



**2023/2024**  
**Annual Notification To Parents/Guardians**  
**Regarding Your Rights**

**Sulphur Springs Union School District**  
27000 Weyerhaeuser Way, Santa Clarita, CA 91351  
(661) 252-5131 – [www.sssd.k12.ca.us](http://www.sssd.k12.ca.us)

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As Superintendent of the Sulphur Springs Union School District, the Staff and I are committed to your child's success. I pledge that our District will stand as a model of excellence in education and maintain high expectations for classroom achievement and behavior, while providing assistance for those students who need alternative approaches.

As parents/guardians, please know that you play an essential role in your child's academic success. A parent's/guardian's expectation of success becomes a propelling force to motivate a child. We encourage you to become involved in your child's education and know that we are here to support you. There are many ways to do this, such as by supervising homework, fostering reading at home, limiting TV and video games, and talking with your child about the importance of education.

We welcome your involvement and support, specifically, becoming involved with your child's school and getting to know your child's teacher and forming a partnership. We look forward to working with you to achieve educational excellence.

Dr. Catherine Kawaguchi  
Superintendent of Schools

# School Sites

**Canyon Springs Community School.....661-252-4322    Fax: 661-252-0974**

19059 Vicci Street, Santa Clarita 91351

Principal: Matthew Gilpin

**Fair Oaks Ranch Community School.....661-299-1790    Fax: 661-299-1879**

26933 North Silverbell Lane, Santa Clarita 91387

Principal: Julie McBride

**Golden Oak Community School.....661-251-8929    Fax: 661-251-8927**

25201 Via Princessa, Santa Clarita 91387

Principal: Jennifer Oikawa

**Leona Cox Community School.....661-252-2100    Fax: 661-299-4916**

18643 Oakmoor Street, Santa Clarita 91351

Principal: Heather Drew

**Mint Canyon Community School.....661-252-2570    Fax: 661-298-3383**

16400 Sierra Highway, Santa Clarita 91351

Principal: Paulette Volmer

**Mitchell Community School.....661-252-9110    Fax: 661-252-6537**

16821 Goodvale Road, Santa Clarita 91387

Principal: Gretchen Lupica

**Pinetree Community School.....661-298-2280    Fax: 661-298-0331**

29156 Lotusgarden Drive, Santa Clarita 91387

Principal: Stephanie Cruz

**Sulphur Springs Community School.....661-252-2725    Fax: 661-252-5403**

16628 Lost Canyon Road, Santa Clarita 91387

Principal: Katie Palacios

**Valley View Community School.....661-251-2000    Fax: 661-298-5428**

19414 West Sierra Estates Drive, Santa Clarita 91321

Principal: Diem Johnson

## **Rights of Parents and Guardians to Information**

The parents and guardians of pupils enrolled in public schools have the right and should have the opportunity, as mutually supportive and respectful partners in the education of their children within the public schools, to be informed by the school, and to participate in the education of their children, as follows:

1. Within a reasonable period of time after making the request, to observe their child's classroom(s).
2. Within a reasonable time of their request, to meet with their child's teacher(s) and the principal.
3. To volunteer their time and resources for the improvement of school facilities and school programs under the supervision of district employees, including, but not limited to, providing assistance in the classroom with the approval, and under the direct supervision, of the teacher.
4. To be notified on a timely basis if their child is absent from school without permission.
5. To receive the results of their child's performance on standardized tests and statewide tests and information on the performance of their child's school on standardized statewide tests.
6. To request a particular school for their child, and to receive a response from the school district.
7. To have a school environment for their child that is safe and supportive of learning.
8. To examine the curriculum materials of their child's class(es).
9. To be informed of their child's progress in school and of the appropriate school personnel whom they should contact if problems arise with their child.
10. To have access to the school records of their child.
11. To receive information concerning the academic performance standards, proficiencies, or skills their child is expected to accomplish.
12. To be informed in advance about school rules, including disciplinary rules and procedures, attendance policies, dress codes, and procedures for visiting the school.
13. To receive information about any psychological testing the school does involving their child and to deny permission to give the test.
14. To participate as a member of a parent advisory committee, school site council, or site-based management leadership team.
15. To question anything in their child's record that the parent feels is inaccurate or misleading or is an invasion of privacy and to receive a response from the school.
16. To be notified, as early in the school year as practicable, if their child is identified as being at risk of retention and of their right to consult with school personnel responsible for a decision to promote or retain their child and to appeal a decision to retain or promote their child.

## Attendance

Attendance plays an important role in student achievement. Parents/guardians of children aged 6 to 18 are obligated to send their children to school.

### **Avoiding Absences, Written Excuses:**

The Sulphur Springs Union School District urges parents to make sure their children attend school regularly and to schedule medical, dental, counseling and other appointments after school, on the weekend if possible or during school holidays. The district also asks that travel or other absences be avoided during the time that school is in session.

The higher the district's daily attendance rate, the more a student will learn and the greater the amount of funding that the district will receive from the state for classroom instruction and academic programs. The school calendar is designed to minimize problems for families which plan vacations around traditional holiday periods, and thereby minimize student absences.

Following an absence, a student is required to bring a written excuse from home when returning to school. Illnesses, and doctor and dental appointments are considered excused absences. Absences without a written excuse are recorded as unexcused.

### **Excused Absences – EC 46014, 48205**

Notwithstanding Section 48200, a pupil shall be excused from school when the absence is:

- (1) Due to the pupil's illness, including an absence for the benefit of the pupil's mental or behavioral health.
- (2) Due to quarantine under the direction of a county or city health officer.
- (3) For the purpose of having medical, dental, optometrical, or chiropractic services rendered.
- (4) 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.
- (5) For the purpose of jury duty in the manner provided for by law.
- (6) Due to the illness or medical appointment during school hours of a child of whom the pupil is the custodial parent, including absences to care for a sick child for which the school shall not require a note from a doctor.
- (7) 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.
- (8) For the purpose of serving as a member of a precinct board for an election pursuant to Section 12302 of the Elections Code.
- (9) 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.
- (10) For the purpose of attending the pupil's naturalization ceremony to become a United States citizen.

(11) For the purpose of participating in a cultural ceremony or event.

(12) Authorized at the discretion of a school administrator, as described in subdivision (c) of Section 48260.

(b) 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.

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

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

(e) "Immediate family," as used in this section, means the parent or guardian, brother or sister, grandparent, or any other relative living in the household of the pupil.

#### **Tardiness – EC 48260 (a)**

Children should be encouraged to be prompt as part of developing good habits. They are expected to be at school on time. If a child is late, the child should bring an excuse from home to the school office. A student will be classified as truant if they are tardy or absent for more than a 30-minute period during the school day without a valid excuse on three occasions in one school year.

#### **Truancy Definitions – EC 48260, 48262 and 48263.6**

A student is considered truant after three absences or three tardies of more than 30 minutes each time or any combination thereof and the absences or tardies are unexcused. After a student has been reported as a truant three or more times in a school year and the district has made a conscientious effort to meet with the family, the student is considered a habitual truant. A student who is absent from school without a valid excuse for 10% or more of the schooldays in one school year, from the date of enrollment to the current date, is considered a chronic truant. Unexcused absences are all absences that do not fall within EC 48205.

#### **Arrest of Truants/School Attendance Review Boards – EC 48263 and 48264**

The school attendance supervisor, administrator or designee, a peace officer, or probation officer may arrest or assume temporary custody during school hours, of any minor who is found away from his/her home and who is absent from school without valid excuse within the county, city or school district. A student who is a habitual truant may be referred to a School Attendance and Review Board (SARB).

#### **Truant Consequences – EC 48263, 48267, 48268, and 48269; WIC 236, 601, 601.3, 653.5, 654, and 651.5**

Any student who is identified as "Truant" may be assigned as a ward of the court, if the available community resources do not resolve the students' continued problem of truancy, by a Probation Officer or Deputy District Attorney.

#### **Chronic Absenteeism – EC 60901**

A student is considered a chronic absentee when he/she is absent on 10% or more of the school days in one school year, from the date of enrollment to the current date. Chronic absenteeism includes all absences – excused and unexcused – and is an important measure because excessive absences negatively impact academic achievement and student engagement.

## **Attendance Options**

### **Compulsory Education:**

Compulsory Education law states that students must enroll in school in the school district in which the residence of either the parent or legal guardian is located. If a parent is seeking a change in a public district outside of the resident district, then an interdistrict permit is required. Exceptions are for charter school, home school or other private school enrollments, and other online charter school options.

### **Residency:**

A pupil may alternatively comply with the residency requirements for school attendance in a school district, if he or she is any of the following: placed in a foster home or licensed children's institution within the boundaries of the school district pursuant to a commitment of placement under the Welfare and Institutions Code; a pupil who is a foster child who remains in his or her school of origin; an emancipated pupil who resides within the boundaries of the school district; a pupil who lives in the home of a caregiving adult that is located within the boundaries of the school district; a pupil residing in a state hospital located within the boundaries of the school district; or a pupil whose parent is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation within the state while on active military duty pursuant to an official military order. Students in military and migrant families may remain in their school of origin and shall have waived residency restrictions due to the frequency of movement of their families. Connect with the District Office at 661-252-5131 for more information on the protections afforded these students per California laws.

### **Interdistrict:**

An Interdistrict agreement is signed by both the releasing and accepting districts. When denied, there are appeal processes according to the local district policies. The education rights holder may appeal to their County Office of Education for an appeal process within 30 days of a final denial from either district.

The parent or legal guardian of a pupil may seek release from the school district of residence to attend a school in any other school district. School districts may enter into agreements for the interdistrict transfer of one or more pupils for a period of up to five years. The agreement must specify the terms and conditions for granting or denying transfers and may contain standards of reapplication and specify the terms and conditions under which a permit may be revoked. Unless otherwise specified in the agreement, a pupil will not have to reapply for an interdistrict transfer, and the school board of the district of enrollment must allow the pupil to continue to attend the school in which he/she is enrolled. A student who has completed grade 10 by June 30, may remain enrolled within the district of enrollment through grades 11 and 12 without any revocation from the desired district, and must be treated the same as any other resident student. Regardless of whether an agreement exists or a permit is issued, the school district of residence cannot prohibit the transfer of a pupil who is a child of an active military duty parent to a school district of proposed enrollment if that district approves the application for transfer. Nor may a district prohibit an interdistrict permit release when no intradistrict permit options are available to a victim of bullying. A "victim of an act of bullying" means a pupil that has been determined to have been a victim of bullying by an investigation pursuant to the complaint process described in Section 234.1 and the bullying was committed by any pupil in the school district of residence, and the parent of the pupil has filed a written complaint regarding the bullying with the school, school district personnel, or a local law enforcement agency. "Bullying" means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal communication made in writing or by means of an electronic act directed toward one or more pupils that results in placing a reasonable person in fear of harm to self or property. It may cause a substantially detrimental effect on physical or mental health, interfere with academic performance or the ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school, and may be done in person or online. Bullying may be exhibited in the creation or transmission of bullying online, on or off the school site, by telephone or other device in a message, text, sound, video, or image in a post on a social network internet website or burn page that creates a credible impersonation of another student knowingly and without consent for the purpose of bullying. Sharing or forwarding messages contributes to the act of bullying.

A student who is appealing a decision for an interdistrict permit approval through the County Office of Education may be eligible for provisional admission to the desired district in grades TK through 12, while

continuing through the process of appeal, if space is made available by the desired district, not to exceed two months.

A pupil who has been determined by personnel of either the school district of residence or the district of proposed enrollment to have been the victim of an act of bullying, as defined in EC 48900(r), shall, at the request of the parent or legal guardian, be given priority for interdistrict attendance under any existing agreement or, in the absence of an agreement, be given additional consideration for the creation of an interdistrict attendance agreement.

Interdistrict permits shall not be denied for release from district of residence but may require the same entrance requirements from desired districts. For active military families, pending transfer orders, may have ten days to produce documents after the family has relocated. Once orders are in writing, they may be forwarded to the intended resident district or charter to start the enrollment process and avoid delays. Coursework and graduation requirements are exempted for children of active military.

Each school district shall post their interdistrict policy agreements and local district caps on their district and/or school websites. Reasons for approval and denial of interdistrict transfer requests must be updated on the district website according to board policies. The County appeals process will be offered with the final denial in writing by the school district. The County appeal process may take up to a maximum of two months. If you have any questions about the interdistrict process, please call the District Office at 661-252-5131 or call the County Office at 562-922-6233.

#### **Intradistrict:**

Residents of the school district may apply to other schools that serve the same grade levels within the district. No pupil who currently resides in the attendance area of a school can be displaced by pupils transferring from outside the attendance area. Students who are a victim of bullying shall be allowed an Intradistrict permit to transfer if space is available at the same grade level. If there is no "intra-district" space to attend, the student may seek an "inter-district" permit to another district without any delay in release from the home district, but it does not guarantee entrance to an outside district. The process to enter another school district will be according to the desired district's transfer policies. A "victim of an act of bullying" means a pupil that has been determined to have been a victim of bullying by an investigation pursuant to the complaint process described in Section 234.1 and the bullying was committed by any pupil in the school district of residence, and the parent of the pupil has filed a written complaint regarding the bullying with the school, school district personnel, or a local law enforcement agency. "Bullying" means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal communication made in writing or by means of an electronic act directed toward one or more pupils that results in placing a reasonable person in fear of harm of self or property. It may cause a substantially detrimental effect on physical or mental health, interfere with academic performance or the ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school, and may be done in person or online. Bullying may be exhibited in the creation or transmission of bullying online, on or off the school site, by telephone or other device in a message, text, sound, video, or image in a post on a social network internet website or burn page that creates a credible impersonation of another student knowingly and without consent for the purpose of bullying. Sharing or forwarding messages contributes to the act of bullying.

#### **Instruction for Pupils with Temporary Disabilities:**

A pupil with a temporary disability, which makes attendance in the regular day classes or the alternative educational program in which the pupil is enrolled, impossible or inadvisable may receive individualized instruction provided in the pupil's home for one hour a day. Please contact your school administrator for further information.

A pupil with a temporary disability, who is in a hospital or other residential health facility, excluding a state hospital, may be deemed to have complied with the residency requirements for school attendance in the school district in which the hospital is located.

It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to notify the school district in which the hospital or other residential health facility is located of the presence of a pupil with a temporary disability. Upon receipt of the notification, the district will within five working days determine whether the pupil will be able to receive individualized instruction pursuant to EC 48206.3 and, if so, provide the instruction within five working days or

less.

A pupil with a temporary disability may remain enrolled in the district of residence or charter school and may attend regular classes when not confined to the hospital setting, the total days of instruction may not exceed the maximum of five days with both school settings and attendance may not be duplicated. If necessary, the district of residence may provide instruction in the home for the days not receiving instruction in the hospital setting, depending upon the temporary doctor orders. The supervisor of attendance shall ensure that absences from the regular school program are excused until the pupil is able to return to the regular school program.

**Education of Foster Youth – EC 48204, 48853, 48853.5, 51215.1, 51225.2, 47605, 47605.6, 48432.5, 48911, 48911.1, 48915.5, and 48918.1**

In addition to parental notification requirements for an involuntary transfer to a continuation school, suspension, or expulsion, to the foster child's attorney and social worker, and, for the child's tribal social worker, if applicable, and county social worker. The attorney and social worker have the same rights as parents during these processes, such as requests for meetings and the ability to inspect all documents.

**Independent Study – EC 51744, 51745, 51745.5, 51746, and 56026**

Independent Study (IS) is by choice and may not be mandated. Each district and charter school that chooses to offer IS must have policies for independent study courses or curriculum equivalent time to complete work expectations equal to what is offered in person. In addition, the short-term (less than 15 school days) and long-term (15 or more school days) will require the IS engagement defined per the policies adopted by the local governing board. Persons who sign the IS agreement, deadline to sign within 10 days of short-term IS or in advance of long-term IS must be updated including the equitable access to students with disabilities based upon individual student needs. For more information on how Sulphur Springs Union School District schools offer IS options, please contact your schools' administrator.

**Notice of Alternative Schools – EC 58501**

*“Notice of Alternative Schools”* California state law authorizes all school districts to provide alternative schools. Education Code 58500 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 his/her desire to learn.
- (c) Maintain a learning situation maximizing student self-motivation and encouraging the student in his/her own time to follow his/her own interests. These interests may be conceived by him/her totally and independently or may result in whole or in part from a presentation by his/her 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 your information. This law particularly authorizes interested persons to request the governing board of the district to establish alternative school programs in each district.



# Discipline

## **School Rules:**

The Governing Board desires to provide a safe, supportive and positive school environment conducive to student learning and to prepare students for responsible citizenship by fostering self-discipline and personal responsibility. Each school will develop site-level disciplinary rules, which are available to review in the school office.

## **Duties of Pupils – 5 CCR 300**

Pupils shall conform to school regulations, obey all directions, be diligent in study and respectful to teachers and others in authority, and refrain from the use of profane and vulgar language.

## **Jurisdiction – EC 44807:**

Teaching staff shall hold pupils to strict account for their conduct on the way to and from school, on the playgrounds, or during recess.

## **Dress and Grooming – AR 5132**

In cooperation with teachers, students, and parents/guardians, the principal or designee may establish school rules governing student dress and grooming which are consistent with law, Board policy, and administrative regulations. These school dress codes shall be regularly reviewed.

The following guidelines shall apply to all regular school activities:

1. Clothing, jewelry, and personal items shall be free of writing, pictures, or any other insignia which is vulgar, lewd, obscene, profane, or sexually suggestive or which promotes the use of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, or other illegal activity.
2. Appropriate shoes must be worn at all times. Sandals must have heel straps. Flip-flops or backless shoes or sandals are not acceptable.
3. Hats, caps, and other head coverings shall not be worn indoors.
4. Clothes shall be sufficient to conceal undergarments. See-through tops and bare abdomens are prohibited.

The dress code shall be modified as appropriate to accommodate a student's religious or cultural observance, health condition, or other circumstance deemed necessary by the principal or designee. In addition, the principal or designee may impose dress requirements to accommodate the needs of special school activities, physical education classes, athletic activities, and other extracurricular and cocurricular activities.

## **Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process:**

The Governing Board has established policies and standards of behavior in order to promote learning and protect the safety and well-being of all students. When these policies and standards are violated, it may be necessary to suspend or expel a student from regular classroom instruction. Suspended or expelled students shall be denied the privilege of participation in all extracurricular activities during the period of suspension or expulsion.

Except where suspension for a first offense is warranted in accordance with law, suspension shall be imposed only when other means of correction fail to bring about proper conduct. Expulsion is an action taken by the Board for severe or prolonged breaches of discipline by a student. Except for single acts of a grave nature, expulsion shall be used only when there is a history of misconduct, when other forms of discipline, including suspension, have failed to bring about proper conduct, or when the student's presence causes a continuing danger to self or others.

The grounds for suspension and expulsion and the procedures for considering, recommending, and/or implementing suspension and expulsion shall be those specified in law and/or administrative regulation. The Board shall provide for the fair and equitable treatment of students facing suspension and expulsion by affording them their due process rights under the law. The Superintendent or designee shall comply with procedures for notices and appeals as specified in administrative regulation and/or law. The Board believes that parental involvement plays an important role in the resolution of classroom behavior problems. The Board expects that teachers will communicate with parents/guardians when behavior problems arise.

Whenever a student is suspended from class by a teacher because he/she committed an obscene act, engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity, disrupted school activities, or otherwise willfully defied valid staff authority, the teacher of the class from which the student was removed may provide that the student's parent/guardian attend a portion of a school day in class from which the student was suspended.

Before requiring parental attendance, the teacher shall make reasonable efforts to have the parent/guardian visit the class voluntarily. The teacher also may inform the parent/guardian about available resources and parent education opportunities. Teachers should reserve the option of required parental attendance for cases in which they have determined that it is the best strategy to promote positive interaction between the student and the parent/guardian and to improve classroom behavior.

The teacher shall apply this policy uniformly to all students within the classroom. This policy shall apply only to a parent/guardian who lives with the student. When a teacher requires parental attendance, the principal shall send a written notice to the parent/guardian stating that his/her attendance is pursuant to law.

The notice shall specify that the attendance may be on either the date the student is scheduled to return to class or within one week thereafter. A parent/guardian who has received a written notice shall attend class as specified in the notice. After completing the classroom visit and before leaving school premises, the parent/guardian also shall meet with the principal or designee.

The principal or designee shall contact a parent/guardian who does not respond to the request to attend school. The Board recognizes that parent/guardian compliance with this policy may be delayed, modified, or prevented for reasons such as serious illness/injury/disability, absence from town, or inability to get release time from work. District regulations and school-site rules for student discipline shall include procedures for implementing parental attendance requirements. Parents/guardians shall be notified of this policy prior to its implementation. On a case-by-case basis, the enforcement of an expulsion order may be suspended by the Board pursuant to the requirements of law.

#### **Suspension or Expulsion – EC 48900:**

A pupil shall not be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion, unless the superintendent of the school district or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has committed an act as defined pursuant to any of subdivisions (a) to (r), inclusive:

- (a) (1) Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person.
- (2) Willfully used force or violence upon the person of another, except in self-defense.
- (b) Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished a firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object, unless, in the case of possession of an object of this type, the pupil had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, which is concurred in by the principal or the designee of the principal.
- (c) Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, or otherwise furnished, or been under the influence of, a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind.
- (d) Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind, and either sold, delivered, or otherwise furnished to a person another liquid, substance, or material and represented the liquid, substance, or material as a controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant.

(e) Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.

(f) Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property.

(g) Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property.

(h) Possessed or used tobacco, or products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets, and betel. However, this section does not prohibit the use or possession by a pupil of the pupil's own prescription products.

(i) Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.

(j) Unlawfully possessed or unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell drug paraphernalia, as defined in Section 11014.5 of the Health and Safety Code.

(k) (1) Disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties.

(2) Except as provided in Section 48910, a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 3, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts enumerated in paragraph (1), and those acts shall not constitute grounds for a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to be recommended for expulsion. This paragraph is inoperative on July 1, 2020.

(3) Except as provided in Section 48910, commencing July 1, 2020, a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 5, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts specified in paragraph (1), and those acts shall not constitute grounds for a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to be recommended for expulsion.

(4) Except as provided in Section 48910, commencing July 1, 2020, a pupil enrolled in any of grades 6 to 8, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts specified in paragraph (1). This paragraph is inoperative on July 1, 2025.

(l) Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.

(m) Possessed an imitation firearm. As used in this section, "imitation firearm" means a replica of a firearm that is so substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm.

(n) Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault as defined in Section 261, 266c, 286, 287, 288, or 289 of, or former Section 288a of, the Penal Code or committed a sexual battery as defined in Section 243.4 of the Penal Code.

(o) Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a pupil who is a complaining witness or a witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for purposes of either preventing that pupil from being a witness or retaliating against that pupil for being a witness, or both.

(p) Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma.

(q) Engaged in, or attempted to engage in, hazing. For purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" means a method of initiation or preinitiation into a pupil organization or body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution, that is likely to cause serious bodily injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to a former, current, or prospective pupil. For purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" does not include athletic events or school-sanctioned events.

(r) Engaged in an act of bullying. For purposes of this subdivision, the following terms have the following meanings: (1) “Bullying” means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, and including one or more acts committed by a pupil or group of pupils as defined in Section 48900.2, 48900.3, or 48900.4, directed toward one or more pupils that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

(A) Placing a reasonable pupil or pupils in fear of harm to that pupil’s or those pupils’ person or property.

(B) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience a substantially detrimental effect on the pupil’s physical or mental health.

(C) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with the pupil’s academic performance.

(D) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with the pupil’s ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

(2) (A) “Electronic act” means the creation or transmission originated on or off the schoolsite, by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager, of a communication, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

(i) A message, text, sound, video, or image.

(ii) A post on a social network internet website, including, but not limited to:

(I) Posting to or creating a burn page. “Burn page” means an internet website created for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1).

(II) Creating a credible impersonation of another actual pupil for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1). “Credible impersonation” means to knowingly and without consent impersonate a pupil for the purpose of bullying the pupil and such that another pupil would reasonably believe, or has reasonably believed, that the pupil was or is the pupil who was impersonated.

(III) Creating a false profile for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1). “False profile” means a profile of a fictitious pupil or a profile using the likeness or attributes of an actual pupil other than the pupil who created the false profile.

(iiii) (I) An act of cyber sexual bullying.

(II) For purposes of this clause, “cyber sexual bullying” means the dissemination of, or the solicitation or incitement to disseminate, a photograph or other visual recording by a pupil to another pupil or to school personnel by means of an electronic act that has or can be reasonably predicted to have one or more of the effects described in subparagraphs (A) to (D), inclusive, of paragraph (1). A photograph or other visual recording, as described in this subclause, shall include the depiction of a nude, semi-nude, or sexually explicit photograph or other visual recording of a minor where the minor is identifiable from the photograph, visual recording, or other electronic act.

(III) For purposes of this clause, “cyber sexual bullying” does not include a depiction, portrayal, or image that has any serious literary, artistic, educational, political, or scientific value or that involves athletic events or school-sanctioned activities.

(B) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) and subparagraph (A), an electronic act shall not constitute pervasive conduct solely on the basis that it has been transmitted on the internet or is currently posted on the internet.

(3) “Reasonable pupil” means a pupil, including, but not limited to, a pupil with exceptional needs, who exercises average care, skill, and judgment in conduct for a person of that age, or for a person of that age with the pupil’s exceptional needs.

(s) A pupil shall not be suspended or expelled for any of the acts enumerated in this section unless the act is related to a school activity or school attendance occurring within a school under the jurisdiction of the superintendent of the school district or principal or occurring within any other school district. A pupil may be suspended or expelled for acts that are enumerated in this section and related to a school activity or school

attendance that occur at any time, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

- (1) While on school grounds.
- (2) While going to or coming from school.
- (3) During the lunch period whether on or off the campus.
- (4) During, or while going to or coming from, a school-sponsored activity.

(t) A pupil who aids or abets, as defined in Section 31 of the Penal Code, the infliction or attempted infliction of physical injury to another person may be subject to suspension, but not expulsion, pursuant to this section, except that a pupil who has been adjudged by a juvenile court to have committed, as an aider and abettor, a crime of physical violence in which the victim suffered great bodily injury or serious bodily injury shall be subject to discipline pursuant to subdivision (a).

(u) As used in this section, “school property” includes, but is not limited to, electronic files and databases.

(v) For a pupil subject to discipline under this section, a superintendent of the school district or principal is encouraged to provide alternatives to suspension or expulsion, using a research-based framework with strategies that improve behavioral and academic outcomes, that are age appropriate and designed to address and correct the pupil’s specific misbehavior as specified in Section 48900.5.

(w) (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that alternatives to suspension or expulsion be imposed against a pupil who is truant, tardy, or otherwise absent from school activities. (2) It is further the intent of the Legislature that the Multi-Tiered System of Supports, which includes restorative justice practices, trauma-informed practices, social and emotional learning, and schoolwide positive behavior interventions and support, may be used to help pupils gain critical social and emotional skills, receive support to help transform trauma-related responses, understand the impact of their actions, and develop meaningful methods for repairing harm to the school community.

#### **Sexual Harassment – EC 48900.2**

In addition to the reasons specified in Section 48900, a pupil may be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion if the superintendent or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has committed sexual harassment as defined in Section 212.5.

For the purposes of this chapter, the conduct described in Section 212.5 must be considered by a reasonable person of the same gender as the victim to be sufficiently severe or pervasive to have a negative impact upon the individual's academic performance or to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. This section shall not apply to pupils enrolled in kindergarten and grades 1 to 3, inclusive.

#### **Hate Violence – EC 48900.3**

In addition to the reasons set forth in Sections 48900 and 48900.2, a pupil in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive, may be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion if the superintendent or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has caused, attempted to cause, threatened to cause, or participated in an act of, hate violence, as defined in subdivision (e) of Section 233.

#### **Harassment, Threats or Intimidation – EC 48900.4**

In addition to the grounds specified in Sections 48900 and 48900.2, a pupil enrolled in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive, may be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion if the superintendent or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has intentionally engaged in harassment, threats, or intimidation, directed against school district personnel or pupils, that is sufficiently severe or pervasive to have the actual and reasonably expected effect of materially disrupting classwork, creating substantial disorder, and invading the rights of either school personnel or pupils by creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment.

#### **Limitations on Imposing Suspension – EC 48900.5**

Suspension, including supervised suspension as described in Section 48911.1, shall be imposed only when other means of correction fail to bring about proper conduct. A school district may document the other means of correction used and place that documentation in the pupil's record, which may be accessed pursuant to Section 49069. However, a pupil, including an individual with exceptional needs, as defined in Section 56026, may be suspended, subject to Section 1415 of Title 20 of the United States Code, for any of the reasons enumerated in Section 48900 upon a first offense, if the principal or superintendent of schools determines that the pupil violated subdivision (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) of Section 48900 or that the pupil's presence causes a danger to persons.

#### **Terroristic Threats – EC 48900.7**

(a) In addition to the reasons specified in Sections 48900, 48900.2, 48900.3, and 48900.4, a pupil may be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion if the superintendent or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has made terroristic threats against school officials or school property, or both.

(b) For the purposes of this section, "terroristic threat" shall include any statement, whether written or oral, by a person who willfully threatens to commit a crime which will result in death, great bodily injury to another person, or property damage in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), with the specific intent that the statement is to be taken as a threat, even if there is no intent of actually carrying it out, which, on its face and under the circumstances in which it is made, is so unequivocal, unconditional, immediate, and specific as to convey to the person threatened, a gravity of purpose and an immediate prospect of execution of the threat, and thereby causes that person reasonably to be in sustained fear for his or her own safety or for his or her immediate family's safety, or for the protection of school district property, or the personal property of the person threatened or his or her immediate family.

#### **Mandatory Expulsion Violations - EC 48915**

Schools shall immediately suspend and recommend expulsion for students that commit any of the following acts at school or at a school activity off school grounds:

1. Possessing, selling, or otherwise furnishing a firearm.
2. Brandishing a knife at another person.
3. Unlawfully selling a controlled substance.
4. Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault.
5. Possession of an explosive.

The school board shall order the student expelled upon finding that the student committed the act.

#### **Requirement of Parent/Guardian School Attendance – EC 48900.1:**

Teachers may require the parent or guardian of a student who has been suspended by a teacher to attend a portion of that school day in his or her student's classroom. The attendance of the parent or guardian will be limited to the class from which the student was suspended. A written notice will be sent to the parent or guardian regarding implementation of this requirement. Employers are not allowed to apply sanctions against the parent or guardian for this requirement if the parent or guardian has given reasonable notice to his/her employer.

#### **Dangerous Objects:**

Often, students like to bring objects, such as a collector's item, to school to show their friends. Examples of these objects include, but are not limited to, laser pointers, mini baseball bats, martial arts weapons (*e.g.*, nunchaku, throwing stars), or any other sharp, pointy objects. Students should refrain from bringing objects that have the potential to inflict serious bodily injury to others.

#### **Electronic Signaling Devices – EC 48901.5**

The use by any person, including a pupil, of any electronic signaling device in any classroom without the prior consent of the teacher and the principal is prohibited as it disrupts and impairs the teaching process and discipline in the schools. The only allowable use would be acceptable if it is determined by a licensed physician

that the pupil must use it for the health and safety of a pupil. Any pupil in violation shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Smartphone use may be prohibited by districts, charter schools, and county schools while a student is at a school site and under supervision and control of staff. There are health and special education limits or usage that may differ from the general student population but must be in writing and kept on file in student records for confidential record keeping and reasons.

#### **Gun-Free School Zone Act – PC 626.9, 30310**

California prohibits any person from possessing a firearm on, or within 1,000 feet from, the grounds of a public or private school, unless it is with the written permission of the Superintendent. This does not apply to law enforcement officers, any active or honorably retired peace officers, members of the military forces of California or the United States, or armored vehicle guards engaged in the performance of, or acting in the scope of, their duties. A person may also be in possession of a firearm on school grounds if the firearm is unloaded and in a locked container or within the locked trunk of a motor vehicle. A violation of this law is punishable by imprisonment in a county jail for up to six months, a fine of up to \$1,000, or both imprisonment and fine.

#### **Property Damage – EC 48904**

Parents or guardians may be held financially liable if their child willfully damages school property or fails to return school property loaned to the child. The school may further withhold the grades, diploma, and transcript of the pupil until restitution is paid.

# **Safety**

## **School Safety Plan – EC 32280**

Each Sulphur Springs Union School District school site has a Comprehensive School Safety Plan, which includes a disaster preparedness plan and emergency procedures. Copies are available to read at each school office. Fire and emergency drills are held periodically at each school site.

## **School Visiting Procedures - EC 51101 (a) (12)**

Visitors to our schools must sign in at the school office upon entering the campus for the safety of our staff and students. You will find a sign posting where to sign in at each entrance to our school sites.

## **Social Security Number - EC 49076.7**

Pupils and their parents or guardians should not be asked to provide their social security numbers or the last four digits of the social security numbers unless required by state or federal law. If a form is requesting that you provide a social security number or the last four digits of the social security number for you and/or your child and it does not specify the state or federal law that requires this information, ask the school administrator for more information before providing it.

## **Camera Surveillance on School Property – PC 647(j)**

For the safety of our students, staff and visitors, the School District employs camera surveillance equipment for security purposes. This equipment may or may not be monitored at any time.

Surveillance cameras will generally be utilized only in public areas where there is no “reasonable expectation of privacy.” Public areas may include school buses; building entrances; hallways; parking lots; front offices where students, employees, and parents come and go; gymnasiums during public activities; cafeterias; and supply rooms. However, it is not possible for surveillance cameras to cover all public areas of District buildings or all District activities.

District surveillance cameras will not be installed in “private” areas such as restrooms, locker rooms, changing areas, private offices (unless consent by the office owner is given), or classrooms.

## **Extended School Year – Migrant Education – EC 41601.6**

Students who are identified as a “migrant child” in grades TK-6 may be allowed to enroll in two public schools during summer, winter, or other intersessions – both the school in which they last attended and the next intended school to be entered upon the migration with parents from one agricultural work site to another.

## **Before and After School Enrichment Program:**

The District has several fee based and free before and after-school programs available for students who qualify. Programs that charge family fees shall not charge for a child who is experiencing homelessness or placed in foster care. Students in foster care will be moved to the top of the waiting list. To request priority enrollment, please contact our liaison:

**Mrs. Vivian Fiss, Director of Curriculum and Instruction**  
**vfiss@sssd.k12.ca.us**  
**27000 Weyerhaeuser Way**  
**Santa Clarita, CA 91351**  
**(661) 252-5131 ext. 218**

## **Walking or Riding a Bike to School:**

No person under 18 years of age may operate a bicycle, non-motorized scooter, skateboard or wear in-line or roller skates, nor ride as a passenger upon a bicycle, non-motorized scooter, or skateboard upon a street, bikeway, or any other public bicycle path or trail unless that person is wearing a properly fitted and fastened bicycle helmet that meets specified standards.

## **Pupil Swimming Safety – EC 35179.6**

Our school is committed to safety for all our students at our planned events, including around swimming



pools. There is already a requirement for pool sport coaches to be fully trained in CPR in case of accidental drowning in the pool. If there is any event on-campus or hosted at a swimming pool facility, at least one adult with a valid certification of CPR training will be present throughout the duration of the event.

#### **Safe Place to Learn Act – EC 234 and 234.1**

The Sulphur Springs Union School District is committed to maintaining a learning environment that is free from discrimination, harassment, violence, intimidation, and bullying based on actual or perceived characteristics set forth in Section 422.55 of the Penal Code and EC 220, and disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. All school personnel who witness an act of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying must take immediate steps to intervene when safe to do so. Any student who engages in acts of discrimination, harassment, violence, intimidation, or bullying related to school activity or school attendance occurring within a school of the school district may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. To report an incident and/or to receive a copy of the district's antidiscrimination, anti-harassment, anti-intimidation, and anti-bullying policies, please contact:

**Dr. Jay Greenlinger, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel/Pupil Services**  
**compliance@sssd.k12.ca.us**  
**27000 Weyerhaeuser Way**  
**Santa Clarita, CA 91351**  
**(661) 252-5131 ext. 191**

#### **School Safety: Bullying – EC 234.4, 22589, and 32283.5**

The Sulphur Springs Union School District is committed to the prohibition of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying including cyberbullying on social media. Annual training will be provided to all staff who work with students, to prevent bullying and cyberbullying. You may find a list of education web pages describing the staff training at: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss/se/bullyres.asp> If you or your child should experience any bullying on campus, at school events, or on the way to or from school, please contact our district counseling liaison available to assist you in identifying and stopping this behavior at: 661-252-5131.

#### **Nondiscrimination Statement – EC 221.8**

The Sulphur Springs Union School District is committed to providing a safe school environment where all individuals in education are afforded equal access and opportunities. The District's academic and other educational support programs, services and activities shall be free from discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying of any individual based on the person's actual race, immigration status, color, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or gender expression; the perception of one or more of such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. Specifically, state law prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender in enrollment, counseling, and the availability of physical education, athletic activities, and sports. Transgender students shall be permitted to participate in gender-segregated school programs and activities (e.g., athletic teams, sports competitions, and field trips) and to use facilities consistent with their gender identity. The District assures that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission or participation in District programs. Complaints of unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying are investigated through the Uniform Complaint Process. Such complaints must be filed no later than six months after knowledge of the alleged discrimination was first obtained. For a complaint form or additional information, contact:

**Dr. Jay Greenlinger, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel/Pupil Services**  
**compliance@sssd.k12.ca.us**  
**27000 Weyerhaeuser Way**  
**Santa Clarita, CA 91351**  
**(661) 252-5131**

### **Sexual Harassment – EC 231.5**

The Sulphur Springs Union School District is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from sexual harassment. Any student who engages in sexual harassment of anyone in or from the district may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. Any employee who permits, engages in, or fails to report sexual harassment shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal. For a copy of the district's sexual harassment policy or to report incidences of sexual harassment, please contact:

**Dr. Jay Greenlinger, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel/Pupil Services**  
**compliance@sssd.k12.ca.us**  
**27000 Weyerhaeuser Way**  
**Santa Clarita, CA 91351**  
**(661) 252-5131**

### **Complaint Process**

Any student who feels that he/she is being or has been subjected to sexual harassment shall immediately contact a school employee. A school employee to whom a complaint is made shall, within 24 hours of his/her getting the complaint, report it to the principal or designee.

Any school employee who observes any incident of sexual harassment on any student shall similarly report this observation to the principal or designee, whether or not the victim makes a complaint.

In any case of sexual harassment involving the principal or any other district employee to whom the complaint would ordinarily be made, the employee who receives the student's report or who observes the incident shall report to the nondiscrimination coordinator or the Superintendent or designee.

The principal or designee to whom a complaint of sexual harassment is reported shall immediately investigate the complaint in accordance with administrative regulation. Where the principal or designee finds that sexual harassment occurred, he/she shall take prompt, appropriate action to end the harassment and address its effects on the victim. The principal or designee shall also advise the victim of any other remedies that may be available. The principal or designee shall file a report with the Superintendent or designee and refer the matter to law enforcement authorities, where required.

### **Disciplinary Measures**

Any student who engages in sexual harassment of anyone at school or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity is in violation of this policy and shall be subject to disciplinary action. For students in grades 4 through 12, disciplinary action may include suspension and/or expulsion, provided that in imposing such discipline the entire circumstances of the incident(s) shall be taken into account.

### **Record Keeping**

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a record of all reported cases of sexual harassment to enable the district to monitor, address and prevent repetitive harassing behavior in its schools. 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.

### **Title IX – EC 221.61**

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is one of several federal and state anti-discrimination laws that ensure equality in educational programs and activities that receive federal funding. Specifically, Title IX protects male and female pupils and employees, as well as transgender pupils and pupils who do not conform to sex stereotypes, against discrimination based on sex, including sexual harassment. California law also prohibits discrimination based on gender, gender expression, gender identity, and sexual orientation. Under Title IX, pupils may not be discriminated against based on their parental, family, or marital status, and pregnant and parenting pupils may not be excluded from participating in any educational program, including extracurricular activities, for which they qualify.

For more information about Title IX, or how to file a complaint of noncompliance with Title IX, visit <https://www.sssd.k12.ca.us/Page/748> or contact:

**Dr. Jay Greenlinger, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel/Pupil Services**  
**compliance@sssd.k12.ca.us**  
**27000 Weyerhaeuser Way**  
**Santa Clarita, CA 91351**  
**(661) 252-5131**

### **Educational Equity: Government Instruction Conference - EC 224**

The Sex Equity in Education Act exempts any discrimination based on male or female identity for pupils who seek to participate in state or national conferences, therefore, furthering California's goal of providing an equal educational opportunity to all students by prohibiting the use of public resources when a program discriminates based on gender.

### **Pregnant and Parenting Pupils – EC 221.51, 222.5, 46015, 48205, and 48980 (9-12)**

The governing board of the Sulphur Springs Union School District will treat both the pregnant teen mother and the teen father with the same accommodations, regardless of sex. The teen parents may not be excluded from any class or extracurricular activities, solely on the basis of pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or post-partum recovery. Physical and emotional ability to continue may only be determined by physician or nurse practitioner. Pregnant or parenting pupils may not be required to participate in pregnant minor programs or alternative programs, with the exception of personal choice.

Parental rights will be an option available in annual notifications or at semester term periods, welcome packets, orientation, online or in print, or in independent study packets as provided to all regular students from school districts or charter schools.

Parental leave for eight weeks for preparation of birth of infant, post-partum for mental and physical health needs of the teen parents and to bond with infants, or any additional medically approved time to protect the infant or parents is allowed. Any additional time due if deemed medically necessary, as prescribed by physician or nurse practitioner. The pregnant and parenting teens are not required to take all or part of the leave to which they are entitled. Leave will be approved by the district or charter school supervisor of attendance, as excused absence, with a unique code similar to independent study. However, no work is required during the leave. Upon return, the parenting teens are entitled to return to the school courses that were in enrolled before taking leave. Make up plans and re-enrollment will be worked out with the school counselor or administrator to achieve an opportunity to fully participate in all activities, as before leave. If needed, parenting teen may enroll for a fifth year of instruction if on course for graduation requirements. If parenting teens were enrolled in an alternative school setting, a return to that environment is to be available as needed to achieve graduation. A pupil shall not incur any academic penalties due to using these available accommodations.

An illness for sick child does not require a doctor note for the custodial parenting teens; the mother or father will be excused by the attendance supervisor.

### **Campus Security**

The Governing Board is committed to providing a school environment that promotes the safety of students, employees, and visitors to school grounds. The Board also recognizes the importance of protecting district property, facilities, and equipment from vandalism and theft.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop campus security procedures, which are consistent with the goals and objectives of the District's comprehensive safety plan and site-level safety plans. Such procedures shall be regularly reviewed to reflect changed circumstances and to assess their effectiveness in achieving safe school objectives.

### **Civility on School Grounds – CC 1708.9; EC 32210**

Any person who willfully disturbs any public school or any public-school meeting is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500).

It is unlawful for any person, except a parent/guardian acting toward his/her minor child, to intentionally

or to attempt to injure, intimidate, interfere by force, threat of force, physical obstruction, or nonviolent physical obstruction with any person attempting to enter or exit any public or private school grounds.

### **Custody Issues:**

Custody disputes must be handled by the courts. The school has no legal jurisdiction to refuse a biological parent access to his/her child and/or school records. The only exception is when signed restraining orders or proper divorce papers, specifically stating visitation limitations, are on file in the school office. Any student release situation, which leaves the student's welfare in question will be handled at the discretion of the site administrator or designee. Should any such situation become a disruption to the school, law enforcement will be contacted, and an officer requested to intervene. Parents are asked to make every attempt not to involve school sites in custody matters. The school will make every attempt to reach the custodial parent when a parent or any other person not listed on the emergency card attempts to pick up a child.

### **Megan's Law – PC 290**

Information about registered sex offenders in California can be found on the California Department of Justice's website, <http://meganslaw.ca.gov/>. The website also provides information on how to protect yourself and your family, facts about sex offenders, frequently asked questions, and sex offender registration requirements in California.

### **Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting – PC 11164**

The Sulphur Springs Union School District is committed to protecting all students in its care. All employees of the District are considered mandated reporters, required by law to report cases of child abuse and neglect whenever there is reasonable suspicion abuse or neglect has occurred. District employees may not investigate to confirm a suspicion.

All complaints must be filed through a formal report, over the telephone, in person, or in writing, with an appropriate local law enforcement agency (i.e., Police or Sheriff's Department, County Probation Department, or County Welfare Department/County Child Protective Services). Both the name of the person filing the complaint and the report itself are confidential and cannot be disclosed except to authorized agencies.

Parents and guardians of students also have a 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. Complaints may be filed with the local law enforcement agency; you may also notify the District of an incident by contacting the Director of Special Education:

**Paul Frisina, Executive Director of Special Education & Student Support Services**  
**pfrisina@sssd.k12.ca.us**  
**27000 Weyerhaeuser Way**  
**Santa Clarita, CA 91351**  
**661-252-5131 ext. 239**

Child abuse does not include an injury caused by any force that is reasonable and necessary for a person employed by or engaged in a school: To stop a disturbance threatening physical injury to people or damage to property.

1. For purposes of self-defense.
2. To obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects within control of a student.
3. 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.

### **Disaster Preparedness Educational Materials – EC 32282.5**

Natural and human-caused disasters affect everyone which is why it is important to be prepared at home, at school, at work, and in the community. Parents and guardians are encouraged to review the safety educational materials provided on the California Department of Education Web page at:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss/cp/pupilsafetyeducmat.asp>. The materials are available in multiple languages and can be used to help families prepare for different types of emergencies and crisis.

## Student Services

### **Section 504 – 29 USC 794, 34 CFR 104.32**

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is a federal law, which prohibits discrimination against persons with a disability. The Sulphur Springs Union School District provides a free and appropriate public education to all pupils regardless of the nature or severity of their disability. The District has a responsibility to identify, evaluate, and if eligible, provide pupils with disabilities the same opportunity to benefit from education programs, services, or activities as provided to their non-disabled peers. To qualify for Section 504 protections, the pupil must have a mental or physical impairment, which substantially limits one or more major life activity. For additional information about the rights of parents of eligible pupils, or questions regarding the identification, evaluation, and eligibility of Section 504 protections, please contact the Section 504 Coordinator:

**Paul Frisina, Executive Director of Special Education & Student Support Services**

**pfrisina@sssd.k12.ca.us**

**27000 Weyerhaeuser Way**

**Santa Clarita, CA 91351**

**661-252-5131 ext. 239**

### **Child Find System – EC 56301; 20USC1401(3); 1412(a)(3); 34CFR300.111(c)(d)**

Under state law, each public school system is responsible to find children with disabilities in its area and offer/provide a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) - Each public school system is responsible for ensuring that each child with disabilities is served appropriately, at no expense to the parent in the least restrictive environment.

### **Free and Reduced-price Meals - EC 49510, 49391 and 49392**

Commencing in SY 2022–23, *Education Code (EC)* 49501.5 requires public school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools serving students in grades TK– 12 to provide two meals free of charge (breakfast and lunch) during each school day to students requesting a meal, regardless of their free or reduced-price meal eligibility. Charter Schools and Districts will still require eligible parents to submit an application in order to remain in compliance for accounting purposes only. Schools serving grades 1-6 will serve breakfast or a morning snack to non-school-aged children with a guardian present.

Although the California Department of Education has determined that all enrolled students shall receive breakfast and lunch at no cost to parents, we ask that you complete our meal application for the following reasons. The information you provide assists schools with student funding, internet funding, and wireless services. School Day Café (A Program of the Santa Clarita Valley School Food Services Agency) provides meals for children in Castaic, Newhall, Saugus, and Sulphur Springs School Districts.

The agency that provides Food Services for the Sulphur Springs Union School District schools is:

**SANTA CLARITA VALLEY SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES AGENCY**

**25210 Anza Drive, Santa Clarita, California 91355**

**Ph (661)295-1574 Fax (661)295-0981**

**Statement of Policy:** The goal of the Santa Clarita Valley School Food Services Agency (SCVSFSA) is to provide nutritious meals to students, promote healthy eating habits, and enhance learning, while treating all students with dignity in the meal service line. All students will receive the same meal options, regardless of account balance status. Families may apply for free or reduced-price meal benefits anytime during the school year. Meal applications are distributed via mail prior to the start of school to families who were eligible for free or reduced-price meal benefits the prior year. Meal applications are available at each school, school district office, and the SCVSFSA Central Kitchen, as well as online at [www.scvschoolnutrition.org](http://www.scvschoolnutrition.org). If household income or family size changes during the school year, families can re-apply for meal benefits anytime during the school year.

**Acceptable Use of Technology:**

One of the adopted goals of the Sulphur Springs Union School District is to assist in advancing the use of technology to enhance student learning. Access to the Sulphur Springs Union School District technology is a privilege, not a right, and students enrolled in District programs or activities must follow District guidelines and procedures regarding acceptable use of technology. All Sulphur Springs Union School District students and their parents/guardians shall sign the Acceptable Use of Technology Agreement prior to using District technological resources. The Sulphur Springs Union School District shall make diligent effort to filter the inappropriate or harmful matter accessible through the Internet, and students shall also take responsibility not to initiate access to inappropriate or harmful matter while using District technology. Violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action and the loss of the privilege to use the technology and/or civil or criminal liability.

**Educational Equity: Immigration and Citizenship Status – EC 200, 220, and 234.1 adding Article 5.7 to EC 234.7, EC 66251, 66260.6, 66270, and 66270.3**

The Equity in Higher Education Act, states that all persons, regardless of their disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or any other specified characteristic such as hairstyles, equal rights and opportunities and adds this opportunity to apply for financial aid for higher education to also be equitable, and an application may not be denied of a student based on their immigration status. This does not guarantee any final eligibility, but simply an ability to apply for financial aid just like any other student, without discrimination.

**Electronic Listening or Recording Device – EC 51512**

The use by any person, including a pupil, of any electronic listening or recording device in any classroom without the prior consent of the teacher and the principal is prohibited as it disrupts and impairs the teaching process and discipline in the schools. Any person, other than the pupil, willfully in violation shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Any pupil in violation shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

**School Accountability Report Card – EC 35256, 35258**

The School Accountability Report Card is available on request and on the Internet at [www.sssd.k12.ca.us](http://www.sssd.k12.ca.us). It contains information about the district and schools regarding the quality of programs and its progress toward achieving stated goals. A copy will be provided upon request.

**Availability of Prospectus – EC 49063, 49091.14**

Each school must annually compile a prospectus of the curriculum to include titles, descriptions and instructional goals for every course offered by the school. Please contact the Assistant Superintendent of Education for a copy of the prospectus.

**Dr. Jezelle Fullwood, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services**

**jfullwood@sssd.k12.ca.us  
27000 Weyerhaeuser Way  
Santa Clarita, CA 91351  
661-252-5131 ext. 220**

**English Learners Identification Notice – EC 313.2**

State law requires that parents of English learners are to be notified annually if they are identified as one of the following: Long-term English Learner or English learner at risk of becoming a Long-term English Learner. The Director of Curriculum and Instruction will be sending these notices at the beginning of each school year.

## Health Services

### **Confidentiality of Medical Information Act – CC 56.10**

School linked service coordinators will have access to health care information which complies with federal health insurance requirements. The coordinator must be credentialed and serve with confidentiality requirements per licensed school nurses, marriage and family therapists, educational psychologists, and clinical counselors.

### **Entrance Health Screening – HSC 124085, 124100, 124105 (K-8)**

State law requires that the parent or legal guardian of each pupil provide the school within 90 days after entrance to first grade documentary proof that the pupil has received a health screening examination by a doctor within the prior 18 months. Pupils may be excluded up to 5 days from school for failing to comply or not providing a waiver. Free health screening is available for eligible students through the Child Health Disabilities Prevention Program.

### **Oral Health Assessment – EC 49452.8 (K-8)**

Record of a dental assessment done by a dental professional is required for all kindergarteners and first graders attending public school for the first time. Dental assessments must be completed in the 12 months prior to entry or by May 31<sup>st</sup> of the pupil's first school year.

### **Immunizations – EC 49403, 48216; HSC 120325, 120335, 120365, 120370, 120375**

Students must be immunized against certain communicable diseases. Students are prohibited from attending school unless immunization requirements are met for age and grade. The school district shall cooperate with local health officials in measures necessary for the prevention and control of communicable diseases in school age children. The district may use any funds, property, or personnel and may permit any person licensed as a physician or registered nurse to administer an immunizing agent to any student whose parents have consented in writing.

Beginning January 1, 2016, parents of students in any school, are now no longer be allowed to submit a personal beliefs exemption to a currently required vaccine. A personal beliefs exemption on file at school prior to January 1, 2016 will continue to be valid until the student enters the next grade span at kindergarten (including transitional kindergarten) or 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

Students are not required to have immunizations if they attend a home-based private school or an independent study program and do not receive classroom-based instruction. However, parents must continue to provide immunizations records for these students to their schools. The immunization requirements do not prohibit students from accessing special education and related services required by their individualized education programs.

A student not fully immunized may be temporarily excluded from a school or other institution when that child has been exposed to a specified disease and whose documentary proof of immunization status does not show proof of immunization against one of the communicable diseases described above. State law requires the following immunizations before a child may attend school:

- (a) All new students, in transitional kindergarten through grade 6, to the Sulphur Springs Union School District must provide proof of polio, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, measles, and mumps, rubella, and varicella immunizations.
- (b) All transitional kindergarten and kindergarten students must also provide proof of vaccination against hepatitis B.
- (c) All seventh-grade students must also provide proof of a second measles-containing vaccine, and a pertussis booster vaccine.

Free- or low-cost immunizations for children are available at:

**Northeast Valley Health Corporation**  
18533 Soledad Canyon Road  
Santa Clarita, CA 91351  
(661) 673-8800

**Sam Dixon Family Health Center**  
27225 Camp Plenty Road, #4  
Canyon Country, CA 91351  
(661) 424-1220

Information about a medical exemption or personal beliefs exemption from immunizations for your student is available at CAIR ME. For more information on medical exemptions, please visit the following website: <https://cair.cdph.ca.gov/exemptions/home>.

### **Health Care Coverage – EC 49452.9**

Your child and family may be eligible for free low-cost health coverage. For information about health care coverage options and enrollment assistance, go to [www.CoveredCA.com/](http://www.CoveredCA.com/). Additionally, California law allows all low-income children under 19 years old, regardless of immigration status, to enroll in Medi-Cal at any time in the year. Families can apply in person at their local county human services office, over the phone, online, with a mail-in application, or at a local health center. For more information about Medi-Cal enrollment, visit [www.health4allkids.org](http://www.health4allkids.org).

### **Medication Regimen – EC 49423, 49480**

The parent or legal guardian of any pupil taking medication on a regular basis must inform the school nurse or school office personnel of the medication being taken, the current dosage, and the name of the supervising physician. With the consent of the parent or legal guardian, the school nurse may communicate with the physician and may counsel with the school personnel regarding the possible effects of the medication on the pupil.

Any pupil who is required to take, during the regular school day, medication prescribed by a physician may be assisted by the school nurse or other designated school personnel if the school district receives both a written statement of instructions from the physician detailing the method, amount and time schedules by which such medication is to be taken requesting the school nurse to assist the pupil with prescribed medication as set forth in the physician statement. Student may carry and self-administer auto-injectable epinephrine or inhaled asthma medication if the school district receives both a written statement of instructions from the physician detailing the method, amount, and time schedules by which such medication is to be taken and a written statement from the parent or guardian requesting that the student self-administer. All requests are to be approved by school nurse prior to use.

1. Talk to your child's doctor about making a medicine schedule so that your child does not have to take medicine while at school.
2. If your child is regularly taking medicine for an ongoing health problem, even if he or she only takes the medicine at home, give a written note to the school nurse or other designated school employee at the beginning of each school year. You must list the medicine being taken, the current amount taken, and the name of the doctor who prescribed it (EC 49480).
3. If your child must take medicine while at school, give the school a written note from you and a written note from your child's doctor or other health care provider, who is licensed to practice in California. Provide new, updated notes at the beginning of each school year and whenever there is any change in the medicine, instructions, or doctor (EC 49423).
4. As parent or guardian, you must supply the school with all the medicine your child must take during the school day. You or another adult must deliver the medicine to school, except medicine your child is authorized to carry and take by him or herself. All controlled medicine, like Ritalin, must be counted and recorded on a medicine log when delivered to the school. You or another adult who delivered the medicine should verify the count by signing the log.



5. Each medicine your child must be given at school must be in a separate container labeled by a pharmacist licensed in the United States. The container must list your child's name, doctor's name, name of the medicine, and instructions for when to take the medicine and how much to take.
6. Pick up all discontinued, outdated, and/or unused medicine before the end of the school year.
7. Know and follow the medicinal policy of your child's school. The school board may amend or rescind any of their policies for any reason in a public board meeting.

#### **Emergency Treatment for Anaphylaxis – EC 49414**

EC 49414 requires school districts to provide epinephrine auto-injectors to school nurses and trained personnel and authorizes them to use epinephrine auto-injectors for any student who may be experiencing anaphylaxis, regardless of known history. Anaphylaxis is a severe and potentially life-threatening allergic reaction that can occur after encountering an allergic trigger, such as food, medicine, an insect bite, latex or exercise. Symptoms include narrowing of the airways, rashes or hives, nausea or vomiting, a weak pulse and dizziness. It is estimated that approximately 25% of the anaphylactic reactions occur during school hours to students who had not previously been diagnosed with a food or other allergy. Without immediate administration of epinephrine followed by calling emergency medical services, death can occur. Being able to recognize and treat it quickly can save lives.

#### **Physical Examination – EC 49451**

A parent or guardian may file annually with the school principal a written statement, signed by the parent or legal guardian, withholding consent to a physical examination of the pupil. However, whenever there is good reason to believe that the pupil is suffering from a recognized contagious or infectious disease, the pupil shall be sent home and shall not be permitted to return until school authorities are satisfied that the contagious or infectious disease no longer exists.

Scoliosis (curvature of the spine) Screening - In grades 5 and 6, your child may be screened for scoliosis (curvature of the spine), only with written permission. Information regarding screening at your child's school will be sent home when a screening date has been set.

Vision and Hearing Appraisal - Your child's sight and hearing will be checked by an authorized person between grades Kindergarten through 6 unless you present to the school a certificate from a physician or optometrist verifying prior testing or a letter (submitted at the beginning of the school year) stating that you do not want your child to be screened.

Sunscreen and Sun-Protective Clothing - A doctor's note is not required to use sunscreen during the school day. A hat may be worn to protect from the sun outdoors, as may other sun-protective clothing according to the school dress code.

Medical or Hospital Service - The School District does not provide or make available medical and hospital services for pupils who are injured in accidents related to school activity or attendance.

Mental Health - In order to initiate access to available pupil mental health services, you may contact the following mental health provider at:

#### **Child and Family Center**

661-286-2562 ;

<https://www.childfamilycenter.org>

#### **Childrens Bureau - Valencia**

661-272-9996 ;

<https://www.all4kids.org>

#### **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline**

(800) 273-TALK / (800) 273-8255 ;  
[www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org)

Our school district will notify parents at least twice per year. This is one time through our Annual Notifications, we will also notify you again a second time each school year, by the following means: ParentSquare message to all families in December.

During the school year, our District employs several social workers who are available to assist families with mental health resources, as well as other community resources. Please reach out to your child's principal if your family needs support.

***Reminder: The SSUSD Family Resource Center has access to food, clothing, toiletries, school supplies, and other community resources. The Family Resource Center can be reached by calling (661) 250-5305.***

## **Curriculum and Personal Beliefs**

### **District Curriculum**

The District adopts State approved curriculum for each grade level and subject area. For more information, including titles, descriptions, and instruction goals, you may contact the Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services.

### **Language Acquisition Program**

The Structured English Immersion (SEI) Program is the language acquisition programs provided by the Sulphur Springs Union School District. This language acquisition program is for English learners in which nearly all classroom instruction is provided in English, but with curriculum and a presentation designed for pupils who are learning English. At minimum, students are offered ELD and access to grade level academic subject matter content.

Parents/Guardians may choose a language acquisition program that best suits their child. Schools in which the parents or legal guardians of 30 pupils or more per school or the parents or legal guardians of 20 pupils or more in any grade request a language acquisition program that is designed to provide language instruction shall be required to offer such a program to the extent possible. (EC Section 310[a]) (20 U.S.C. Section 6312[e][3][A][iii],[v])

Parents may provide input regarding language acquisition programs during the development of the Local Control Accountability Plan. If interested in a different program from the one mentioned above, please contact the Director of Curriculum and Instruction at 661-252-5131x218 to ask about the process.

### **Harm or Destruction of Animals – EC 32255 et seq.**

Any pupil with a moral objection to dissecting or otherwise harming or destroying an animal, or any part thereof, must inform his or her teacher of the objection. Objections must be substantiated by a note from the pupil's parent or guardian.

A pupil who chooses to refrain from participation in an education project involving the harmful or destructive use of an animal may receive an alternative education project, if the teacher believes that an adequate alternative education project is possible. The teacher may work with the pupil to develop and agree upon an alternative education project so that the pupil may obtain the knowledge, information, or experience required by the course of study in question.

### **Surveys – EC 51513 and 51514**

Anonymous, voluntary and confidential research and evaluation tools to measure student's health behaviors and risks, including tests, questionnaires, and surveys containing age-appropriate questions about the student's attitudes and practices relating to sex, family life, morality, and religion may be administered to students if the parent is notified in writing that 1) this test, questionnaire, or survey is to be administered, 2) the student's parent is given the opportunity to review the test, questionnaire, or survey, and 3) the parent consents in writing. Questions pertaining to the sexual orientation and gender identity of a student shall not be removed from a survey that already includes them.

## **School Records and Student Achievement**

### **Pupil Records – EC 49063, 49069.7, 49070 and 20 USC 1232g**

A cumulative record, whether recorded by handwriting, print, tapes, film, microfilm, or other means, must be maintained on the history of a pupil's development and educational progress. The District will protect the privacy of such records. Parents/guardians have the right to 1) inspect and review the student's educational record maintained by the school, 2) request that a school correct record which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading, and 3) have some control over the disclosure of information from educational records. School officials with legitimate educational interests may access student records without parental consent as long as the official needs to review the records in order to fulfill his/her professional responsibility. Upon request from officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, the District shall disclose educational records without parental consent.

Parents' request to access their student's educational records must be submitted in a written form to the school site administrator and the school will have five (5) business days from the day of receipt of the request to provide access to the records. Copies of student records are available to parents for a fee of five cents (5¢) per page.

Any challenge to school records must be submitted in writing to the Assistant Superintendent of Personnel/Pupil Services. A parent challenging school records must show that the records are:

- 1) inaccurate
- 2) an unsubstantiated personal conclusion or inference
- 3) a conclusion or inference outside the observer's area of competence
- 4) not based on the personal observation of a named person with the time and place of the observation noted
- 5) misleading
- 6) in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student

**Dr. Jay Greenlinger, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel/Pupil Services**  
**compliance@sssd.k12.ca.us**  
**27000 Weyerhaeuser Way**  
**Santa Clarita, CA 91351**  
**(661) 252-5131**

Parents have the right to file a complaint with the United States Department of Education concerning an alleged failure by the District to comply with the provisions of the United States Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) by writing to: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW, Washington, D.C. 20202-4605.

### **Directory Information – EC 49073:**

"Directory Information" includes one or more of the following items: student's name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, date of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most recent public or private school attended by the student.

No information may be released to private profit-making entity other than employers, prospective employers and representatives of the news media, including, but not limited to, newspapers, magazines, and radio and television stations. Directory information may be disclosed without prior consent from the parent or legal guardian unless the parent or legal guardian submits a written notice to the school to deny access to his/her pupil's directory information. Directory information regarding a pupil identified as experiencing homelessness shall not be released unless a parent, or eligible pupil, has provided written consent that directory information may be released.

### **Uniform Complaint Policy and Procedure – 5 CCR 4600 et seq.**

The Uniform Complaint Procedures (UCP) complaint is a written and signed statement by a complainant alleging a violation of federal or state laws or regulations, which may include an allegation of unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, bullying or charging pupil fees for participation in an educational activity or non-compliance. The person who receives the complaint shall respond to the parent in writing within 60 days. The parent may appeal to CDE within 15 days if not in agreement with the final report.

- Accommodations for Pregnant and Parenting Pupils
- After School Education and Safety
- Education of Pupils Placed in Foster Care, Pupils who are Experiencing Homelessness, former Juvenile Court Pupils now enrolled in a school district and Children of Active Military Families
- Every Student Succeeds Act
- Local Control and Accountability Plans (LCAP)
- Physical Education Instructional Minutes
- Pupil Fees
- School Plans For Student Achievement
- School Safety Plans
- Schoolsite Councils
- State Preschool
- State Preschool Health And Safety Issues In LEAs Exempt From Licensing

Please contact the Assistant Superintendent of Personnel/Pupil Services at 661-252-5131 if you would like more information on how to file a complaint with the school or district, prior to appealing to the CDE. For more information you may go to the CDE website: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cp/uc/ucpmonitoring.asp>

### **Williams Complaint Policy & Procedure – EC 35186**

Every school must provide sufficient textbooks and instructional materials. Every student, including English learners, must have textbooks or instructional materials, or both, to use at home or after school. School facilities must be clean, safe, and maintained in good repair. There should be no teacher vacancies or misassignments. If a school is found to have deficiencies in these areas, and the school does not take corrective action, then a complaint form may be obtained at 27000 Weyerhaeuser Way, Santa Clarita, CA 91351. Parents, students, teachers, or any member of the public may submit a complaint regarding these issues. However, it is highly encouraged that individuals express their concerns to the school principal before completing the complaint forms to allow the school to respond to these concerns.

### **Parent Engagement- School Accountability – EC 11500, 11501, 11502, 11503**

To participate in the district offerings of parent education and to provide parental input to the local training programs for parents, please contact the following district representative for more information on how you may contribute:

**Dr. Jezelle Fullwood, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services**  
**jfullwood@sssd.k12.ca.us**  
**27000 Weyerhaeuser Way**  
**Santa Clarita, CA 91351**  
**661-252-5131 ext. 220**

## Miscellaneous

### **Asbestos Management Plan – 40 CFR 763.93**

The Sulphur Springs Union School District maintains and annually updates its management plan for asbestos-containing material in school buildings. For a copy of the asbestos management plan, please contact the Secretary of Business Services.

### **Gun Safety – EC 32221.5 (9-12) and EC 49390, 48391, and 49392**

This is a reminder that firearms are to be safely store away from children and teens. The accidental shooting of children and youth is the third leading cause of death following accidents and suicide. California public schools are mandated to remind families to keep their home safe from such potential dangers. If there is a threat or perceived threat, then the public schools will cooperate with local law enforcement to conduct an immediate threat assessment.

### **Pesticide Products – EC 17612 and 48980.3**

To obtain a copy of all pesticide products and expected use at the school facility during the year, and to receive notification of individual pesticide applications at the school at least 72 hours before the application, please contact the Business Services Department. The notice will identify the active ingredient(s) in each pesticide product, the intended date of application, an Internet address on pesticide use and reduction, and the Internet address where the school site integrated pest management plan may be found if the school site has posted the plan.

### **Transportation:**

A bus fee is collected in order to maintain bus service to our students. Our goal is to maintain quality service at the lowest possible price.

	<b><u>Annual Fee</u></b>	<b><u>Semi-Annual Fee</u></b>	<b><u>Per Month</u></b>
One Pupil	\$330.00	\$218.00	\$44.00
Two Pupils	\$470.00	\$291.00	\$59.00
Three or more Pupils	\$554.00	\$341.00	\$68.00
	<b><u>Reduced</u></b>	<b><u>Reduced</u></b>	<b><u>Reduced</u></b>
	<b><u>Annual Fee</u></b>	<b><u>Semi-Annual Fee</u></b>	<b><u>Per Month</u></b>
One Pupil	\$165.00	\$109.00	\$22.00
Two Pupils	\$235.00	\$146.00	\$30.00
Three or more Pupils	\$277.00	\$170.00	\$68.00

Single ride (one way) tickets are available for \$3.00 and must be purchased from the school office. An application also needs to be completed at the school site when you purchase the tickets. Students who qualify for free or reduced lunch may qualify for free or reduced bus service. Qualification criteria and applications will be included in our summer mailing packet to parents.

### **Schoolbus Safety – EC 39831.5 (K-8)**

All pupils in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1 to 6, shall receive written information on school bus safety (i.e., a list of school bus stops near each pupil's home, general rules of conduct at school bus loading zones, red light crossing instructions, school bus danger zone, and walking to and from school bus stops). Prior to departure on a school activity trip, all pupils riding on a school bus or school activity bus shall receive safety instruction that includes, but is not limited to, location of emergency exits, and location and use of emergency equipment. Instruction also may include responsibilities of passengers seated next to an emergency exit.

### **Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (e-cigarettes) – PC 308**

The Sulphur Springs Union School District prohibits the use of electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) such as e-cigarettes, hookah pens, cigarillos, and other vapor-emitting devices, with or without nicotine content, that mimic the use of tobacco products on all district property and in district vehicles at all times. ENDS are often made to look like cigarettes, cigars and pipes, but can also be made to look like everyday items such as pens, asthma inhalers and beverage containers. These devices are not limited to vaporizing nicotine; they can be used to vaporize other drugs such as marijuana, cocaine, and heroin.

Students using, in possession of, or offering, arranging or negotiating to sell ENDS can be subject to disciplinary action, particularly because ENDS are considered drug paraphernalia, as defined by 11014.5 of the Health and Safety Code. Section 308 of the Penal Code also states that every person under 18 years of age who purchases, receives, or possesses any tobacco, cigarette, or cigarette papers, or any other preparation of tobacco, or any other instrument or paraphernalia that is designed for the smoking of tobacco, tobacco products, or any controlled substance shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of seventy-five dollars (\$75) or 30 hours of community service work.

### **Tobacco-free Campus – BPC 22950.5; HSC 104420, 104495, 104559, PC 308**

The use of tobacco and nicotine products is prohibited on school or district grounds, buildings, and vehicles, and within 250 feet of a youth sports event. Tobacco products include, but is not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, little cigars, chewing tobacco, pipe tobacco, snuff, or an electronic device (e.g., electronic cigarette, cigar, pipe, or hookah) that delivers nicotine or other vaporized liquids.

### **Parent Participation in School Meetings and Conferences – LC 230.8**

If the parent's employer has 25 or more employees, the parent must be allowed to attend school meetings and events for your children, up to a maximum of 40 hours each year without discrimination or fear of job loss. Purposes to attend child-related activities include enrollment in grades 1-12, to address child care or school emergency, behavior or discipline problem that requires immediate parent attention, sudden school closure, or natural disaster. ("Parent" means a parent, guardian, stepparent, foster parent, or grandparent of, or a person who stands in.) If an employer discharges, threatens to discharge, demotes, suspends or otherwise discriminates against the parent, the employee may be entitled to reinstatement and reimbursement for lost income or benefits. See Labor Code 230.8 for more details.

### **Minimum & Pupil-free Staff Development Days – EC 48980(c)**

The school calendars are included with this annual notification. If minimum or pupil-free staff development days are scheduled after the start of the school year, the school will notify parents and guardians of affected pupils as early as possible, with at least one-month advanced notice.

**Ralph M. Brown Act: Required Notices and Agendas for Open Public Meetings – GC 54954.2, 54956, 54956.5, 54954.2, 54954.5, 54957.1, 54957.7, and 54954.2(b)**

Government Code 54954.2 provides that the agenda description must contain a “brief general description” of both open and closed session items. It further states that the description generally does not need to exceed 20 words.

REGULAR MEETINGS: Agenda in 20 words or less, posted within 72 hours of meeting.

SPECIAL MEETINGS: Twenty-four-hour notice must be provided to members of the legislative body and media outlets including brief general description of matters to be considered or discussed.

EMERGENCY MEETINGS: One hour notice in case of work stoppage or crippling activity, except in the case of a dire emergency.

CLOSED SESSION AGENDAS: All items to be considered in closed session must be described in the notice or agenda for the meeting. The body must orally announce the subject matter of the closed session. If final action is taken in closed session, the body generally must report the action at the conclusion of the closed session.

AGENDA EXCEPTION: Special procedures permit a body to proceed without an agenda in the case of emergency circumstances, or where a need for immediate action came to the attention of the body after posting the agenda.

Open Meetings: Public Comments: Translation: As a parent, you have a right to participate in open meetings with the school district or charter school. If you require a translator, one will be provided to you with the time allotment doubled to allow for both English and primary language translation.

Further Information is Available: Further information regarding our district schools, programs, policies, and procedures is available to any interested person upon request to our district office. Please see below for Board Policies and Administrative Regulations:

[Board Policy 0410 Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities](#)

[Board Policy 5146 Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students](#)

[Board Policy 5145.3 Nondiscrimination/Harassment](#)

[Board Policy 5145.7 Sexual Harassment](#)

[Board Policy 1312.3 Uniform Complaint Procedures](#)

[Administrative Regulation 1312.3 Uniform Complaint Procedures](#)

[Board Policy 5145.13 Response to Immigration Enforcement](#)

[Administrative Regulation 5145.13 Response to Immigration Enforcement](#)

[Board Policy 5141.52 Suicide Prevention](#)

[Administrative Regulation 5141.52 Suicide Prevention](#)

## DISTRICT CALENDAR

**2023/2024**

### Minimum Days & Pupil Free Staff Development Days

August 10, 2023	First Day of School
September 14, 2023	Minimum Day
September 26, 2023	Minimum Day / Goal Setting
September 28, 2023	Minimum Day / Goal Setting
September 29, 2023	Pupil Free Day/ Goal Setting
October 31, 2023	Minimum Day
November 1, 2023	No School/ Professional Development Day
February 22, 2024	Minimum Day
March 5, 2024	Minimum Day
March 7, 2024	Minimum Day/Parent Conferences
March 8, 2024	Pupil Free Day/Parent Conferences
May 16, 2024	Minimum Day
June 6, 2024	Minimum Day/Last Day of School

### Early Dismissal Every Wednesday

1:15 pm	Canyon Springs, Leona Cox, Pinetree
1:45 pm	Golden Oak, Mint Canyon, Mitchell
2:15 pm	Fair Oaks Ranch, Sulphur Springs, Valley View