

**SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Agenda Item# 8.1d

**Meeting Date:**      November 6, 2014

**Subject:**      Approve Amended Changes to Board Policy 5150: Foster Youth to be  
                         Titled as Board Policy 6173.1: Foster Youth

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: \_\_\_\_\_)
- Conference/Action
- Action
- Public Hearing

**Department:**

# Sacramento City USD

## Board Policy

### **Education For Foster Youth**

#### **BP 6173.1**

#### **Instruction**

The Governing Board acknowledges its obligation to support foster youth. The increasing number of foster youth in our district may lead to unstable school placements. In addition, many foster youth have experienced trauma and loss, both of which are known to affect students' academic achievement. Multiple barriers facing foster youth may also result in an increase in classroom absences and students missing out on valuable academic time. Loss of school time may cause many foster youth to fall behind their peers and eventually lose interest in school.

This policy will set a course of action for staff, administrators and schools to follow in order to comply with current legislation to address the needs and rights of foster youth in our district. This policy includes regulations regarding the district's educational requirements for foster youth, foster youth enrollment, transfer of course work and credits, graduation requirements and extra-curricular activities.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the protection of foster youth rights and that foster youth receive the necessary tools and supports needed to ensure that their educational experiences are successful.

- (.6 - Alcohol and Other Drugs)
- Dropout Prevention)
- At-Risk Students)
- Academic Standards)
- Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

satisfies the criteria specified in Education Code 42238.01.  
(Education Code 42238.01, 48853.5)

Pursuant to Education Code 42238.01, as added by AB 97 (Ch. 47, Statutes of 2013), “foster youth” includes a nonminor who is under the transition jurisdiction of the juvenile court and satisfies criteria specified in law.

*Person holding the right to make educational decisions* means a responsible adult appointed by a court pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 361 or 726.

In instances where the rights of the parent/guardian have been limited, the court may appoint an educational representative on a temporary or long-term basis to make educational decisions for the student.

*School of origin* means the school that the foster youth attended when permanently housed or the school in which he/she was last enrolled. If the school the foster youth attended when permanently housed is different from the school in which he/she was last enrolled, or if there is some other school that the foster youth attended within the preceding 15 months and with which the youth is connected, the district liaison for foster youth shall determine, in consultation with and with the agreement of the foster youth and the person holding the right to make educational decisions for the youth, and in the best interests of the foster youth, which school is the school of origin. (Education Code 48853.5)

*Best interests* means that, in making educational and school placement decisions for a foster youth, consideration is given to, among other factors, educational stability, the opportunity to be educated in the least restrictive educational setting necessary to achieve academic progress, and the foster youth’s access to academic resources, services, and extracurricular and enrichment activities that are available to all district students.  
(Education Code 48850, 48853)

### **School climate**

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

*(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)*

*(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)*

*(cf. 5131 - Conduct)*

*(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)*

*(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)*

*(cf. 5138 - Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation)*

*(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)*

*(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)*  
*(cf. 6020 – Parent Involvement)*

### **District Liaison**

Pursuant to Education Code 48853.5, districts are required to designate a staff person as the educational liaison for foster youth.

The Superintendent designates the following position as the district’s educational liaison for foster youth: (Education Code 48853.5)

Coordinator, Foster Youth Services  
5735 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Box # 763  
Sacramento, CA 95824  
(916) 643-9409

### **Enrollment**

Education Code 48853 and 48853.5 provide regulations regarding the educational rights of foster youth.

A student placed in a licensed children’s institution or foster family home within the district shall attend programs operated by the district unless one of the following circumstances applies: (Education Code 48853, 48853.5)

a.

served by his/her transfer to a school other than the school of origin, the principal or designee of the new school shall immediately enroll the foster youth. The foster youth shall be immediately enrolled even if he/she: (Education Code 48853.5)

- a. Has outstanding fees, fines, textbooks, or other items or monies due to the school last attended;  
(*cf.* 5125.2 -

## **Graduation Requirements**

Pursuant to Education Code 51225.3, any foster youth who transfers into the district or between district schools in grades 11-12 is exempted from locally established high school









Sacramento  
City Unified  
School District

# SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 10.1

**Meeting Date:** September 4, 2014

**Subject:** New Foster Youth Board Policy – BP 5150

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading
- Conference/Action
- Action
- Public Hearing

**Department:**

Youth Development Support Services Department

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**Recommendation:**

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# Board of Education Executive Summary

## Department Name: Youth Development Support Services

Sacramento  
City Unified  
School District

Agenda Title: New Foster Youth Board Policy

Date of Board Meeting: September 4, 2014

### I. OVERVIEW / HISTORY

The proposed new Foster Youth Board Policy will ensure the district's alignment with current legislative requirements, and continue the work of Foster Youth Services (FYS) as presented to the Board on August 21, 2104.

### III. BUDGET

N/A

### IV. GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND MEASURES

N/A

### V. MAJOR INITIATIVES

The purpose of this Board presentation is to request approval for the new Foster Youth Board Policy, as previously presented to Board.

The major initiatives of the proposed Foster Youth Board Policy are:

[REDACTED]

**Board of Education Executive Summary**  
**Department Name: Youth Development Support**  
**Services**



Agenda Title: New Foster Youth Board Policy  
Date of Board Meeting: September 4, 2014

**VI. RESULTS**

N/A

**VII. LESSONS LEARNED / NEXT STEPS**

If the new Foster Youth Board Policy is approved by Board, the following next steps will be implemented in order to develop the Administrative Regulations and continue the Foster Youth Services work.

- The FYS Coordinator/Ed Liaison, in collaboration with the FYS stakeholders group, will



- The FYS Coordinator/Ed Liaison shall work with registrars, counselors and administrators to develop and maintain protocol regarding the issuance of partial credits in SCUSD;
- FYS Department will continue ongoing focus on Whole Child-Whole Year, by continuing to provide foster youth with priority access and intentional engagement into youth development and other support programming;
- Utilizing Social Justice Youth Development principal of keeping youth at the center, FYS has developed a Foster Youth Council. This advisory group consists of foster youth student representatives from various school sites who will work in partnership with the

# Sacramento City USD

## Board Policy Foster Youth

BP

The Governing Board acknowledges its obligation to support foster youth and provide them with full access to the district's educational program, as well as implement strategies as necessary to improve academic achievement and behavioral performance of foster youth in the district.

The Governing Board also recognizes that foster youth are a very transient population

[REDACTED]

(Education Code 42238.01, 48853.5)

Pursuant to Education Code 42238.01, as added by AB 97 (Ch. 47, Statutes of 2013), "foster youth" includes a nonminor who is under the transition jurisdiction of the juvenile court and satisfies criteria specified in law.

*Person holding the right to make educational decisions* means a responsible adult appointed by a court pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 361 or 726.

In instances where the rights of the parent/guardian have been limited, the court may:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

appoint an educational representative on a temporary or long-term basis to make educational decisions for the student

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

*(cf. 6020 – Parent Involvement)*

**District Liaison**

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5735 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Box # 763  
Sacramento, CA 95822  
(916) 643-9489

**Enrollment**

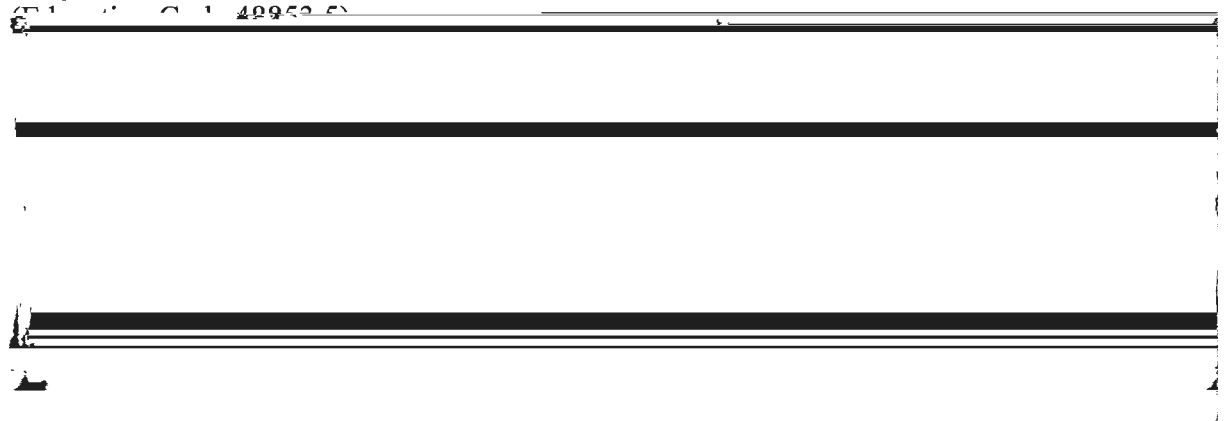
Education Code 48853 and 48853.5 provide regulations regarding the educational rights of foster youth.



of the new school shall immediately enroll the foster youth. The foster youth shall be immediately enrolled even if he/she: (Education Code 48853.5)

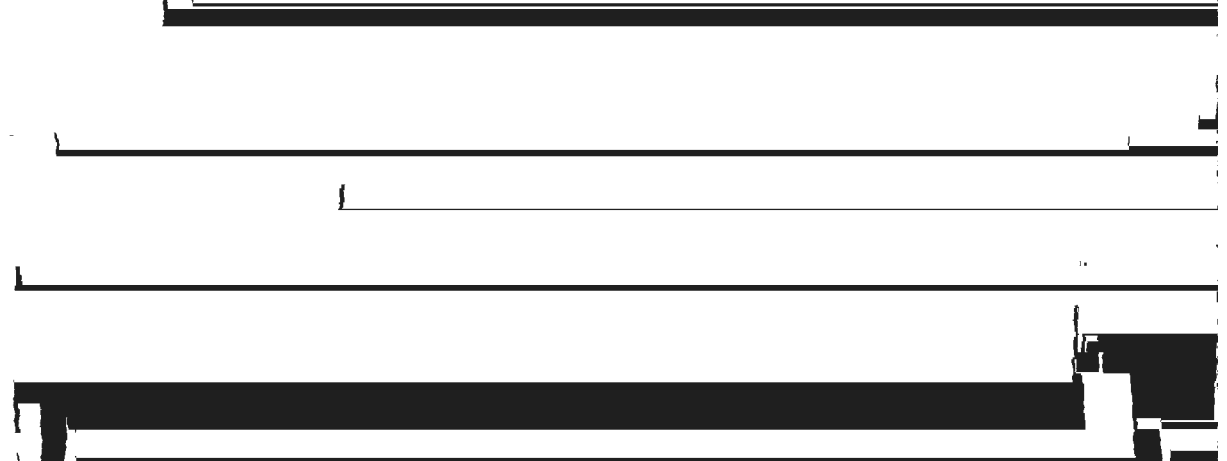
- a. Has outstanding fees, fines, textbooks, or other items or monies due to the school last attended;  
(*cf. 5125.2 - Withholding Grades, Diploma or Transcripts*)
- b. Does not have clothing normally required by the school, such as school uniforms  
(*cf. 5132 - Dress and Grooming*)
- c. Is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment, such as previous academic records, proof of residency, and medical records, including, but not limited to, immunization records or other documentation  
(*cf. 5141.26 - Tuberculosis Testing*)  
(*cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations*)  
(*cf. 5141.32 - Health Screening for School Entry*)

If any dispute arises regarding the request of a foster youth to remain in the school of origin, the youth has the right to remain in the school of origin pending resolution of the dispute.



**Effect of Absences on Grades**

The grades of a student in foster care shall not be lowered for any absence from school that is



Pursuant to Education Code 51225.3, any foster youth who transfers into the district or between district schools in grades 11-12 is exempted from locally established high school graduation requirements.

To obtain a high school diploma, a foster youth shall pass the high school exit examination in English language and mathematics, complete all courses required by Education Code

[REDACTED]

51225.3, and fulfill any additional graduation requirement prescribed by the Board.

*(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)*

[REDACTED]



Education Code 48853.5 encourages districts to collaborate with other agencies to provide

[REDACTED]

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

[REDACTED]

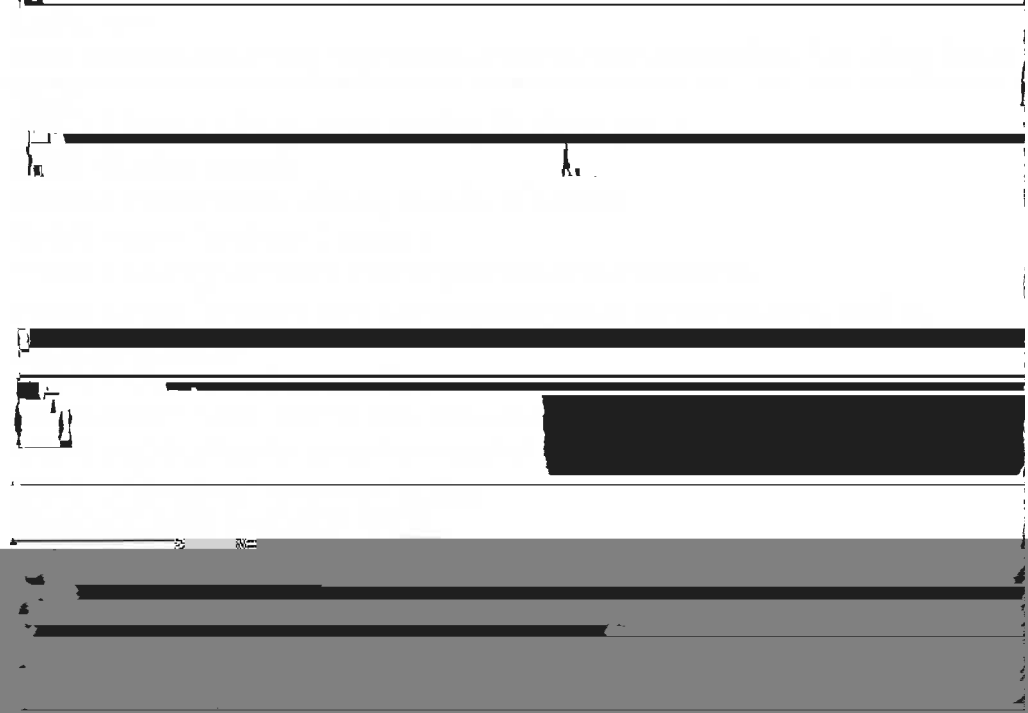
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[REDACTED]

42920-42925 Foster children educational services

48645-48646 Juvenile court schools

~~48950-48950 Educational placement of students residing in licensed child-care~~



institutions

48915.5 Suspension and expulsion; students with disabilities, including foster youth

48918.1 Notice of expulsion hearing for foster youth

49061 Student records

~~49069.5 Foster care students transfer of records~~



49076 Access to student records

51225.1 Exemption from district graduation requirements

51225.2 Pupil in foster care defined; acceptance of coursework, credits, retaking of course

51225.3 High school graduation

52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Board Policy  
Foster Youth**

BP

The Governing Board acknowledges its obligation to support foster youth and provide

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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(cf. 6020 – Parent Involvement)

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**Enrollment**

of foster youth.

A student placed in a licensed children’s institution or foster family home within the district

[Redacted content]

served by his/her transfer to a school other than the school of origin, the principal or designee of the new school shall immediately enroll the foster-youth. The foster-youth shall be

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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## Graduation Requirements

Purpose: 17

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graduation requirements,

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To obtain a high school diploma, a foster youth shall pass the high school exit examination in English language and mathematics, complete all courses required by Education Code 51225.3, and fulfill any additional graduation requirement prescribed by the Board.

*(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)*

*(cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)*

However, when a foster youth who has completed his/her second year of high school

transfers into the district from another school district or transfers between high schools

## Outstanding fees

Education Code 48904 (b) (2)) provides the process for all students to participate in a

[Redacted text]

**Collaboration & Information Sharing**

services to foster youth.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

**Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)**

pursuant to Education Code 52060, as added by AB 07 (Ch. 47 Statutes of 2012), each

[Redacted]

**Foster Youth Council**

[Redacted]



