - Special Education
 - “Williams Complaints”
 - Pupil Fees
 - Instructional Minutes for Physical Education

- (xx) Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) and Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)
- (xxi) Pregnant and Parenting Pupils, including parental leave
- (xxii) Student Parent Lactation Accommodations
- (xxiii) Course Assignments already Completed or without Educational Content
- (xxiv) Physical Education Instructional Minutes
- (xxv) Foster Youth, Homeless Youth, and former Juvenile Court School Student Services, Migrant Youth, and Pupils of Military Families
- (xxvi) Regional Occupational Centers and Programs
- (xxvii) Continued Education Options for Former Juvenile Court School Students
- (xxviii) School Safety Plans
- (xxix) School Plans for Student Achievement (SPSA)
- (xxx) Tobacco-Use Prevention Education
- (xxxii) Health and Safety in a California State Preschool Program
- (xxxii) Any other district-implemented state categorical program that is not funded through the local control funding formula pursuant to Education Code section 64000

(xxxiii) Any other educational programs the Superintendent deems appropriate

(Cal. Code Regs., tit. 5, §§ 4610(b), 4622, 4630, Ed. Code, §§ 222, 4845.7, 8200-8498, 8500-8538, 32289, 33315, 33380-33384, 35186, 41500-41513, 46015, 47606.5, 47607.3, 48853.5, 49013, 49069.5, 49490-49590, 49701, 51210, 51223, 51225.1, 51225.2, 51226-51226.1, 51228.1, 51228.2, 51228.3, 52060-52075, 52160-52178, 52300-52490, 52334.7, 52500-52616.24, 52800-52870, 54000-54029, 54400-54425, 54440-54445, 54460-54529, 56000-56867, 59000-59300, and 64001, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1400, 4600, 6601, 6801, 7101, 7201, 7301 et. seq., Health and Saf. Code, §§ 1596.792, 1596.7925, 104420)

Any individual, public agency or organization has the right to file a written complaint alleging that the District has violated a federal or state law or regulation governing any program listed above. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 5, § 4630(b)(1))

Copies of the District's complaint procedures are available free of charge. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 5, § 4622)

Complaints must usually be filed with the superintendent or designee of the District under the timelines established by District policy. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 5, § 4630(b))

Within 60 days from the date of receipt of the complaint, the District's responsible officer or his/her designee shall conduct and complete an investigation of the complaint in accordance with local procedures adopted pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 5, section 4621 and prepare a written decision. The time period may be extended by mutual written agreement of the parties.

f. Williams Complaints: Complaints, including anonymous complaints, may be made and addressed on a shortened time line for the following areas:

(Ed. Code, § 8235.5, 35186)

- (i) Insufficient textbooks and instructional materials;
- (ii) Emergency or urgent school facilities conditions that pose a threat to the health and safety of pupils;
- (iii) Noncompliance with the requirement of Education Code section 35292.6 to stock, at all times, at least half of the restrooms in the school with feminine hygiene products and to not charge students for the use of such products;
- (iv) Teacher vacancy or misassignment;
- (v) Noncompliance of a license-exempt California State Preschool Program (CSPP) with health and safety standards specified in Health and Safety Code section 1596.7925 and related state regulations.

A complaint of noncompliance with Education Code section 35186 may be filed with the school principal or designee under the Uniform Complaint Procedures. A complainant not satisfied with the resolution of a Williams Complaint has the right to bring the complaint to the district governing board at a regularly scheduled hearing. In the case of a complaint regarding emergency or urgent school facilities conditions, a complainant has the right of appeal to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

g. Pupil Fees Complaints: A pupil enrolled in our district shall not be required to pay a pupil fee for participation in an educational activity, including curricular and extracurricular activities. A pupil fee includes, but is not limited to, all of the following: a fee charged to a pupil as a condition for registering for school or classes, as a condition for participation in a class or an extracurricular activity, as a security deposit to obtain materials or equipment, or a purchase that a pupil is required to make to obtain materials or equipment for an educational activity.

A complaint of noncompliance with Education Code section 49010 et seq. may be filed with the school principal under the Uniform Complaint Procedures. A complaint shall be filed not later than one calendar year from the date the alleged violation occurred. A complaint may be filed anonymously if the complaint provides evidence or information leading to evidence to support an allegation of noncompliance.

h. Foster, homeless, former juvenile court pupils and pupils in military families: the District will post a standardized notice of the educational rights of pupils in foster care, pupils who are homeless, former juvenile court pupils now enrolled in a school district, and pupils in military families as specified in Education Code sections 48645.7, 48853, 48853.5, 49069.5, 51225.1, and 51225.2. This notice shall include complaint process information, as applicable.

Responsible Official: The District official responsible for processing complaints is listed below at the following address:

Scott Siegel, Ed.D, Superintendent
Ceres Unified School District
2503 Lawrence Street
Ceres, CA 95307

Complaints Made Directly to the State Superintendent:

Complaints may be filed directly with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction in the following cases:

- i. Complaints alleging that the District failed to comply with the complaint procedures described herein, including failure or refusal to cooperate with the investigation.
- j. Complaints regarding Child Development and Child Nutrition programs not administered by the District.
- k. Complaints requesting anonymity, but only where complainant also provides clear and convincing evidence that complainant would be in danger of retaliation if filing complaint at District level.
- l. Complaints alleging that the District failed or refused to implement a final decision regarding a complaint originally filed with the District.
- m. Complaints alleging that the District took no action within sixty (60) days regarding a complaint originally filed with the District.
- n. Complaints alleging immediate and irreparable harm as a result of applying a district-wide policy in conflict with state or federal law and that complaining at the local level would be futile.
- o. Complaints relating to Special Education, but only if:
 - (i) District unlawfully refuses to provide a free appropriate public education to handicapped students; or
 - (ii) District refuses to comply with due process procedures or fails to implement due process hearing order; or
 - (iii) Children may be in immediate physical danger, or their health, safety or welfare is threatened; or
 - (iv) A handicapped pupil is not receiving the services specified in his/her Individual Educational Program (IEP); or
 - (v) The complaint involves a violation of federal law.
- p. The District refuses to respond to the State Superintendent's request for information regarding a complaint originally filed with the District. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 5, §§ 4630, 4650)

Appeals:

- q. Except for Williams Complaints, if a complaint is denied, in full or in part, by the District, the complainant may appeal to the California Department of Education. (Ed. Code, § 262.3(a), Cal. Code Regs., tit. 5, § 4632)
 - (i) Appeals must be filed within fifteen (15) days of receiving the District decision.
 - (ii) Appeals must be in writing.
 - (iii) Appeals must specify the reason(s) for appealing the District decision, including whether the facts are incorrect and/or the law has been misapplied.
 - (iv) Appeals must include a copy of the original complaint and a copy of the District decision.
 - (v) Pupil fee complaints appealed to the California Department of Education will receive a written appeal decision within 60 days of the department's receipt of the appeal.
 - (vi) If the school/District finds merit in a complaint, or the California Department of Education finds merit in an appeal, the school/District must provide a remedy to all affected pupils, parents, and guardians. For pupil fee complaints, this includes reasonable efforts by the school to ensure full reimbursement to all affected pupils, parents, and guardians, subject to procedures established through regulations adopted by the state board.
- r. If a complaint is denied, in full or in part, by the Department of Education, the complainant may request reconsideration by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 5, § 4665)
 - (i) Reconsideration must be requested within thirty-five (35) days of receiving the Department of Education report.
 - (ii) The original decision denying the complaint will remain in effect and enforceable unless and until the State Superintendent of Public Instruction modifies that decision.

Civil Law Remedies:

In addition to the above-described complaint procedure, or upon completion of that procedure, complainants may have civil law remedies under state or federal discrimination, harassment, intimidation or bullying laws. These civil law remedies can include, but are not limited to, injunctions and restraining orders. These civil law remedies are granted by a court of law and may be used, in part, to prevent the District from acting in an unlawful manner. Delay in pursuing civil law remedies before a court of law may result in loss of rights to those remedies. Any questions regarding civil law remedies should be directed to an attorney. (Ed. Code, § 262.3(b), Cal. Code Regs., tit. 5, § 4622)

32. Pupil-Free Staff Development Day and Minimum Day Schedule: A copy of the District's pupil-free staff development day and minimum day schedules is attached for reference. A pupil's parent or guardian will be notified during the school year of any additional minimum days and pupil-free staff development days no later than one month before the actual date. (Ed. Code, §48980(c))

Minimum Days (all elementary sites only)

September 4
October 2
May 21
June 4

Early Release Days (all elementary sites only)

August 28	December 18	April 29
September 18	January 29	May 27
October 16	February 26	
November 20	March 25	

Parent/teacher Conference minimum days

Junior High	October 23, 24 and April 2, 3
Elementary	October 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and January 23, 24

Pupil-free staff development days (all sites)

August 12, 13	November 1
January 6	March 20

- 33. Review of Curriculum:** A prospectus of curriculum, including titles, descriptions, and instructional aims of every course offered by each public school, is available at the school site for parent review upon request. Copies are available upon request for a reasonable fee not to exceed the actual copying cost. (Ed. Code, §§ 49063, 49091.14)
- 34. Transitional Kindergarten:** A school district or charter school may admit a child, who will have his/her fifth birthday after December 2, to a transitional kindergarten at the beginning of or at any time during the school year with parental/guardian approval if:
- the governing board or body determines that the admittance is in the best interests of the child, and
 - the parent/guardian is given information on the advantages and disadvantages and any other explanatory information on the effects of early admittance. (Ed. Code, § 48000)
- 35. Child Find System; Policies and Procedures:** Any parent suspecting that a child has exceptional needs may request an assessment for eligibility for special education services through the Director of Student Services and/or Special Education, or his/her designee. Policy and procedures shall include written notification to all parents of their rights pursuant to Education Code section 56300 et seq. (Ed. Code, § 56301, 34 C.F.R. § 104.32(b))
- 36. School Accountability Report:** Parents/guardians may request a hard copy of the School Accountability Report Card which is issued annually for each school of the District. (Ed. Code, § 35256)
- 37. Asbestos Management Plan:** An updated management plan for asbestos-containing material in school buildings is available at the District Office. (40 C.F.R. § 763.93)
- 38. Assistance to Cover Costs of Advanced Placement Examination Fees:** The District may help pay for all or part of the costs of one or more advanced placement examinations that are charged to economically disadvantaged students. (Ed. Code, §§ 48980(k) and 52242)
- 39. Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA):** The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) took full effect in 2018 to replace the No Child Left Behind Act in modifying the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). If updates are provided by the California Department of Education, the following parent notice requirements may change and new notice requirements may be added.
- Information Regarding Professional Qualifications of Teachers, Paraprofessionals, and Aides:** Upon request, parents have a right to information regarding the professional qualifications of their student's classroom teachers, paraprofessionals, and aides. This includes whether the teacher meets the state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grades and subjects he/she teaches, whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency permit or other provisional status because of special circumstances, the major or field of discipline for any degrees or certifications held by the teacher, and whether any instructional aides or paraprofessionals provide services to the parents' child and, if so, their qualifications. In addition, parents have a right to notice when the parent's child has been taught for four or more weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified. (ESEA § 1111(h)(6) (as amended by ESSA))
 - Information Regarding Individual Student Reports on Statewide Assessments:** Upon request, parents have a right to information on the level of achievement of their student on every State academic assessment administered to the student. (20 U.S.C. § 6311(a)(2)(B)(x) of the ESEA, as amended by ESSA)
 - School Identified for School Improvement:** A local educational agency shall promptly provide notice to a parent or parents of each student enrolled in an elementary school or a secondary school identified for school improvement (school that fails for two consecutive years to make adequate yearly progress as defined in the State's plan), for corrective action or for restructuring. The notice should be in an understandable and uniform format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. Notice must include: an explanation of what the identification means; how the school compares in terms of academic achievement to other elementary schools or secondary schools served by the local educational agency and the State educational agency involved; the reasons for the identification; an explanation of what the school identified for school improvement is doing to address the problem of low achievement; an explanation of what the local educational agency or State educational agency is doing to help the school address the achievement problem; an explanation of how the parents can become involved in addressing the academic issues that caused the school to be identified for school improvement; and an explanation of the parents' option to transfer their child to another public school (with transportation provided by the agency when required or to obtain supplemental educational services for the child). (ESEA § 1116(b)(6) (as amended by ESSA))
 - Limited English Proficient Students:** The Act requires notice be given to parents of limited English proficient students regarding limited English proficiency programs, not later than 30 days after the beginning of the school year (or, for students identified later in the school year, within two weeks). Notice includes: the reasons for the identification of the student as limited English proficient; the need for placement in a language instruction educational program; the student's level of English proficiency and how such level was assessed; the status of the student's academic achievement; the methods of instruction used in the available programs (including content, instructional goals, and the use of English and native language); how the recommended program will meet the student's educational strengths and needs; how the program will specifically help the student learn English and meet age-appropriate academic achievement standards; the exit requirements for the program; how the program meets the objectives of the student's IEP, if applicable and, parent options for removing a student from a program declining initial enrollment and/or choosing another program. (ESEA § 1112(g)(1)(A) (as amended by ESSA)) In addition, the notice shall include whether the student is a long-term English learner or English learner at risk of becoming a long-term English Learner and the manner in which the program will meet the needs of a child identified as either a long-term English learner or English learner at risk of becoming a long-term English Learner. (Ed. Code, § 313.2)
- The information provided above is available upon request from each child's school or the district office. Additional notices that may be required shall be sent separately. (20 U.S.C. §§ 6301 et seq.)

40. Language Acquisition Program: If a school district implements a language acquisition program pursuant to Education Code section 310, it must do the following: 1) comply with the kindergarten and grades 1-3, inclusive, class size requirements specified in Education Code section 42238.02 and (2) provide the parent or legal guardian of a minor pupil annually, or upon the pupil's enrollment, with information on the types of language programs available to pupils enrolled in the school district, including, but not limited to, a description of each program.

41. Military Recruiter Information: Education Code section 49073.5 requires that school districts disclose the names, addresses and telephone numbers of high school students to military recruiters upon request, unless parents request that this information not be released without prior written consent. Parents have the option of making such a request. If parents do not wish this information to be provided to military recruiters, they must notify the District office of this fact in writing. The writing should be directed to the District official listed below at the following address:

Jose Beltran
Director of Child Welfare and Attendance
2503 Lawrence Street
Ceres, California 95307
(209) 556-1540

42. Children in Homeless/Foster Care Situation, Former Juvenile Court School Students Migrant Students, and Newcomers: Each local district shall designate a staff person as a liaison for homeless children who shall ensure the dissemination of public notice of the educational rights of students in homeless situations. (Ed. Code, § 48852.5, 42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii),)

A district serving a homeless child must allow the child to continue his/her education in the school of origin through the duration of homelessness at the point of any change or any subsequent change in residence once a child becomes a homeless child. If the child's status changes before the end of the academic year so that he/she is not homeless, the district must allow a child in high school to continue his/her education in the school of origin through graduation. For a child in grades K through 8, the district must allow the formerly homeless child to continue his/her education in the school of origin until the end of the academic school year. A homeless child transitioning between school grade levels must be allowed to continue in the school district of origin in the same attendance area. If a homeless child is transitioning to a middle or high school where the school designated for matriculation is in another school district, the homeless child must be allowed to continue to the school designated for matriculation in that school district. The new school is required to enroll the child immediately regardless of any outstanding fees, fines, textbooks or other items or moneys due to the school last attended or if the child is unable to produce clothing or records normally required for enrollment, including medical records, proof of immunization history, and proof of residency. (Ed. Code, § 48852.7)

Each local district shall also designate a staff person as the educational liaison for foster children. The educational liaison shall disseminate a standardized notice to foster children that has been developed by the State Department of Education and includes complaint process information. (Ed. Code, § 48853.5)

The district serving the foster child shall allow the foster child to continue his/her education in the school of origin under specified circumstances. If it is determined that it is in the best interests of the foster child to transfer to a school other than the school of origin, the foster child shall immediately be enrolled in the new school, regardless of any outstanding fees, fines, textbooks, or other items or moneys owed to the school last attended or if the child is unable to produce clothing or records normally required for enrollment, including immunization history. The last school attended must provide all records to the new school within two business days of receiving the request. (Ed. Code, §§ 48853, 48853.5)

The district receiving a transfer request or notification of a student in foster care shall, within two business days, transfer the student out of school and deliver the educational information and records to the next educational placement. Grades and credits will be calculated as of the day the student left school and no lowering of grades will occur as a result of the student's absence due to the decision to change placement or for a verified court appearance or related court activity. (Ed. Code, § 49069.5)

The district shall exempt from local graduation requirements a student who is in foster care, a homeless child or youth, a child of military family, or a former juvenile court school student and who transfers between schools under certain circumstances. (Ed. Code, § 51225.1)

A district shall accept coursework done by a student who is in foster care, a homeless child or youth, a child of military family, or a former juvenile court school student while attending another school. The district is prohibited from requiring those students to retake courses or partial courses they have satisfactorily completed elsewhere. (Ed. Code, § 51225.2)

A complaint of noncompliance alleging violations of these sections, except for Education Code section 48852.7, may be filed under the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.

43. Continued Education Options For Juvenile Court School Students: A Juvenile court school student, or the person holding the right to make educational decisions for the student, may voluntarily defer or decline issuance of their diploma until after the student is released from the juvenile detention facility, thereby allowing the student to take additional coursework at a local education agency. The county office of education will notify the student, the person holding to right to make educational decisions for the student, and the student's social worker or probation officer of all of the following:

- a. The student's right to a diploma;
- b. How taking coursework and meeting other educational requirements will affect the student's ability to gain admission to a post-secondary educational institution;
- c. Information about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges; and
- d. The option to defer or decline the diploma and take additional coursework. (Ed. Code, §§ 48645.3(a), 48645.7)

44. Sex Equity In Career Planning: Parents shall be notified in advance of career counseling and course selection commencing with course selection in Grade 7, to promote sex equity and allow parents to participate in counseling sessions and decisions. (Ed. Code, § 221.5(d))

- 45. Pesticide Products:** All schools are required to provide parents or guardians with annual written notice of expected pesticide use at schools. The attached list provides the name of each pesticide product, the active ingredient(s) and the Internet address for further information. Parents or guardians may request prior notice of individual pesticide applications at the school. If a parent wishes to be notified every time a pesticide is going to be applied, he or she must complete the attached form and return it to his or her child's school. A copy of the integrated pest management plan for the schoolsite or District may be provided on the school website or viewed at the school office. (Ed. Code, §§ 48980.3, 17611.5, 17612)
- 46. Pregnant and Parenting Pupils:** All schools are required to provide parents and guardians with annual written notice of pregnant and parenting pupils. (Ed. Code, § 222.5) Pregnant and parenting pupils are entitled to accommodations that provide them with the opportunity to succeed academically while protecting their health and the health of their children. "Pregnant or parenting pupil" means a pupil who gives or expects to give birth or a parenting pupil who has not given birth and who identifies as the parent of the infant.
- A pregnant or parenting pupil is entitled to, but not required to take, eight weeks of parental leave. This leave may be taken before the birth of the pupil's infant if there is a medical necessity and/or after childbirth during the school year in which the birth takes place, inclusive of any mandatory summer instruction. A pregnant or parenting pupil is entitled to additional leave if deemed medically necessary by the student's physician. (Ed. Code, §§ 46015)
- The person holding the student's educational rights (i.e. the pupil if over 18 or the parent if under 18) may notify the school of the student's intent to exercise this right. Leave may still be taken even if notice was not provided.
- During the leave, the student's absences shall be deemed excused, but the student shall not be required to complete academic work or other school requirements.
- A pregnant or parenting pupil may return to the school and the course of study in which he or she was enrolled before taking parental leave. Upon return to school after taking parental leave, a pregnant or parenting pupil is entitled to opportunities to make up work missed during his or her leave, including, but not limited to, makeup work plans and reenrollment in courses.
- A pregnant or parenting pupil may remain enrolled for a fifth year of instruction in the school in which the pupil was previously enrolled when it is necessary in order for the pupil to be able to complete state and any local graduation requirements, unless the local educational agency makes a finding that the pupil is reasonably able to complete the local educational agency's graduation requirements in time to graduate from high school by the end of the pupil's fourth year of high school.
- A student who chooses not to return to the school in which he or she was enrolled before taking the leave is entitled to alternative education options offered by the local educational agency to include educational programs, activities, and courses equal to those he or she would have been in if participating in the regular education program.
- A student will not incur any academic penalties as a result of using the accommodations in this section. (Ed. Code, § 46015)
- A complaint of noncompliance may be filed under the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.
- 47. Student Parent Lactation Accommodations:** The District is required to provide reasonable accommodations to a lactating student on a school campus to address breast-feeding needs. (Ed. Code, §222)
- A student may not be penalized academically because of the reasonable accommodations provided during the school day. A student must also be given the opportunity to make up missed work.
- A complaint of noncompliance may be filed under the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.
- 48. PE Instructional Minutes:** The adopted course of study for grades 1 through 6 and instruction in grades 1 through 8 in an elementary school must include physical education for not less than 200 minutes each ten school days, exclusive of recesses and the lunch period. (Ed. Code, §§ 51210, 51223)
- A complaint of noncompliance may be filed under the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.
- 49. Course Assignments:** A school district is prohibited from assigning a student enrolled in any of grades 9 through 12 to any course period without educational content for more than one week in any semester, except under specified conditions. Under no circumstances can a district assign a student enrolled in any of grades 9 through 12 to a course period without educational content because there are not sufficient curricular course offerings for the student to take during the relevant period of the designated school day. (Ed. Code, § 51228.1)
- A school district is prohibited from assigning a student enrolled in grades 9 through 12 to a course that the student has previously completed and received a grade determined by the district to be sufficient to satisfy the requirements and prerequisites for admission to the California public post-secondary schools and the minimum high school graduation requirements, except under specified conditions. Under no circumstances can a district assign a student enrolled in any of grades 9 through 12 to a course the student has previously completed and received a sufficient grade, as specified, because there are not sufficient curricular course offerings for the student to take during the relevant period of the designated school day. (Ed. Code, § 51228.2)
- These sections do not apply to students in alternative schools, community day schools, continuation high schools or an opportunity school. A district A complaint of noncompliance may be filed under the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations. (Ed. Code, § 51228.3)
- 50. Regional Occupational Centers and Programs/County Offices of Education Programs/Adult Education Programs:** A regional occupational center or program, county office of education program, or adult education program must meet specified requirements for certification by the Superintendent of Public Instruction in order to provide an employment training program for adults or to authorize an education program beyond secondary education that leads to a degree or certificate. (Ed. Code, § 52334.7)
- A complaint alleging that a local agency violated federal or state laws or regulations governing adult education programs under Education Code section 52501 or regional occupational centers and programs may be filed under the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations. A complaint alleging that a county office of education violated federal or state laws or regulations governing the

county office's participation in any student financial assistance program authorized by Title IV may also be filed under the Uniform Complaint Procedures and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.

51. Pupil Fees: A pupil enrolled in a public school must not be required to pay a pupil fee for participation in an educational activity. (Ed. Code, § 49011)

- a. The following requirements apply to prohibited pupil fees:
 - (i) All supplies, materials, and equipment needed to participate in educational activities must be provided to pupils free of charge.
 - (ii) A fee waiver policy shall not make a pupil fee permissible.
 - (iii) School districts and schools shall not establish a two-tier educational system by requiring a minimal educational standard and also offering a second, higher educational standard that pupils may only obtain through payment of a fee or purchase of additional supplies that the school district or school does not provide.
 - (iv) A school district or school shall not offer course credit or privileges related to educational activities in exchange for money or donations of goods or services from a pupil or a pupil's parents or guardians, and a school district or school shall not remove course credit or privileges related to educational activities, or otherwise discriminate against a pupil, because the pupil or the pupil's parents or guardians did not or will not provide money or donations of goods or services to the school district or school.
- b. Solicitation of voluntary donations of funds or property and voluntary participation in fundraising activities are not prohibited. School districts, schools, and other entities are not prohibited from providing pupils prizes or other recognition for voluntarily participating in fundraising activities. (Ed. Code, § 49010 et seq.)

A complaint of noncompliance may be filed under the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations. (Ed. Code, § 49013)

52. Educational Equity Regardless of Immigration Status, Citizenship, or Religion (EC §234.7): Children have a right to a free public education, regardless of immigration status, citizenship status, or religious beliefs. When enrolling a child, schools must accept a variety of documents from the student's parent to demonstrate proof of child's age or residency. No information about citizenship/immigration status or Social Security number is required to enroll in school. Parents have the option to provide a school with emergency contact information, including the information of secondary contacts, to identify a trusted adult guardian who can care for a minor student in the event the parent is detained or deported. Parents have the option to complete a Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit or a Petition for Appointment of Temporary Guardian of the Person, which may enable a trusted adult the authority to make educational and medical decisions for a minor student. Students have the right to report a hate crime or file a complaint to the school district if they are discriminated against, harassed, intimidated, or bullied on the basis of actual or perceived nationality, ethnicity, or immigration status. The California Attorney General's website provides "knows your rights" resources for immigrant students and family members online at <https://oag.ca.gov/immigrant/rights>.

53. Career/Technical Education Offerings: The Ceres Unified School District offers a number of Career/Technical Education courses funded by the Yosemite Regional Occupational Program (ROP) as well as the Carl Perkins Act. ROP courses are open to all students who are Juniors (Grade 11) as well as adults. Courses are offered in the areas of agriculture, business, industrial technology, criminal justice as well as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) course. Courses are free to high school students. Individuals taking the EMT course pay a registration fee as well as pay for their textbook. Enrollment is open to all individuals and no one is denied admission on the basis of ethnic group identification, religion, age, sex, gender, race, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, color, or physical or mental disability.

54. Student Photographs, Motion Pictures and Videotapes: The District may take photographs, motion pictures or videotapes of students, singly or in a group, for the purposes of informing teachers, parents and the general public of the aims, activities or methods of instruction of programs operated by the Department. Such motion pictures or videotapes may be shown to local and national audiences and such photographs may appear in local newspapers as well as national publications where applicable. Parents may inspect or view these photographs or other materials upon request. Student art work/writing/photos/videos may be considered for publication. This may include publication on the Internet as part of our district's web page or other media during this school year. No student's full name, home address, telephone number, or email will be published on District web pages. Group student photos can be published showing students working on projects and other activities or at school events, but students will not be identified by name. (cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)

The parent or guardian may notify the District in writing not to take such photographs, motion pictures or videotapes of his or her child, at the following address:

Chris Higle
Director of Technology and Media Services
2503 Lawrence Street
Ceres, California 95307
(209) 556-1570

“KNOW YOUR EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS” IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT FROM THE CALIFORNIA ATTORNEY GENERAL

Your Child Has the Right to a Free Public Education

- All children in the United States have a Constitutional right to equal access to free public education, regardless of immigration status and regardless of the immigration status of the student’s parents or guardians.
- In California:
 - o All children have the right to a free public education.
 - o All children ages 6 to 18 years must be enrolled in school.
 - o All students and staff have the right to attend safe, secure, and peaceful schools.
 - o All students have a right to be in a public school learning environment free from discrimination, harassment, bullying, violence, and intimidation.
 - o All students have equal opportunity to participate in any program or activity offered by the school, and cannot be discriminated against based on their race, nationality, gender, religion, or immigration status, among other characteristics.

Information Required for School Enrollment

- When enrolling a child, schools must accept a variety of documents from the student’s parent or guardian to demonstrate proof of child’s age or residency.
- You never have to provide information about citizenship/immigration status to have your child enrolled in school. Also, you never have to provide a Social Security number to have your child enrolled in school.

Confidentiality of Personal Information

- Federal and state laws protect student education records and personal information. These laws generally require that schools get written consent from parents or guardians before releasing student information, unless the release of information is for educational purposes, is already public, or is in response to a court order or subpoena.
- Some schools collect and provide publicly basic student “directory information.” If they do, then each year, your child’s school district must provide parents/guardians with written notice of the school’s directory information policy, and let you know of your option to refuse release of your child’s information in the directory.

Family Safety Plans If You Are Detained or Deported

- You have the option to provide your child’s school with emergency contact information, including the information of secondary contacts, to identify a trusted adult guardian who can care for your child in the event you are detained or deported.
- You have the option to complete a Caregiver’s Authorization Affidavit or a Petition for Appointment of Temporary Guardian of the Person, which may enable a trusted adult the authority to make educational and medical decisions for your child.

Right to File a Complaint

- Your child has the right to report a hate crime or file a complaint to the school district if he or she is discriminated against, harassed, intimidated, or bullied on the basis of his or her actual or perceived nationality, ethnicity, or immigration status.

For more information on resources for responding to immigration enforcement activities at California schools, or to file a complaint, please contact:

Bureau of Children’s Justice
California Attorney General’s Office
P.O. Box 944255
Sacramento, CA 94244-2550
Phone: (800) 952-5225
E-mail: BCJ@doj.ca.gov
<https://oag.ca.gov/bcj/complaint>

The Attorney General’s publications can be downloaded at: <https://www.oag.ca.gov/bcj>

Healthy Schools Act of 2000 Annual Pesticide Use Notification For Parents, Guardians and Employees

The Ceres Unified School District is committed to providing a safe, clean and healthy environment for students and staff. Pursuant to the Healthy Schools Act of 2000, the District is required to annually notify parents, guardians and employees about pesticides used at school sites and facilities and to have an established Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan.

It is the goal of the District to implement IPM by focusing on long-term prevention and suppression of pests through accurate pest identification, by frequent monitoring for pest presence, by applying appropriate action levels, and by making the habitat less conducive to pests using sanitation and mechanical and physical controls. Pesticides that are effective will be used in a manner that minimizes risks to people, property and the environment, and only after other options have been shown to be ineffective. The District’s Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan includes the names of the herbicides/pesticides used for abatement and the plan complies with all requirement of the Healthy Schools Act of 2000 (Education Code Section 17608-17613, 48980.3; Food & Agriculture Code Sections 13180-13188) and is available on the CUSD website: http://ceres.sharpschool.net/business_services/maintenance.

When pesticides and/or herbicides are used on school facilities, warning signs are posted 24 hours in advance of the application at all main office entrances. The warning signs include the product name, manufacturer’s name, EPA product registration number, intended date and areas of application, and the reason for the application. The warning signs remain posted for seventy-two hours after the application.

To help with the abatement of pests, employees are encouraged to minimize eating food in classrooms, offices and other work areas. Food items in the workplace should be stored in sealed containers wherever possible. For specific questions regarding the District’s IPM plan or information on the products used by the District, contact Ken Hines, Director of Maintenance & Operations, at 209-556-1500, ext. 1450. Information regarding pesticides may also be obtained at the following website:

www.cpdrc.ca.gov

Environmental Protection Agency's "Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act"

During the past year, the District's certified asbestos inspector, has conducted two AHERA-required six-month surveillances of all the District's asbestos-containing materials. Copies of the findings have been added to the District's management plans. The management plans for all sites are available for public review at the District Office and individual plans are available at each site.

If you have any questions concerning the District's asbestos management plan please contact:

Dan Pangrazio
Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
P.O. Box 307 - 2503 Lawrence Street
Ceres, California 95307
(209) 556-1500 ext. 1340

Sexual Harassment Policy

AR 5145.7
Students

The district designates the following individual(s) as the responsible employee(s) to coordinate its efforts to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and California Education Code 234.1, as well as to investigate and resolve sexual harassment complaints under AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures.

The coordinator/compliance officer(s) may be contacted at:

Director of Personnel or
Director of Child Welfare and Attendance
2503 Lawrence Street
Ceres, CA 95307
(209) 556-1500

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

Prohibited sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, unwanted requests for sexual favors, or other unwanted verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature made against another person of the same or opposite sex in the educational setting, under any of the following conditions: (Education Code 212.5; 5 CCR 4916)

1. Submission to the conduct is explicitly or implicitly made a term or condition of a student's academic status or progress.
2. Submission to or rejection of the conduct by a student is used as the basis for academic decisions affecting the student.
3. The conduct has the purpose or effect of having a negative impact on the student's academic performance or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment.
4. Submission to or rejection of the conduct by the student is used as the basis for any decision affecting the student regarding benefits and services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through any district program or activity.

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

(cf. 6142.1 - Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction)

Examples of types of conduct which are prohibited in the district and which may constitute sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:

1. Unwelcome leering, sexual flirtations, or propositions
2. Unwelcome sexual slurs, epithets, threats, verbal abuse, derogatory comments, or sexually degrading descriptions
3. Graphic verbal comments about an individual's body or overly personal conversation
4. Sexual jokes, derogatory posters, notes, stories, cartoons, drawings, pictures, obscene gestures, or computer-generated images of a sexual nature
5. Spreading sexual rumors
6. Teasing or sexual remarks about students enrolled in a predominantly single-sex class
7. Massaging, grabbing, fondling, stroking, or brushing the body
8. Touching an individual's body or clothes in a sexual way
9. Impeding or blocking movements or any physical interference with school activities when directed at an individual on the basis of sex
10. Displaying sexually suggestive objects
11. Sexual assault, sexual battery, or sexual coercion
12. Electronic communications containing comments, words, or images described above

Any prohibited conduct that occurs off campus or outside of school-related or school-sponsored programs or activities will be regarded as sexual harassment in violation of district policy if it has a continuing effect on or creates a hostile school environment for the complainant or victim of the conduct.

Reporting Process and Complaint Investigation and Resolution

Any student who believes that he/she has been subjected to sexual harassment by another student, an employee, or a third party or who has witnessed sexual harassment is strongly encouraged to report the incident to his/her teacher, the principal, or any other available school employee. Within one school day of receiving such a report, the school employee shall forward the report to the principal or the district's compliance officer identified in AR 1312.3. In addition, any school employee who observes an incident of sexual harassment involving a student shall, within one school day, report his/her observation to the principal or a district compliance officer

The employee shall take these actions, whether or not the alleged victim files a complaint.

When a report or complaint of sexual harassment involves off-campus conduct, the principal shall assess whether the conduct may create or contribute to the creation of a hostile school environment. If he/she determines that a hostile environment may be created, the complaint shall be investigated and resolved in the same manner as if the prohibited conduct occurred at school.

When a verbal or informal report of sexual harassment is submitted, the principal or compliance officer shall inform the student or parent/guardian of the right to file a formal written complaint in accordance with the district's uniform complaint procedures. Regardless of whether a formal complaint is filed, the principal or compliance officer shall take steps to investigate the allegations and, if sexual harassment is found, shall take prompt action to stop it, prevent recurrence, and address any continuing effects.

If a complaint of sexual harassment is initially submitted to the principal, he/she shall, within two school days, forward the report to the compliance officer to initiate investigation of the complaint. The compliance officer shall contact the complainant and investigate and resolve the complaint in accordance with law and district procedures specified in AR 1312.3.

In investigating a sexual harassment complaint, evidence of past sexual relationships of the victim shall not be considered, except to the extent that such evidence may relate to the victim's prior relationship with the respondent.

In any case of sexual harassment involving the principal, compliance officer, or any other person to whom the incident would ordinarily be reported or filed, the report may instead be submitted to the Superintendent or designee who shall determine who will investigate the complaint.

(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting)

Confidentiality

All complaints and allegations of sexual harassment shall be kept confidential except as necessary to carry out the investigation or take other subsequent necessary action. (5 CCR 4964)

However, when a complainant or victim of sexual harassment notifies the district of the harassment but requests confidentiality, the compliance officer shall inform him/her that the request may limit the district's ability to investigate the harassment or take other necessary action. When honoring a request for confidentiality, the district will nevertheless take all reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the complaint consistent with the request.

When a complainant or victim of sexual harassment notifies the district of the harassment but requests that the district not pursue an investigation, the district will determine whether or not it can honor such a request while still providing a safe and nondiscriminatory environment for all students.

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

Response Pending Investigation

When an incident of sexual harassment is reported, the principal or designee, in consultation with the compliance officer, shall determine whether interim measures are necessary pending the results of the investigation. The principal/designee or compliance officer shall take immediate measures necessary to stop the harassment and protect students and/or ensure their access to the educational program. To the extent possible, such interim measures shall not disadvantage the complainant or victim of the alleged harassment. Interim measures may include placing the individuals involved in separate classes or transferring a student to a class taught by a different teacher, in accordance with law and Board policy. The school should notify the individual who was harassed of his/her options to avoid contact with the alleged harasser and allow the complainant to change academic and extracurricular arrangements as appropriate. The school should also ensure that the complainant is aware of the resources and assistance, such as counseling, that are available to him/her. As appropriate, such actions shall be considered even when a student chooses to not file a formal complaint or the sexual harassment occurs off school grounds or outside school-sponsored or school-related programs or activities.

Notifications

A copy of the district's sexual harassment policy and regulation shall:

1. Be included in the notifications that are sent to parents/guardians at the beginning of each school year (Education Code 48980; 5 CCR 4917)
(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)
2. Be displayed in a prominent location in the main administrative building or other area where notices of district rules, regulations, procedures, and standards of conduct are posted (Education Code 231.5)

A copy of the district's sexual harassment policy and regulation shall be posted on district and school web sites and, when available, on district-supported social media.

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

(cf. 1114 - District-Sponsored Social Media)

3. Be provided as part of any orientation program conducted for new students at the beginning of each quarter, semester, or summer session (Education Code 231.5)
4. Appear in any school or district publication that sets forth the school's or district's comprehensive rules, regulations, procedures, and standards of conduct (Education Code 231.5)
5. Be included in the student handbook
6. Be provided to employees and employee organizations

Regulation CERES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: December 8, 2016 Ceres, California

CHILD ABUSE REPORTING GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES

The following information will assist parents and guardians in determining whether or not child abuse has occurred and, if so, how to file a complaint of child abuse with local law enforcement. This information has been taken from the California Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act in the California Penal Code and from sections of the California Education Code.

Child Abuse Can Be Any of the Following:

- A physical injury which is inflicted on a child by another person other than by accidental means.
- The sexual abuse, assault, or exploitation of a child, such as:
 - o The negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child by a person responsible for the child's welfare under circumstances indicating harm or threatened harm to the child's health or welfare, whether the harm or threatened harm is from acts or omissions on the part of the responsible person;
 - o The willful infliction upon a child of any cruel or inhumane corporal punishment or any injury resulting in a traumatic condition; or
 - o The willful harming or injuring of a child or endangering of the person or the health of a child where the person responsible for the child's welfare is a licensee, administrator, or employee of any facility licensed to care for children or an administrator or employee of a public or private school or other institution or agency.

Child Abuse Does Not Include:

- A mutual fight between minors;
- An injury that is caused by the actions of a peace officer using reasonable and necessary force within the scope of his or her employment; or
- An injury caused by any force that is reasonable and necessary for a person employed by or engaged in a school:
 - o To stop a disturbance threatening physical injury to people or damage to property;
 - o For purposes of self-defense;
 - o To obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects within control of a pupil; or
 - o To exercise the degree of control reasonably necessary to maintain order, protect property, protect the health and safety of pupils, and maintain proper and appropriate conditions conducive to learning.

How to File a Complaint of Child Abuse Committed at a School Site

Parents and guardians of pupils have the right to file a complaint against a school employee or other person that they suspect has engaged in abuse of a child at a school site. To file a complaint, the parent or guardian must file a formal report with an appropriate local law enforcement agency. An appropriate law enforcement agency may be one of the following:

- A Police or Sheriff’s Department (not including a school district police department or school security department)
- A County Probation Department if designated by the county to receive child abuse reports, or
- A County Welfare Department/County Child Protective Services.

The complaint may be filed over the telephone, in person, or in writing. A complaint may also be filed at the same time with your school district or county office of education. School districts and county offices of education, however, do not investigate child abuse allegations.

The local law enforcement agency is required to investigate all complaints.

In addition, if the child is disabled and enrolled in special education, a separate complaint may be filed by the parent or guardian with the California Department of Education (CDE) according to Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations Section 4650(a)(7)(C). The CDE does not, however, investigate allegations of child abuse but rather investigates the conditions that may involve immediate physical danger or threaten the health, safety, or welfare of the child or children or which may result in denial of a free and appropriate public education.

If the complaint of child abuse is “substantiated” or confirmed by the local law enforcement agency, meaning that the report of child abuse or neglect, as determined by the law enforcement investigator who conducted the investigation, is, based upon the evidence, more likely to have occurred than not, then a report of the investigation will be transmitted by the law enforcement agency to the governing board of the local school district or County Office of Education. A confirmed report of child abuse or neglect received by a governing board of a school district or County Office of Education will be subject to the provisions of California Education Code section 44031, which gives school employees certain rights regarding personnel information and records.

In addition, a confirmed report shall be forwarded by the law enforcement agency that investigated the complaint to the California Department of Justice according to California Penal Code Section 11169 and notice will be provided to the alleged child abuser that he or she has been reported to the Child Abuse Central Index, as maintained by the Department of Justice.

This guidance is mandatory only to the extent that it cites a specific statutory and/or regulatory requirement. Any portion of this guidance that is not supported by a specific statutory and/or regulatory requirement is not prescriptive pursuant to California Education Code Section 33308.5.

PLAN FOR SOCIAL MEDIA REVIEW FOR SCHOOL SAFETY

Student safety and the creation of a safe school environment are paramount objectives for the Ceres Unified School District (“District”). In order to ensure a safe school environment, from time to time, the District may gather or maintain information from student social media accounts that pertains to school safety or student safety. As such, in compliance with California Education Code section 49073.6, the District has adopted this Plan for Student Social Media Review (“Plan”) which details the acceptable practices under which the District may gather or maintain student information from social media.

For the purposes of this Plan, “social media” means an electronic service or account, or electronic content, including, but not limited to, videos, still photographs, blogs, video blogs, podcasts, instant and text messages, email, online services or accounts, or Internet Web site profiles or locations. Social media shall not include an electronic service or account used exclusively for educational purposes or primarily to facilitate creation of school-sponsored publications, such as a yearbook or pupil newspaper, under the direction or control of a school, teacher, or yearbook adviser under the direction or control of a school, teacher, or yearbook adviser.

1. District staff may be granted the authority to conduct reviews of student social media, including an Internet search of public content, for material pertaining to school safety or student safety. The Superintendent, Principal, or their designee(s) shall be granted authority pursuant to this Plan to conduct such reviews.
2. The purpose of any student social media review should be to only gather or maintain information pursuant to this Plan that pertains to school safety or to student safety.
3. Information gathered or maintained by the District pursuant to this Plan shall constitute student records. Parents, guardians, and students may access any information gathered or maintained in accordance with this Plan.
4. Student information gathered pursuant to this Plan shall be destroyed by the District at the earlier of one (1) year after such student turns eighteen (18) years of age or one (1) year after the student is no longer enrolled in the District.

Nothing in this Plan shall limit or prevent the District from performing individualized investigations of alleged student misconduct, violation of school rules, illegal activity, or violation of the District’s board policies or administrative regulations and gathering or maintaining information pertinent to that investigation. Such investigations are not subject to the requirements of this Plan.

California Electronic Communications Privacy Act (CalECPA or SB 178):

Computing devices (including computers and mobile devices) and the district’s network communication system (including but not limited to the email system and district online collaboration and file storage services) are owned and/or managed by the District and are maintained for the express purpose of staff carrying out the district’s educational mission which includes teaching, information processing for school business, and enhancing communication between district staff, parents, students and community members.

Authorized Possessor

District-owned computing devices may be given to students to carry out the District's educational mission. Upon receipt of a District-owned device, the student is the authorized possessor as defined by the California Electronic Communications 22 Privacy Act (also known as CalECPA or SB 178). Students understand and acknowledge that the District may, at any time without cause, confiscate any District-owned device and search the electronic communication information stored therein. Upon such confiscation, the student is no longer the authorized possessor of the District-owned device. While serving as the authorized possessor of a District-owned device, the student is personally responsible for keeping the device free from illegal content or material inappropriate for the school setting. District-owned devices issued to students are not to be used by students' family or friends for personal uses.

Specific Consent

Users of the District's computer systems should be aware that the data they create, store or transmit on the District's systems including email, voice mail, and any computer files are not private and remain the property of the District. The District reserves the right to monitor all files, programs, apps, internet traffic, and communications that reside on District computers (including iPads) and servers or travel over its network at any time without additional notice or consent. Students may only use personal accounts on district devices with permission, and when using personal accounts to load apps and resources onto a District-owned device must exercise prudent judgment to ensure that only appropriate apps and resources for the school setting are loaded onto the District-owned devices. Students should not expect personal apps, files or email accounts residing on a District-owned device or District managed service to remain private. The District retains the right to inspect, delete, and report any apps, information, and files that find their way onto District-owned computing devices (including iPads) or remote storage systems (including district maintained internet/cloud storage accounts). By the use of the consent, as defined by CalECPA, to the District to review and monitor electronic communication information and electronic device information created, stored, or transmitted on the District's systems and devices.

Notification Of Rights Under FERPA For Elementary And Secondary Schools

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) afford parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

(1) The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the School receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal [or appropriate school official] a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

(2) The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading.

Parents or eligible students may ask the School to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading.

If the School decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the School will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

(3) The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the School as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the School has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or a school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. The School will make a reasonable attempt to notify the parent or eligible student of a records request by officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

(4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-4605

Model Notification of Rights Under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)

PPRA affords parents certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to:

• Consent before students are required to submit a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED)--

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

- Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of --
 1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
 2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screening, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
 3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.
- Inspect, upon request and before administration or use --
 1. Protected information surveys of students;
 2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
 3. Instructional material used as part of the education curriculum.

These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.

Ceres Unified School District will develop and adopt policies, in consultation with parents, regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. Ceres Unified School District will directly notify parents of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes. Ceres Unified School District will also directly notify, such as through U.S. Mail or email, parents of students who are scheduled to participate in the specific activities or surveys noted below and will provide an opportunity for the parent to opt his or her child out of participation of the specific activity or survey. Ceres Unified School District will make this notification to parents at the beginning of the school year if the District has identified the specific or approximate dates of the activities or surveys at that time. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys listed below and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of such activities and surveys. Parents will also be provided an opportunity to review any pertinent surveys. Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this requirement:

- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales or other distribution.
- Administration of any unprotected information survey not funded in whole or in part by the Department of Education.
- Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents/eligible students who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20202-5920

University of California/California State University Minimum College Admissions Requirements:

Each school year, a school district shall provide the parent of students in grades 9 through 12 with a written explanation of the requirements for admission to the California State University and the University of California. (Ed. Code, § 51229)

“A-G” Courses	Subject	CSU/UC Requirements
A	History/Social Science	2 years required
B	English	4 years required
C	Mathematics	3 years required (e.g., Algebra, Geometry and Calculus), 4 years recommended
D	Laboratory Science	2 years required (e.g., Biology, Chemistry and Physics), 3 years recommended
E	Language Other Than English	2 years required, 3 years recommended
F	Visual and Performing Arts (VPA)	1 year required
G	College-Preparatory Elective	1 year required

To learn more about college admission requirements, and for a list of District courses that have been certified by the University of California as satisfying the requirements for admission to the UC and CSU, refer to each high school’s course catalogue. Career Technical Education (CTE): CTE may be offered by the District as career and workforce preparation for high school students, preparation for advanced training, and the upgrading of existing skills. CTE provides high school students who are 16 years of age or older with valuable career and technical education so students can: (1) enter the workforce with skills and competencies to be successful; (2) pursue advanced training in postsecondary educational institutions; or (3) upgrade existing skills and knowledge. To learn more about the District’s career technical education classes, please visit the District’s website at: http://www.ceres.k12.ca.us/student_support/specialized_programs/career_technical_education__c_t_e_

Students are encouraged to meet with school counselors to help them choose courses at their school that will meet college admission requirements or to enroll in career technical education courses, or both. Please contact: each high school main office.