

**All Personnel**

BP 4156.3

4256.3

**EMPLOYEE PROPERTY REIMBURSEMENT**

4356.3

The Board of Trustees does not authorize payment for the reimbursement of employee personal property which may be stolen or intentionally destroyed or damaged while being used for work-related purposes.

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

*35213 Reimbursement for loss, destruction or damage of personal property*

*48904 Liability of parent/guardian for willful misconduct; withholding of grades, diplomas and transcripts*

CIVIL CODE

*1714.1 Liability of parent or guardian for act of willful misconduct by a minor*

**All Personnel**

BP 4157.1

4257.1

**WORK-RELATED INJURIES**

4357.1

The Board of Trustees desires to provide its employees with insurance and workers' compensation benefits in accordance with law. The Superintendent or designee shall develop an efficient claims handling process in order to reduce costs and facilitate employee recovery.

- (cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)*
- (cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)*
- (cf. 4113.4/4213.4/4313.4 - Temporary Modified/Light-Duty Assignment)*
- (cf. 4154/4254/4354 - Health and Welfare Benefits)*
- (cf. 4157/4257/4357 - Employee Safety)*
- (cf. 4157.2/4257.2/4357.2 - Ergonomics)*
- (cf. 4161.11/4361.11 - Industrial Accident/Illness Leave)*
- (cf. 4261.11 - Industrial Accident/Illness Leave)*

An employee shall report any work-related injury or illness to his/her supervisor as soon as practicable. Upon learning of an injury, a supervisor shall promptly report the incident to the Superintendent or designee and the insurance carrier as appropriate.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that every new employee is notified of his/her right to receive workers' compensation if injured at work and that injured employees are given notice of rights in accordance with law.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that notifications regarding workers' compensation are posted in accordance with law.

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

*44984 Industrial accident and illness leaves, certificated employees*

*45192 Industrial accident and illness leaves, classified employees*

LABOR CODE

*3200-4855 Workers' compensation, especially:*

*3550-3553 Employee notice*

*3600-3605 Conditions of liability*

*3760 Report of injury to insurer*

*4600 Provision of medical and hospital treatment by employer*

*4906 Disclosures and statements*

*5400-5413 Notice of injury or death*

*6409.1 Reports*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 8

*15596 Notice of employee rights*

*Management Resources:*

WEB SITES

*California Department of Industrial Relations: <http://www.dir.ca.gov>*

Policy  
adopted: January 4, 2012

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Biggs, California

**All Personnel**

AR4157.1(a)

4257.1

**WORK-RELATED INJURIES**

4357.1

In order to provide medical benefits, temporary or permanent disability benefits, wage replacement, retraining or skill enhancement, and/or death benefits in the event that an employee becomes injured or ill in the course of employment, the district shall provide all employees with insurance and workers' compensation benefits in accordance with law. The Superintendent or designee shall develop an efficient claims handling process that reduces costs and facilitates employee recovery.

*(cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)*

*(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)*

*(cf. 4113.4/4213.4/4313.4 - Temporary Modified/Light-Duty Assignment)*

*(cf. 4154/4254/4354 - Health and Welfare Benefits)*

*(cf. 4157/4257/4357 - Employee Safety)*

*(cf. 4157.2/4257.2/4357.2 - Ergonomics)*

*(cf. 4161.11/4261.11/4361.11 - Industrial Accident/Illness Leave)*

The Superintendent or designee shall notify every new employee, at the time of hire or by the end of the first pay period, of his/her right to receive workers' compensation benefits if injured at work. (Labor Code 3551; 8 CCR 15596)

*(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)*

In addition, a notice regarding workers' compensation benefits shall be posted in a conspicuous location frequented by employees, where the notice may be easily read during the workday. (Labor Code 3550)

In the event that an employee is injured or becomes ill in the course of employment, he/she shall report the work-related injury or illness to the Superintendent or designee as soon as practicable.

Within one working day of receiving notice or knowledge of any injury to an employee in the course of employment, the Superintendent or designee shall provide a claim form and notice of potential eligibility for workers' compensation benefits to the employee or, in the case of the employee's death, to his/her dependents. The claim form and notice shall be provided personally or by first class mail. (Labor Code 5401)

The Superintendent or designee shall additionally ensure that any employee who is a victim of a crime that occurred at the place of employment is given written notice personally or by first class mail within one working day of the crime, or when the district reasonably should have known of the crime, that the employee is eligible for workers' compensation benefits for injuries, including psychiatric injuries, that may have resulted from the crime. (Labor Code 3553)

**All Personnel**

AR4157.1(b)

4257.1

**WORK-RELATED INJURIES – (Continued)**

4357.1

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all employee notices described above are in the form prescribed by the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR), Division of Workers Compensation.

Upon learning of a work-related injury or illness, or injury or illness alleged to have arisen out of and in the course of employment, the Superintendent or designee shall report the incident to the district's insurance carrier within five days after obtaining knowledge of the injury or illness. If a subsequent death arises as a result of the reported injury or illness, an amended report indicating the death must be filed with the insurance carrier within five days after being notified of or learning about the death. (Labor Code 6409.1)

In addition, in every case involving death or serious injury or illness, the Superintendent or designee shall immediately make a report by telephone or email to the Division of Occupational Safety and Health. (Labor Code 6409.1)

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

44984 *Industrial accident and illness leaves, certificated employees*

45192 *Industrial accident and illness leaves, classified employees*

LABOR CODE

3200-4855 *Workers' compensation, especially:*

3550-3553 *Employee notice*

3600-3605 *Conditions of liability*

3760 *Report of injury to insurer*

4600 *Provision of medical and hospital treatment by employer*

4906 *Disclosures and statements*

5400-5413 *Notice of injury or death*

6409.1 *Reports*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 8

15596 *Notice of employee rights*

*Management Resources:*

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS PUBLICATIONS

*A Guidebook for Injured Workers, 2016*

*Notice to Employees -- Injuries Caused by Work*

*Time of Hire Pamphlet*

*Workers' Compensation Claim Form (DWC 1) & Notice of Potential Eligibility*

WEB SITES

*California Department of Industrial Relations, Division of Occupational Safety and Health:*

*<http://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh>*

*California Department of Industrial Relations, Division of Workers Compensation:*

*<http://www.dir.ca.gov/dwc>*

(10/95 7/02) 10/1

Regulation  
approved: January 11, 2017

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Biggs, California

**All Personnel**

AR 4157.2(a)

4257.2

**ERGONOMICS**

4357.2

The Superintendent or designee shall implement an ergonomics program to identify risk factors in the work environment that may result in injuries or illnesses to employees and shall design measures to mitigate such risk factors. The program shall include a study of body movements and positions used during work, the tools and equipment used, the physical environment (such as temperature, noise, and lighting), and the organizational environment (such as deadlines, teamwork, and supervision) in order to identify potential causes of stress on the body over time, such as exertion or strain, awkward or sustained posture, or repeated motions.

An employee who experiences pain, numbness, stiffness, swelling, tingling, weakness, or other symptom(s) of a repetitive motion injury (RMI) or other musculoskeletal disorder that may be caused or aggravated by workplace conditions shall report the problem to his/her supervisor.

*(cf. 4157.1/4257.1/4357.1 - Work-Related Injuries)*

When an RMI which is objectively identified and diagnosed by a licensed physician to be a musculoskeletal injury has been reported by two or more district employees within a 12-month period, and is determined to be predominantly caused by a repetitive job, process, or operation of an identical work activity, the Superintendent or designee shall: (8 CCR 5110)

1. Evaluate each job, process, or operation of identical work activity at the work site, or a representative number of such jobs, processes, or operations of identical work activities, for exposures which have caused RMIs
2. Correct in a timely manner, or minimize to the extent feasible if correction is not possible, any exposures that have caused RMIs, taking into consideration engineering controls such as work station redesign, adjustable fixtures, or tool redesign, and administrative controls such as job rotation, work pacing, or work breaks
3. Provide staff training that includes an explanation of:
  - a. The district's ergonomics program
  - b. The exposures that have been associated with RMIs
  - c. The symptoms and consequences of injuries caused by repetitive motion
  - d. The importance of reporting symptoms and injuries to the district
  - e. Methods used by the district to minimize RMIs

Strategies adopted for identifying and correcting workplace conditions or practices that may increase employees' risk of RMIs may be incorporated into the district's injury and illness

**ERGONOMICS** (continued)

prevention program developed pursuant to Labor Code 6401.7 and 8 CCR 3203.

(cf. 4157/4257/4357 - Employee Safety)

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

44984 Industrial accident and illness leaves, certificated employees

45192 Industrial accident and illness leaves, classified employees

GOVERNMENT CODE

21153 Employer not to separate for disability members eligible to retire

LABOR CODE

142.3 Adoption, amendment or repeal of standards and orders

3200-4855 Workers' compensation, especially:

3550-3553 Employee notice

3600-3605 Conditions of liability

3760 Report of injury to insurer

4600 Provision of medical and hospital treatment by employer

4906 Disclosures and statements

5400-5404 Notice of injury or death

6303 Place of employment; employment

6305 Occupational safety and health standards; special orders

6310 Retaliation for filing complaint prohibited

6357 Standards for workplace ergonomics

6401.7 Injury prevention programs

6409.1 Reports

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 8

3203 Injury and Illness Prevention Program

5110 Repetitive motion injuries

*Management Resources:*

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS, DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH PUBLICATIONS

*Ergonomic Hazards, Fact Sheet H*

*Guide to Developing Your Workplace Injury and Illness Prevention Program, rev. May 2011*

WEB SITES

*California Department of Industrial Relations, Division of Occupational Safety and Health:*

*<http://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh>*

(10/97) 7/18

**All Personnel**

BP 4158(a)

4258

**EMPLOYEE SECURITY**

4358

The Board of Trustees desires to provide a safe and orderly work environment for all employees. As part of the district's comprehensive safety plan, the Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies for protecting employees from potentially dangerous persons and situations and for providing necessary assistance and support when emergency situations occur.

*(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)*

*(cf. 3515 - Campus Security)*

*(cf. 5131.4 - Student Disturbances)*

Any employee against whom violence or any threat of violence has been directed in the workplace shall notify the Superintendent or designee immediately. As appropriate, the Superintendent or designee shall initiate legal and security measures to protect the employee and others in the workplace.

The Superintendent or designee may pursue legal action on behalf of an employee against a student or his/her parent/guardian to recover damages to the employee or his/her property caused by the student's willful misconduct that occurred on district property, at a school or district activity, or in retaliation for lawful acts of the employee in the performance of his/her duties. (Education Code 48904, 48905)

*(cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)*

*(cf. 3515.4 - Recovery for Property Loss or Damage)*

*(cf. 4156.3/4256.3/4356.3 - Employee Property Reimbursement)*

*(cf. 5125.2 - Withholding Grades, Diploma or Transcripts)*

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that employees receive training in crisis prevention and intervention techniques in order to protect themselves and students. Staff development may include training in classroom management, effective communication techniques, procedures for responding to an active shooter situation, and crisis resolution.

*(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)*

*(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)*

*(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)*

The Superintendent or designee also shall inform teachers, in accordance with law, of crimes and offenses committed by students who may pose a danger in the classroom. (Education Code 48201, 49079; Welfare and Institutions Code 827)

The Superintendent or designee may make available at appropriate locations, including, but not limited to, district and school offices, gyms, and classrooms, communication devices that would enable two-way communication with law enforcement and others when emergencies occur.

*(cf. 5141 - Health Care and Emergencies)*

## **EMPLOYEE SECURITY (continued)**

### **Use of Pepper Spray**

Employees shall not carry or possess pepper spray on school property or at school activities, except when authorized by the Superintendent or designee for self-defense purposes. When allowed, an employee may only possess pepper spray in accordance with administrative regulations and Penal Code 22810. Any employee who is negligent or careless in the possession or handling of pepper spray shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary measures.

*(cf. 4118 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)*

*(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)*

### **Reporting of Injurious Objects**

The Board requires employees to take immediate action upon being made aware that any person is in possession of a weapon or unauthorized injurious object on school grounds or at a school-related or school-sponsored activity. The employee shall use his/her own judgment as to the potential danger involved and shall do one of the following:

1. Confiscate the object and deliver it to the principal immediately
2. Immediately notify the principal, who shall take appropriate action
3. Immediately call 911 and the principal

*(cf. 3515.7 - Firearms on School Grounds)*

*(cf. 5131.7 - Weapons and Dangerous Instruments)*

*(cf. 5144 - Discipline)*

*(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)*

*(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))*

When informing the principal about the possession or seizure of a weapon or dangerous device, the employee shall report the name(s) of persons involved, witnesses, location, and the circumstances of any seizure.

*Legal Reference: See next page*



## **EMPLOYEE SECURITY (continued)**

### *Legal Reference:*

#### EDUCATION CODE

32210-32212 *Willful disturbance, public schools or meetings*

32225-32226 *Communication devices*

35208 *Liability insurance*

35213 *Reimbursement for loss, destruction or damage of school property*

44014 *Report of assault by pupil against school employee*

44807 *Duty concerning conduct of students*

48201 *Transfer of student records*

48900-48926 *Suspension or expulsion*

49079 *Notification to teacher; student who has engaged in acts re: grounds suspension or expulsion*

49330-49335 *Injurious objects*

#### CIVIL CODE

51.7 *Freedom from violence or intimidation*

#### CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

527.8 *Workplace violence safety*

#### GOVERNMENT CODE

995-996.4 *Defense of public employees*

3543.2 *Scope of representation*

#### PENAL CODE

71 *Threatening public officers and employees and school officials*

240-246.3 *Assault and battery, especially:*

241.3 *Assault against school bus drivers*

241.6 *Assault on school employee including board member*

243.3 *Battery against school bus drivers*

243.6 *Battery against school employee including board member*

245.5 *Assault with deadly weapon against school employee including board member*

290 *Registration of sex offenders*

601 *Trespass by person making credible threat*

626-626.11 *School crimes*

646.9 *Stalking*

22810 *Purchase, possession, and use of tear gas*

#### WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

827 *Juvenile court proceedings; reports; confidentiality*

828.1 *District police or security department, disclosure of juvenile records*

#### COURT DECISIONS

*City of San Jose v. William Garbett, (2010) 190 Cal. App. 4th 526*

### *Management Resources:*

#### WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education, Safe Schools and Violence Prevention Office:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss>

(7/01 3/11) 5/18

Policy  
adopted: January 4, 2012  
revised: August 1, 2018

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Biggs, California

**All Personnel**

AR 4158(a)

4258

**EMPLOYEE SECURITY**

4358

An employee may use reasonable and necessary force for self-defense or defense of another person, to quell a disturbance threatening physical injury to others or damage to property, or to obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects within the control of a student. (Education Code 44807, 49001)

*(cf. 5131.7 - Weapons and Dangerous Instruments)*

*(cf. 5144 - Discipline)*

An employee shall promptly report to the principal or other immediate supervisor any attack, assault, or physical threat made against him/her by a student or by any other individual in relation to the employee's performance of his/her duties, and any action the employee took in response. When appropriate, the employee and the principal or other immediate supervisor shall report the incident to law enforcement.

*(cf. 3515.2 - Disruptions)*

Reports of attack, assault, or threat shall be forwarded immediately to the Superintendent or designee.

*(cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)*

*(cf. 3515.4 - Recovery for Property Loss or Damage)*

*(cf. 3530 - Risk Management/Insurance)*

**Notice Regarding Student Offenses Committed While Under School Jurisdiction**

The Superintendent or designee shall inform the teacher(s) of each student who, during the previous three school years, has engaged in or is reasonably suspected to have engaged in any act, except the possession or use of tobacco products, that would constitute a ground for suspension or expulsion as specified in AR 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process. This information shall be based upon district records maintained in the ordinary course of business or records received from a law enforcement agency. (Education Code 49079)

*(cf. 5125 - Student Records)*

*(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)*

Upon receiving a transfer student's record regarding acts committed by the student that resulted in his/her suspension or expulsion, the Superintendent or designee shall inform the student's teacher(s) that the student was suspended from school or expelled from his/her former district and of the act that resulted in the suspension or expulsion. (Education Code 48201)

Information received by teacher(s) shall be received in confidence for the limited purpose for which it was provided and shall not be further disseminated by the teacher. (Education Code 49079)

**EMPLOYEE SECURITY** (continued)

**Notice Regarding Student Offenses Committed While Outside School Jurisdiction**

When a minor student has been found by a court of competent jurisdiction to have illegally used, sold, or possessed a controlled substance or committed specified crimes involving serious acts of violence, the district police or security department may provide written notification to the Superintendent. (Welfare and Institutions Code 828.1)

*(cf. 3515.3 - District Police/Security Department)*

When informed by the court that a minor student has been found by a court to have committed any felony or any misdemeanor involving curfew, gambling, alcohol, drugs, tobacco products, carrying of weapons, a sex offense listed in Penal Code 290, assault or battery, larceny, vandalism, or graffiti, the Superintendent or designee shall so inform the school principal. (Welfare and Institutions Code 827)

The principal shall disseminate this information to any counselor who directly supervises or reports on the student's behavior or progress. The principal shall also inform any teacher or administrator directly supervising or reporting on the student's behavior or progress whom he/she thinks may need the information so as to work with the student appropriately, avoid being needlessly vulnerable, or protect others from vulnerability. (Welfare and Institutions Code 827)

Any court-initiated information that a teacher, counselor, or administrator receives shall be kept confidential and used only to rehabilitate the student and protect other students and staff. The information shall be further disseminated only when communication with the student, parent/guardian, law enforcement staff, and probation officer is necessary to rehabilitate the student or to protect students and staff. (Welfare and Institutions Code 827)

When a student is removed from school as a result of his/her offense, the Superintendent shall hold the court's information in a separate confidential file until the student is returned to the district. If the student is returned to a different district, the Superintendent shall transmit the information provided by the student's parole or probation officer to the superintendent of the new district of attendance. (Welfare and Institutions Code 827)

Any confidential file of court-initiated information shall be kept until the student becomes 18, graduates from high school, or is released from juvenile court jurisdiction, whichever occurs first, and shall then be destroyed. (Welfare and Institutions Code 827)

**Procedures to Maintain Confidentiality of Student Offenses**

In order to maintain confidentiality when providing information about student offenses to counselors and teachers of classes/programs to which a student is assigned, the principal or

**EMPLOYEE SECURITY** (continued)

designee shall send the staff member a written notification that one of his/her students has committed an offense that requires his/her review of a student's file in the school office. This notice shall not name or otherwise identify the student. The staff member shall be asked to initial the notification and return it to the principal or designee. He/she shall also initial the student's file when reviewing it in the school office.

**Use of Pepper Spray**

The Superintendent or designee shall notify employees of the district's policy prohibiting the possession of pepper spray on school property or at school-related activities without prior approval of the Superintendent or designee. Employees wishing to carry pepper spray shall submit to the Superintendent or designee a written request setting forth the need for the pepper spray. The Superintendent or designee shall notify the employee in writing as to whether the request was approved or denied.

When approving an employee's request, the Superintendent or designee shall inform the employee of the following conditions:

1. The pepper spray shall be used only in self-defense.
2. An employee who uses pepper spray other than in self-defense shall be subject to disciplinary action by the district and, in accordance with law, a fine and/or imprisonment.

*(cf. 4118 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)*

*(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)*

3. The pepper spray must be stored in a secure place and not be accessible to students or other individuals. Negligent storage of the pepper spray may subject the employee to disciplinary action.

*(11/00 3/11) 5/18*

**All Personnel**

BP 4159

4259

**EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

4359

Employees shall have confidential access to information about the district's employee assistance program. This information shall be available to all employees and their spouses and dependents.

*(cf. 3513.3 - Tobacco-Free Schools)*  
*(cf. 4020 - Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace)*  
*(cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)*

Management and supervisory staff shall be knowledgeable about the district's employee assistance program and may counsel employees about the program, as appropriate.

Participation in the assistance program shall not jeopardize an employee's employment or career advancement, nor will it protect the employee from disciplinary action for substandard job performance.

*(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)*  
*(cf. 4115 - Evaluation/Supervision)*  
*(cf. 4118 - Suspension/Disciplinary Action)*  
*(cf. 4161/4261/4361 - Leaves)*  
*(cf. 4161.1/4261.1 - Personal Illness/Injury Leave)*  
*(cf. 4161.8/4261.8/4361.8 - Family Care and Medical Leave)*  
*(cf. 4161.9/4261.9/4361.9 - Catastrophic Leave Program)*  
*(cf. 4215 - Evaluation/Supervision)*  
*(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)*  
*(cf. 4315 - Evaluation/Supervision)*  
*(cf. 4361.1 - Personal Illness/Injury Leave)*

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

*35160 Authority of governing board*  
*35160.1 Broad authority of school districts*  
*44962 Leaves of absence for certificated employees*  
*44964 Power to grant leaves of absence for accident, illness or quarantine*  
*45190-45209 Resignations and leaves of absence for classified employees*

GOVERNMENT CODE

*8355 Certification to contracting or granting agency; requisites*

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

*104420 Providing information re: smoking cessation program*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 41

*701-707 Drug-Free Workplace Act*

**All Personnel**

AR 4161(a)

**LEAVES**

4261

4361

**Failure to Return to Service After Leave**

In the case of a certificated employee who was on leave of absence for 20 or more consecutive working days after April 30 of the previous school year, the district may terminate the employment of such an employee if all of the following circumstances exist: (Education Code 44842)

1. The employee fails to report for duty, without good cause, at the beginning of the school year after having notified the Board of Trustees of his/her intention to remain in service with the district in accordance with Education Code 44842.
2. The district had specifically notified the employee, at least five days in advance, of the time and place at which the employee was to report to work.
3. The employee did not request or was not granted a leave of absence authorized by the Board.

*(cf. 4112.1 - Contracts)*

In any such case, the district may terminate the employee's employment on the day following 20 consecutive days of absence. (Education Code 44842)

*(cf. 4117.4 - Dismissal)*

*Legal Reference: (see next page)*

**LEAVES** (continued)

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

- 22850-22856 Pension benefits, STRS members on military leave
- 44018 Compensation for employees on active military duty
- 44036-44037 Leaves of absence for judicial and official appearances
- 44043.5 Catastrophic leave
- 44800 Effect of active military service on status of employees
- 44842 Failure to provide notice or to report to work
- 44940 Sex offenses and narcotic offenses; compulsory leave of absence
- 44962-44988 Leaves of absence (certificated)
- 45059 Employee ordered to active military/naval duty, computation of salary
- 45190-45210 Leaves of absence (classified)

FAMILY CODE

- 297-297.5 Registered domestic partner rights, protections and benefits

GOVERNMENT CODE

- 3543.1 Release time for representatives of employee organizations
- 3543.2 Scope of representation
- 12945.1-12945.2 California Family Rights Act
- 20990-21013 Pension benefits, PERS members on military leave

LABOR CODE

- 230-230.2 Leaves for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or specified felonies
- 230.3 Leave for emergency personnel
- 230.4 Leave for volunteer firefighters
- 230.8 Leave to visit child's school
- 233 Illness of child, parent, spouse or domestic partner

MILITARY AND VETERANS CODE

- 395-395.9 Military leave
- 395.10 Leave when spouse on leave from military deployment

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

- 2601-2654 Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 38

- 4301-4334 Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994

## **Certificated Personnel**

AR 4161.1(a)  
4361.1

### **PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE**

Certificated employees employed five school days per week are entitled to 10 days' leave of absence with full pay for personal illness or injury (sick leave) per school year of service. Employees who work less than five school days per week (part-time employees) shall be granted sick leave in proportion to the time they work. However, any part-time employees who are entitled to less than three days of paid sick leave per year due to the amount of time worked shall be granted sick leave pursuant to Labor Code 246, if they are eligible. (Education Code 44978; Labor Code 245-249)

*(cf. 4161/4261/4361 - Leaves)*

*(cf. 4161.9/4261.9/4361.9 - Catastrophic Leave Program)*

#### **Use of Sick Leave**

Certificated employees may use sick leave for absences due to:

1. Accident or illness, whether or not the absence arises out of and in the course of employment; quarantine which results from contact in the course of employment with other persons having a contagious disease; or temporary inability to perform assigned duties because of illness, accident, or quarantine (Education Code 44964)

*(cf. 4157.1/4257.1/4357.1 - Work-Related Injuries)*

2. Pregnancy, miscarriage, childbirth, and related recovery (Education Code 44965, 44978)

*(cf. 4161.8/4261.8/4361.8 - Family Care and Medical Leave)*

3. Personal necessity (Education Code 44981)

*(cf. 4161.2/4261.2/4361.2 - Personal Leaves)*

4. Medical and dental appointments, in increments of not less than one hour

5. Industrial accidents or illnesses when leave granted specifically for that purpose has been exhausted (Education Code 44984)

*(cf. 4161.11/4261.11/4361.11 - Industrial Accident/Illness Leave)*

6. Need of the employee to bond with a child within one year of the child's birth, adoption, or foster care placement (parental leave) (Education Code 44977.5; Government Code 12945.2, 12945.6; 29 USC 2612; 29 CFR 825.112)

7. Need of the employee or employee's family member, as defined in Labor Code 245.5, for the diagnosis, care, or treatment of an existing health condition or for preventive



**PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE** (continued)

- care (Labor Code 233, 246.5)
8. Need of the employee to seek or obtain any relief or medical attention specified in Labor Code 230(c) and/or 230.1(a) for the health, safety, or welfare of the employee or the employee's child, when the employee has been a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking (Labor Code 233, 246.5)

For the purposes specified in items #7-8, an employee may use, in any calendar year, the amount of sick leave that would be accrued during six months at the employee's then current rate of entitlement. (Labor Code 233)

An employee may take sick leave at any time during the school year, even if credit for sick leave has not yet been accrued. (Education Code 44978)

An employee shall reimburse the district for any unearned sick leave used as of the date of termination.

Unused days of sick leave shall be accumulated from year to year without limitation. (Education Code 44978)

At the beginning of each school year, employees shall be notified of the amount of sick leave they have accumulated.

The district shall not require new employees to waive leave accumulated in a previous district. (Education Code 44979, 44980)

The Superintendent or designee shall notify any certificated employee who leaves the district after at least one school year of employment that if the employee accepts a certificated position in another district, county office of education, or community college district within one year, the employee may request that the district transfer any accumulated sick leave to the new employer. (Education Code 44979, 44980)

**Additional Leave for Disabled Military Veterans**

In addition to any other entitlement for sick leave with pay, a certificated employee who is a former active duty member of the U.S. Armed Forces or a former or current member of the California National Guard or a federal reserve component shall be entitled to sick leave with pay of up to 10 days for the purpose of undergoing medical treatment, including mental health treatment, for a military service-connected disability rated at 30 percent or more by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. An eligible employee who works less than five days per week shall be entitled to such leave in proportion to the time worked. (Education Code 44978.2)

**PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE** (continued)

The amount of leave shall be credited to the employee either on the date the employee receives confirmation of the submission of the disability application to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or on the first day the employee begins or returns to employment after active duty, whichever is later. When the employee receives the disability rating decision, the employee shall report that information to the Superintendent or designee. If the disability rating decision makes the employee eligible for the leave, the time used before the decision shall be counted toward the 10-day maximum leave. If the disability rating decision makes the employee ineligible for the leave, the district may change the sick leave time used before the disability rating decision to an alternative leave balance. (Education Code 44978.2)

The Superintendent or designee may require verification, in accordance with the section "Verification Requirements" below, that the employee used the leave to obtain treatment of a military service-connected disability.

Leave for military-service connected disability shall be available for 12 months following the first date that the leave was credited. Leave not used during the 12-month period shall not be carried over and shall be forfeited. (Education Code 44978.2)

**Notification of Absence**

An employee shall notify the district of the need to be absent as soon as such need is known, so that substitute services may be secured. This notification shall include an estimate of the expected duration of absence. If the absence becomes longer than estimated, the employee shall so notify the district. If the duration of absence becomes shorter than estimated, the employee shall notify the district not later than three o'clock in the afternoon of the day preceding the day on which the employee intends to return to work. If the employee fails to notify the district and the failure results in a substitute being secured, the cost of the substitute shall be deducted from the employee's pay.

*(cf. 4121 - Temporary/Substitute Personnel)*

**Continued Absence After Available Sick Leave Is Exhausted/Differential Pay**

During each school year, when a certificated employee has exhausted all available sick leave, including all accumulated sick leave, and, due to illness or accident, continues to be absent for an additional period of up to five school months, the district shall deduct from the employee's regular salary for that period the actual cost of a substitute to fill the position. If the district has made every reasonable effort to secure the services of a substitute and has been unable to do so, the amount that would have been paid to a substitute shall be deducted from the employee's salary. (Education Code 44977)

An employee shall not be provided more than one five-month period per illness or accident. However, if the school year ends before the five-month period is exhausted, the employee

**PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE** (continued)

may take the balance of the five-month period in a subsequent school year. (Education Code 44977)

**Absence Beyond Five-Month Period/Reemployment List**

If a certificated employee is not medically able to return to work after the five-month period provided pursuant to Education Code 44977, the employee shall be placed either in another position or on a reemployment list. Placement on the reemployment list shall be for 24 months for probationary employees or 39 months for permanent employees and shall begin at the expiration of the five-month period. If during this time the employee becomes medically able, the employee shall be returned to employment in a position for which the employee is credentialed and qualified. (Education Code 44978.1)

*(cf. 4116 - Probationary/Permanent Status)*

**Parental Leave**

During each school year, a certificated employee may use all available sick leave, including accumulated sick leave, for the purpose of parental leave for a period of up to 12 work weeks. The 12-week period shall be reduced by any period of sick leave, including accumulated sick leave, taken during a period of such parental leave. (Education Code 44977.5)

Eligibility for such leave shall not require 1,250 hours of service with the district during the previous 12 months. (Education Code 44977.5)

An employee who has exhausted all available sick leave, including accumulated sick leave, and continues to be absent on account of parental leave shall receive differential pay of at least 50 percent of the employee's regular salary for the remainder of the 12 work weeks. (Education Code 44977.5)

Parental leave taken pursuant to Education Code 44977.5 shall run concurrently with the parental leave taken pursuant to Government Code 12945.2 or 12945.6, and the aggregate amount of parental leave shall not exceed 12 work weeks in a 12-month period. (Education Code 44977.5; Government Code 12945.2, 12945.6)

**Verification Requirements**

After any absence due to illness or injury, the employee shall verify the absence by submitting a completed and signed district absence form to the employee's immediate supervisor.

The Superintendent or designee may require verification whenever an employee's absence record shows chronic absenteeism or a pattern of absences immediately before or after

**PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE** (continued)

weekends and/or holidays or whenever available evidence clearly indicates that an absence is not related to illness or injury.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee may require an employee to visit a physician selected by the district, at district expense, in order to receive a report on the employee's need for further leave of absence and a prognosis as to when the employee will be able to return to work. If the report concludes that the employee's condition does not warrant continued absence, the Superintendent or designee may, after giving notice to the employee, deny further leave.

Any district request for additional verification by an employee's physician or a district-selected physician shall be in writing and shall specify that the report to be submitted to the district should not contain the employee's genetic information. Any genetic information received by the district on behalf of an employee shall be treated as a confidential medical record, maintained in a file separate from the employee's personnel file, and not be disclosed except in accordance with 29 CFR 1635.9.

Before returning to work, an employee who has been absent for surgery, hospitalization, or extended medical treatment may be asked to submit a letter from a physician stating that the employee is able to return to duty and stipulating any necessary restrictions or limitations.

*(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)*

*(cf. 4113.4/4213.4/4313.4 - Temporary Modified/Light-Duty Assignment)*

**Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act Requirements**

No employee shall be denied the right to use accrued sick days, and the district shall not in any manner discriminate or retaliate against an employee for using or attempting to use sick leave, filing a complaint with the Labor Commissioner, or alleging district violation of Labor Code 245-249.

To ensure the district's compliance with Labor Code 245-249, the Superintendent or designee shall:

1. At a conspicuous location in each workplace, display a poster on paid sick leave that includes the following information:
  - a. That an employee is entitled to accrue, request, and use paid sick days
  - b. The number of sick days provided by Labor Code 245-249
  - c. The terms of use of paid sick days

**PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE** (continued)

- d. That discrimination or retaliation against an employee for requesting and/or using sick leave is prohibited by law and that an employee has the right to file a complaint with the Labor Commissioner if the district discriminates or retaliates against the employee
2. Provide at least 24 hours or three days of paid sick leave to each eligible employee to use per year and allow eligible employees to use accrued sick leave upon reasonable request
3. Provide eligible employees written notice, on their pay stub or other document issued with their pay check, of the amount of paid sick leave they have available

(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - *Employee Notifications*)

4. Keep a record documenting the hours worked and paid sick days accrued and used by each eligible employee for three years

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

- 44964 *Power to grant leave of absence in case of illness, accident, or quarantine*
- 44965 *Granting of leaves of absence for pregnancy and childbirth*
- 44976 *Transfer of leave rights when school is transferred to another district*
- 44977 *Salary deduction during absence from duties up to five months after sick leave is exhausted*
- 44977.5 *Differential pay during parental leave up to 12 weeks after sick leave is exhausted*
- 44978 *Provisions for sick leave of certificated employees*
- 44978.1 *Inability to return to duty; placement in another position or on reemployment list*
- 44978.2 *Leave for military service connected disability*
- 44979 *Transfer of accumulated sick leave to another district*
- 44980 *Transfer of accumulated sick leave to a county office of education*
- 44981 *Leave of absence for personal necessity*
- 44983 *Exception to sick leave when district adopts specific rule*
- 44984 *Industrial accident or illness*
- 44986 *Leave of absence for disability allowance applicant*

GOVERNMENT CODE

- 12945.1-12945.2 *California Family Rights Act*
- 12945.6 *Parental leave*

LABOR CODE

- 220 *Sections inapplicable to public employees*
- 230 *Jury duty; legal actions by domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking victims, right to time off*
- 230.1 *Employers with 25 or more employees; domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking victims, right to time off*
- 233 *Illness of child, parent, spouse or domestic partner*
- 234 *Absence control policy*
- 245-249 *Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act of 2014*

*Legal Reference: continued on next page*

**PERSONAL ILLNESS/INJURY LEAVE** (continued)

*Legal Reference: continued*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

5601 *Transfer of accumulated sick leave*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

2601-2654 *Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, as amended*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

2000ff-2000ff-11 *Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 29

825.100-825.702 *Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993*

1635.1-1635.12 *Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008*

COURT DECISIONS

*Veguez v. Governing Board of Long Beach Unified School District, (2005) 127 Cal.App.4th 406*

(3/17 3/18) 3/19

Regulation  
approved: January 4, 2012  
revised: 06/2016; 04/2017;04/2018  
revised: May 1, 2019

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Biggs, California

**INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT/ILLNESS LEAVE**

An eligible employee shall be entitled to a leave of absence for an industrial accident or illness arising in the course of his/her assigned duties. (Education Code 44984, 45192)

*(cf. 4113.4/4213.4/4313.4 - Temporary Modified/Light-Duty Assignment)*

*(cf. 4157/4257/4357 - Employee Safety)*

*(cf. 4157.1/4257.1/4357.1 - Work-Related Injuries)*

*(cf. 4157.2/4257.2/4357.2 - Ergonomics)*

*(cf. 4161/4261/4361 - Leaves)*

For such leave, the employee shall be granted no more than 60 (sixty) working days in any one fiscal year for the same industrial accident or illness.

To be eligible for industrial accident or illness leave, a classified employee shall have served in the district continuously for at least three years.

Allowable industrial accident or illness leave shall not be accumulated from year to year. (Education Code 44984, 45192)

When an employee is absent from his/her duties because of an industrial accident or illness: (Education Code 44043, 44044, 44984, 45192)

1. The leave shall start on the first day of absence.
2. During the period of absence, the employee shall be paid such portion of his/her wage or salary that, when added to the award granted under state workers' compensation laws, will not exceed his/her normal wage or salary.
3. The leave shall be reduced by one day for each day of authorized absence, regardless of an award granted under workers' compensation laws.
4. When the leave overlaps into the next fiscal year, the employee is entitled to only the amount of unused leave due the employee for the same illness or injury.

During any paid leave of absence, the employee shall endorse to the district any workers' compensation checks received on account of an industrial accident or illness. The Superintendent or designee shall then issue payment of the employee's normal wage or salary less any appropriate deductions, including, but not limited to, employee retirement contributions. (Education Code 44043)

Absence for industrial accident or illness shall not be considered a break in service of the employee. An employee using such leave shall retain all status and benefits to which he/she would otherwise be entitled.

**INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT/ILLNESS LEAVE** (continued)

*(cf. 4116 - Probationary/Permanent Status)*  
*(cf. 4154/4254/4354 - Health and Welfare Benefits)*  
*(cf. 4216 - Probationary/Permanent Status)*

When available industrial accident or illness leave has been exhausted, the employee shall be so notified in writing and shall be offered an opportunity to request any additional paid or unpaid leave available to the employee. (Education Code 45192)

*(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)*

Upon expiration of allowable leave for an industrial accident or illness, the employee may use personal illness and injury leave provided pursuant to Education Code 44977, 44978, 44983, or 45191, as applicable, provided that such leave, when added to any continuing workers' compensation award, does not result in a payment to the employee of more than his/her full wage or salary. (Education Code 44984, 45192)

*(cf. 4161.1/4361.1 - Personal Illness/Injury Leave)*  
*(cf. 4261.1 - Personal Illness/Injury Leave)*

If a certificated employee is unable to resume the duties of his/her position after exhausting all accumulated sick leave, including the consecutive five-month period provided by Education Code 44977, he/she shall, if not placed in another position, be placed on a reemployment list for a period of 24 months if he/she is a probationary employee or 39 months if he/she is a permanent employee. If the employee becomes medically able to resume duties during the period of reemployment eligibility, he/she shall be returned to employment in a position for which he/she is credentialed and qualified. (Education Code 44978.1)

If a classified employee has exhausted all available leaves of absence, paid or unpaid, and is not medically able to resume the duties of his/her position, he/she shall, if not placed in another position, be placed on a reemployment list for a period of 39 months. If he/she becomes medically able to resume duties during the period of reemployment eligibility, he/she shall be employed in a vacant position in the class of his/her previous assignment over all other candidates except those on a reemployment list established because of lack of work or lack of funds, in which case the employee shall be listed in accordance with seniority regulations. If the employee is medically released to return to duty but fails to accept an appropriate assignment, he/she shall be dismissed. (Education Code 45192)

*(cf. 4217.3 - Layoff/Rehire)*  
*(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)*



**INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT/ILLNESS LEAVE** (continued)

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

44043 Temporary disability

44044 Temporary disability checks; waiver of endorsement to district

44977 Salary deductions during absence from duties

44978 Provisions for certificated employee sick leave

44978.1 Inability of certificated employee to return to duty; placement in another position or on reemployment list

44983 Exception to sick leave

44984 Industrial accident and illness leave, certificated employees

45191 Personal illness and injury leave, classified employees

45192 Industrial accident and illness leave, classified employees

LABOR CODE

3200-6002 Workers' compensation

*Management Resources:*

WEB SITES

Department of Industrial Relations: <http://www.dir.ca.gov>

(1/85 10/98) 8/13 10/15

Regulation

Approved: January 4, 2012

Revised: December 4, 2013

Revised: December 14, 2015

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California

## All Personnel

AR 4161.2(a)

4261.2

## PERSONAL LEAVES

4361.2

For the purpose of any personal leave offered pursuant to state law, a registered domestic partner shall have the same rights, protections, and benefits as a spouse and protections provided to a spouse's child shall also apply to a child of a registered domestic partner. (Family Code [297.5](#))

Whenever possible, employees shall request personal leaves in advance and prepare suitable instructions, including lesson plans as applicable, for a substitute employee.

(cf. [4121](#) - *Temporary/Substitute Personnel*)

### Bereavement

Employees are entitled to a leave of up to three days, or five days if out-of-state travel is required, upon the death of any member of the employee's immediate family. No deduction shall be made from the employee's salary, nor shall such leave be deducted from any other leave to which the employee is entitled. (Education Code [44985](#), [45194](#))

(cf. [4161/4261/4361](#) - *Leaves*)

Members of the immediate family include: (Education Code [44985](#), [45194](#))

1. The mother, father, grandmother, grandfather, or grandchild of the employee or of the employee's spouse
2. The employee's spouse, son, son-in-law, daughter, daughter-in-law, brother, or sister
3. Any relative living in the employee's immediate household

At the employee's request, bereavement leave may be extended under personal necessity leave provisions as provided in the section "Personal Necessity" below. (Education Code [44981](#), [45207](#))

### Personal Necessity

Employees may use a maximum of seven days of their accrued personal illness/injury leave (sick leave) during each school year for reasons of personal necessity. (Education Code [44981](#), [45207](#))

(cf. [4161.1/4361.1](#) - *Personal Illness/Injury Leave*)

(cf. [4261.1](#) - *Personal Illness/Injury Leave*)

Acceptable reasons for the use of personal necessity leave include:

**All Personnel**

AR 4161.2(b)

4261.2

**PERSONAL LEAVES (continued)**

4361.2

1. Death of a member of the employee's immediate family when the number of days of absence exceeds the limits set by bereavement leave provisions (Education Code [44981](#), [45207](#))
2. An accident involving the employee or his/her property or the person or property of a member of the employee's immediate family (Education Code [44981](#), [45207](#))
3. Illness, preventive care, or other need of a member of the employee's family, as defined in Labor Code [245.5](#) (Education Code [44981](#); Labor Code [246.5](#))

(cf. [4161.8/4261.8/4361.8](#) - Family Care and Medical Leave)

4. A classified employee's appearance in any court or before any administrative tribunal as a litigant, party, or witness under subpoena or other order (Education Code [45207](#))
5. Fire, flood, or other immediate danger to the home of the employee
6. Personal business of a serious nature which the employee cannot disregard

Leave for personal necessity may be allowed for other reasons at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee. However, personal necessity leave shall not be granted for purposes of personal convenience, for the extension of a holiday or vacation, or for matters which can be taken care of outside of working hours. The Superintendent or designee shall have final discretion as to whether or not a request reflects personal necessity.

Advance permission shall not be required of an employee in any case involving the death of a member of the employee's immediate family, an accident involving the employee's person or property or the person or property of a member of his/her immediate family, or the illness, preventive care, or other need of a member of the employee's family. (Education Code [44981](#), [45207](#))

For any leave that is planned, or where the need for leave is foreseeable, an employee shall notify the Superintendent or designee in advance. In all other circumstances, the employee shall notify the Superintendent or designee of the need for the leave as soon as practicable.

After any absence due to personal necessity, the employee shall verify the absence by submitting a completed and signed district absence form to his/her immediate supervisor.

**Legal Duties**

An employee may take time off work in order to: (Labor Code [230](#))

1. Serve on an inquest jury or trial jury

**All Personnel**

AR 4161.2(c)

4261.2

**PERSONAL LEAVES** (continued)

4361.2

2. Comply with a subpoena or other court order to appear as a witness

A classified employee called for jury duty shall be granted leave with pay up to the amount of the difference between his/her regular earnings and any amount received for jury fees. (Education Code [44037](#))

A certificated employee who is called for jury duty also shall be granted leave with pay up to the difference between his/her regular earnings and any jury fees he/she received.

An employee shall be granted leave with pay to appear in court as a witness other than a litigant or to respond to an official order from another governmental jurisdiction for reasons not brought about through the connivance or misconduct of the employee. Such an employee shall receive the difference between his/her regular earnings and any witness fees he/she received.

**Leaves for Crime Victims**

An employee may be absent from work in order to attend judicial proceedings related to a crime when he/she is a victim, or an immediate family member, registered domestic partner, or child of a registered domestic partner of a victim, of any of the following crimes: (Labor Code [230.2](#))

1. A violent felony as defined in Penal Code [667.5\(c\)](#)
2. A serious felony as defined in Penal Code [1192.7\(c\)](#)
3. A felony provision of law proscribing theft or embezzlement

For these purposes, the employee may use vacation, personal leave, personal illness/injury leave, unpaid leave, or compensatory time off that is otherwise available to the employee. (Labor Code [230.2](#))

Prior to taking time off, an employee shall give his/her supervisor a copy of the notice of each scheduled proceeding that is provided by the responsible agency, unless advance notice is not feasible. When advance notice is not feasible or an unscheduled absence occurs, the employee shall, within a reasonable time after the absence, provide documentation evidencing the judicial proceeding from the court or government agency setting the hearing, the district attorney or prosecuting attorney's office, or the victim/witness office that is advocating on behalf of the victim. (Labor Code [230.2](#))

The district shall keep confidential any records pertaining to the employee's absence from work by reason of this leave. (Labor Code [230.2](#))

**All Personnel**

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4261.2

**PERSONAL LEAVES** (continued)

4361.2

### **Leaves for Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking**

An employee who is a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking as defined by law may use vacation, sick leave, personal leave, or compensatory time off that is otherwise available to him/her under the terms of his/her employment to attend to the following activities: (Labor Code [230](#), [230.1](#), [246.5](#))

1. Obtain or attempt to obtain any relief, including, but not limited to, a temporary restraining order, restraining order, or other injunctive relief to help ensure the health, safety, or welfare of the employee or his/her child
2. Seek medical attention for injuries caused by domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking
3. Obtain services from a domestic violence shelter, program, or rape crisis center as a result of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking
4. Obtain psychological counseling related to an experience of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking
5. Participate in safety planning and take other actions to increase safety from future domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, including temporary or permanent relocation

Prior to taking time off, an employee shall give reasonable notice to his/her supervisor, unless advance notice is not feasible. When an unscheduled absence occurs, the employee shall provide, within a reasonable period of time, certification of the absence in the form of any of the following: (Labor Code [230](#), [230.1](#))

1. A police report indicating that the employee was a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking
2. A court order protecting or separating the employee from the perpetrator of an act of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or other evidence from the court or prosecuting attorney that the employee has appeared in court
3. Documentation from a domestic violence or sexual assault counselor as defined in Evidence Code 1037.1 or 1035.2, licensed medical professional or health care provider, or counselor that the employee was undergoing treatment for physical or mental injuries or abuse resulting in victimization from an act of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking

**All Personnel**

AR 4161.2(e)

4261.2

**PERSONAL LEAVES** (continued)

4361.2

The district shall maintain the confidentiality of such an employee to the extent authorized by law. (Labor Code [230](#), [230.1](#))

**Personal Leave for Child-Related Activities**

Any employee who is a parent/guardian of one or more children of an age to attend any of grades K-12 or a program offered by a licensed child care provider may use up to 40 hours of personal leave, vacation, or compensatory time off each school year in order to: (Labor Code [230.8](#))

1. Find, enroll, or reenroll his/her child in a school or with a licensed child care provider or to participate in activities of the school or child care provider, provided the employee gives reasonable advance notice of the absence. Time off for this purpose shall not exceed eight hours in any calendar month.
2. Address a school or child care emergency, provided the employee gives notice. An emergency exists when the child cannot remain in school or with a child care provider due to one of the following circumstances:
  - a. A request by the school or child care provider that the child be picked up
  - b. An attendance policy, excluding planned holidays, that prohibits the child from attending or requires that the child be picked up from the school or child care provider
  - c. Behavioral or discipline problems
  - d. Closure or unexpected unavailability of the school or child care provider, excluding planned holidays
  - e. A natural disaster, including, but not limited to, fire, earthquake, or flood

(*cf.* [5148](#) - *Child Care and Development*)

For purposes of this leave, parent/guardian includes a parent, guardian, stepparent, foster parent, grandparent, or person who stands in loco parentis to a child. (Labor Code [230.8](#)) In lieu of using vacation, personal leave, or compensatory time off, eligible employees may take unpaid leave for this purpose.

If two or more parent/guardian of a child are employed at the same work site, this leave shall be allowed for the parent/guardian who first gives notice to the district. Simultaneous absence by another parent/guardian of the child may be granted by the Superintendent or designee. (Labor Code [230.8](#))

## All Personnel

AR 4161.2(f)

4261.2

## PERSONAL LEAVES (continued)

4361.2

Upon request by the Superintendent or designee, the employee shall provide documentation from the school or licensed child care provider that he/she engaged in permitted child-related activities on a specific date and at a particular time. (Labor Code [230.8](#))

### Service on Education Boards and Committees

Upon request, a certificated employee shall be granted up to 20 school days of paid leave per school year for service performed within the state on any education board, commission, committee, or group authorized by Education Code [44987.3](#) provided that all of the following conditions are met: (Education Code [44987.3](#))

1. The service is performed within the state.
2. The board, commission, organization, or group informs the district in writing of the service.
3. The board, commission, organization, or group agrees, prior to the service, to reimburse the district, upon the district's request, for compensation paid to the employee's substitute and for actual related administrative costs.

### Employee Organization Activities

Upon request, any certificated or classified employee shall be granted a leave of absence without loss of compensation to serve as an elected officer of a district employee organization or any statewide or national employee organization with which the employee organization is affiliated. The leave shall include, but is not limited to, absence for purposes of attending periodic, stated, special, or regular meetings of the body of the organization. (Education Code [44987](#), [45210](#))

(cf. [4140/4240/4340](#) - *Bargaining Units*)

(cf. [4143/4243](#) - *Negotiations*)

Upon request of an employee organization in the district or its state or national affiliate, a reasonable number of unelected classified employees shall be granted a leave of absence without loss of compensation for the purpose of attending important organizational activities authorized by the organization. The employee organization shall provide reasonable notification to the Superintendent or designee when requesting a leave of absence for employees for this purpose. (Education Code [45210](#))

When leave is granted for any of the above purposes, the employee organization shall reimburse the district within 10 days after receiving the district's certification of payment of compensation to the employee. (Education Code [44987](#), [45210](#))

**All Personnel**

AR 4161.2(g)

4261.2

**PERSONAL LEAVES** (continued)

4361.2

**Religious Leave**

The Superintendent or designee may grant an employee up to three days of leave per year for religious purposes, provided that the leave is requested in advance and that it does not cause additional district expenditures, the neglect of assigned duties, or any other unreasonable hardship on the district.

The Superintendent or designee shall deduct the cost of hiring a substitute, when required, from the wages of the employee who takes religious leave.

No employee shall be discriminated against for using this leave or any additional days of unpaid leave granted for religious observances at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee.

**Spouse on Leave from Military Deployment**

An employee who works an average of 20 hours or more per week and whose spouse is a member of the United States Armed Forces, National Guard, or reserves may take up to 10 days of unpaid leave during a period that his/her spouse is on leave from deployment during a military conflict, as defined in Military and Veterans Code [395.10](#). (Military and Veterans Code [395.10](#))

Within two business days of receiving official notice that his/her spouse will be on leave from deployment, the employee shall provide the Superintendent or designee with notice of his/her intention to take the leave. The employee shall submit written documentation certifying that his/her spouse will be on leave from deployment during the time that the leave is requested. (Military and Veterans Code [395.10](#))

**Leave for Emergency Duty**

An employee may take time off to perform emergency duty as a volunteer firefighter, a reserve peace officer, or emergency rescue personnel. (Labor Code [230.3](#))

Any employee who performs duty as a volunteer firefighter, reserve peace officer, or emergency rescue personnel shall be permitted to take temporary leaves of absence, not to exceed an aggregate total of 14 days per calendar year, for the purpose of engaging in fire, law enforcement, or emergency rescue training. (Labor Code [230.4](#))

**Civil Air Patrol Leave**

An employee may take up to 10 days of unpaid leave per calendar year, beyond any leave otherwise available to him/her, to respond to an emergency operational mission of the California Civil Air Patrol, provided that the employee has been employed by the district for at least a 90-day period immediately preceding the leave. Such leaves shall not exceed three



**All Personnel**

AR 4161.2(h)

4261.2

**PERSONAL LEAVES** (continued)

4361.2

days for a single mission, unless an extension is granted by the governmental entity authorizing the mission and is approved by the Superintendent or designee. (Labor Code [1501](#), [1503](#))

The employee shall give the district as much advance notice as possible of the intended dates of the leave. The Superintendent or designee may require certification from the proper Civil Air Patrol authority to verify the eligibility of the employee for the leave and may deny the leave if the employee fails to provide the required certification. (Labor Code [1503](#))

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

[44036-44037](#) Leaves of absence for judicial and official appearances

[44963](#) Power to grant leaves of absence (certificated)

[44981](#) Leave of absence for personal necessity (certificated)

[44985](#) Leave of absence due to death in immediate family (certificated)

[44987](#) Service as officer of employee organization (certificated)

[44987.3](#) Leave of absence to serve on certain boards, commissions, etc.

[45190](#) Leaves of absence and vacations (classified)

[45194](#) Bereavement leave of absence (classified)

[45198](#) Effect of provisions authorizing leaves of absence

[45207](#) Personal necessity (classified)

[45210](#) Service as officer of employee organization (classified)

[45240-45320](#) Merit system, classified employees

EVIDENCE CODE

1035.2 Sex assault counselor; definition

1037.1 Domestic violence counselor; definition

FAMILY CODE

[297-297.5](#) Registered domestic partner rights, protections, and benefits

GOVERNMENT CODE

[3543.1](#) Release time for representatives of employee organizations

[12945.1-12945.2](#) California Family Rights Act

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[230-230.2](#) Leave for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, or specified felonies

[230.3](#) Leave for emergency personnel

[230.4](#) Leave for volunteer firefighters

[230.8](#) Leave to visit child's school

[233](#) Illness of child, parent, spouse, domestic partner or domestic partner's child

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[246.5](#) Paid sick days, purposes for use

[1500-1507](#) Civil Air Patrol leave

MILITARY AND VETERANS CODE

[395.10](#) Leave when spouse on leave from military deployment

*Legal Reference: (Continued on next page)*

**All Personnel**

AR 4161.2(i)

**PERSONAL LEAVES** (continued)

4261.2

4361.2

*Legal Reference: Continued*

PENAL CODE

[667.5](#) Violent felony, defined

[1192.7](#) Serious felony, defined

CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

Article 1, Section 8 Religious discrimination

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

[2601-2654](#) Family and Medical Leave Act

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

[2000d-2000d-7](#) Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964

COURT DECISIONS

*Rankin v. Commission on Professional Competence, (1988) 24 Cal.3d 167*

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS BOARD DECISIONS

*Berkeley Council of Classified Employees v. Berkeley Unified School District, (2008) PERB Decision No. 1954*

*Management Resources:*

WEB SITES

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California School Employees Association: <http://www.csea.com>

California Teachers Association: <http://www.cta.org>

Public Employment Relations Board: <http://www.perb.ca.gov>

(11/12 12/14) 3/16

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**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California

**All Personnel**

AR 4161.5(a)

4261.5

**MILITARY LEAVE**

4361.5

Military leave shall be granted in accordance with applicable state and federal law to employees performing military duties on a voluntary or involuntary basis in a uniformed service, including active duty, active duty for training, initial active duty for training, inactive duty training, full-time National Guard duty, examination to determine fitness for duty, and performance of funeral honors duty. (Education Code 44800; Military and Veterans Code 395, 395.01, 395.02, 395.05, 395.1, 395.2, 395.9; 38 USC 4301, 4303, 4316)

*(cf. 4161/4261/4361 - Leaves)*

An employee who needs to be absent from the district to fulfill his/her military service shall provide advance written or verbal notice to the Superintendent or designee, unless the giving of such notice is precluded by military necessity or is otherwise impossible or unreasonable. (38 USC 4312; 20 CFR 1002.85, 1002.86)

**Salary/Compensation**

An employee shall receive his/her salary or compensation for the first 30 days of any one absence for military leave or during one fiscal year, under any of the following conditions:

1. Active Military Training or Exercises: The employee is granted a temporary military leave of absence to engage in ordered military duty for purposes of active military training, encampment, naval cruises, special exercises, or like activity as a member of the reserve corps or force of the United States Armed Forces, National Guard, or Naval Militia, provided that: (Military and Veterans Code 389, 395, 395.01)
  - a. He/she has been employed by the district for at least one year immediately prior to the day the military leave begins.
  - b. The ordered duty does not exceed 180 days, including time involved in going to and returning from such duty.
2. Active Military Duty: The employee is on military leave, other than a temporary military leave, to engage in active military duty as a member of the reserve corps or force of the United States Armed Forces, the National Guard, or the Naval Militia, provided that he/she has been employed by the district for at least one year immediately prior to the day the military leave begins. (Military and Veterans Code 389, 395.02)
3. War or Other Emergency: The employee, however long employed by the district, is a member of the National Guard who is engaged in military or naval duty during a state of extreme emergency as declared by the Governor, or during such time as the National Guard may be on active duty in situations described in Military and Veterans Code 146, including travel time to and from such duty. (Military and Veterans Code 395.05)

AR 4161.5(b)  
4261.5  
4361.5

## **MILITARY LEAVE** (continued)

In determining the length of district employment when necessary to determine eligibility for compensation for military leave, all recognized military service performed during and prior to district employment shall be included.

For classified employees, 30 days' compensation shall be one month's salary. For certificated employees, 30 days' compensation shall be one-tenth of the employee's annual salary. (Education Code 45059)

Certificated employees shall not be entitled to compensation during non-teaching, non-paying months of the year.

During the period of military leave, an employee may, upon his/her own request, use any vacation or similar paid leave accrued before the commencement of the military leave. The district shall not require the employee to use such leave. (38 USC 4316; 20 CFR 1002.153)

### **Benefits**

An employee may elect to continue his/her health plan coverage during the military leave. The maximum period of coverage for the employee and his/her dependents shall be either 24 months from the beginning of the leave or until the day after the employee fails to apply for or return to employment, whichever is less. (38 USC 4317; 20 CFR 1002.164)

An employee on military leave may be required to pay the employee cost, if any, of any funded benefit to the extent that other employees on leave are so required. (38 USC 4316)

An employee absent for 30 days or fewer shall not be required to pay more than the employee share for such coverage. An employee absent for 31 days or more may be required to pay not more than 102 percent of the full premium under the plan. (38 USC 4317; 20 CFR 1002.166)

### **Vacation and Sick Leave Accrual**

An employee on military leave who is serving in active duty in time of war, national emergency, or United Nations military or police operation shall not accrue sick leave or vacation leave during the period of such leave. (Military and Veterans Code 395.1)

However, an employee who is a National Guard member on active duty as described in item #3 War or Other Emergency, in the section entitled "Salary/Compensation" above, shall not suffer any loss or diminution of vacation or holiday privileges because of his/her leave of absence. (Military and Veterans Code 395.05)

## **MILITARY LEAVE** (continued)

### **Pension Plan Service Credit**

Pension plan service credit and vesting shall continue during an employee's military leave as though no break in service had occurred. Payment of employer and employee contributions shall be made in accordance with law for members of the State Teachers' Retirement System or Public Employees' Retirement System. (Education Code 22850-22856; Government Code 20990-21013)

### **Employment Status**

Absence for military leave shall not affect the classification of any certificated employee. In the case of a certificated probationary employee, the period of such absence shall not count as part of the service required to obtain permanent status, but shall not be construed as a break in the continuity of service for any purpose. (Education Code 44800)

*(cf. 4116 - Probationary/Permanent Status)*

### **Reinstatement Rights**

At the conclusion of the military duty, an employee shall be promptly reinstated in the position held at the beginning of the leave, at the salary to which he/she would otherwise have been entitled, except under the conditions noted below. (Education Code 44800; Military and Veterans Code 395, 395.2; 38 USC 4304, 4313; 20 CFR 1002.180-1002.181)

*(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)*

*(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)*

Any employee who performs active military duty in time of war, national emergency, or United Nations military or police operation has a right to return to his/her position within six months of an honorable discharge or placement on inactive duty. Reinstatement rights shall not be extended to any such employee who fails to return within 12 months after the first date upon which he/she could terminate or could cause to be terminated his/her active service. (Education Code 44800; Military and Veterans Code 395.1)

When an employee has been on military leave for reasons other than war or national emergency, the time frame for reinstatement shall depend on the length of military service as follows: (38 USC 4312; 20 CFR 1002.115, 1002.118)

1. For a leave of 30 days or fewer, the employee shall report for duty no later than the beginning of the first full work day following the completion of military service, provided the employee has a period of eight hours to rest following transportation to his/her residence.

**MILITARY LEAVE** (continued)

2. For a leave of 31-180 days, the employee shall submit a written or verbal application for reinstatement not later than 14 days after the completion of military service.
3. For a leave of more than 180 days, the employee shall submit a written or verbal application for reinstatement within 90 days after the completion of military service.

In cases where reporting within the periods specified in items #1 and #2 above is impossible or unreasonable through no fault of the employee, he/she shall report as soon as possible after the expiration of the period. (38 USC 4312; 20 CFR 1002.115, 1002.117)

An employee who is hospitalized for, or convalescing from, an illness or injury incurred in or aggravated during the performance of military service shall report for duty or submit an application for reinstatement at the end of the period that is necessary to recover from such illness or injury, but no more than two years after the completion of military service unless circumstances beyond the employee's control make reporting within the two-year period impossible or unreasonable. (38 USC 4312; 20 CFR 1002.116)

*(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)*

Upon receiving an application for reinstatement, the Superintendent or designee shall reinstate the employee as soon as practicable under the circumstances of his/her case, but within a time period not to exceed two weeks, absent unusual circumstances. (20 CFR 1002.181)

If the employee's previous position has been abolished, he/she shall be reinstated in a position of like seniority, status, and pay, if such position exists, or to a comparable vacant position for which he/she is qualified. (Military and Veterans Code 395, 395.1; 38 USC 4313; 20 CFR 1002.192)

An employee failing to apply for reinstatement within the appropriate period does not automatically forfeit his/her rights, but shall be subject to the Board's rules governing unexcused absences. (38 USC 4312)

The Superintendent or designee may elect not to reinstate an employee following military leave if any of the following conditions exists:

1. The district's circumstances have so changed as to make such re-employment impossible or unreasonable, such as a reduction in force that would have included the employee. (38 USC 4312; 20 CFR 1002.139)

**MILITARY LEAVE** (continued)

2. The accommodation, training, or effort described in 38 USC 4313(a)(3), (a)(4), or (b)(2)(B) would impose an undue hardship on the district as defined in 20 CFR 1002.5 or 1002.198. (38 USC 4312; 20 CFR 1002.139)
3. The employee's position was for a brief, nonrecurrent period and there was no reasonable expectation that such employment will continue indefinitely or for a significant period. (38 USC 4312; 20 CFR 1002.139)
4. The employee's cumulative length of absence and length of all previous military leave while employed with the district exceeds five years, excluding those training and service obligations specified in 38 USC 4312(c). (38 USC 4312; 20 CFR 1002.99-1002.103)
5. The employee was separated from military service with a disqualifying discharge or under other than honorable conditions. (Military and Veterans Code 395.1; 20 USC 4304, 4312; 20 CFR 1002.134-1002.138)

**Notices**

The Superintendent or designee shall provide employees a notice of the rights, benefits, and obligations of employees granted military leave and of the district under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), 38 USC 4301-4334. (38 USC 4334)

This requirement may be met by posting the notice where the district customarily places notices for employees. (38 USC 4334)

*(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)*

*Legal Reference: (see next page)*

## **MILITARY LEAVE (continued)**

### *Legal Reference:*

#### EDUCATION CODE

22850-22856 Pension benefits, STRS members on military leave

44018 Compensation for employees on active military duty

44800 Effect of active military service on status of employees

45059 Employee ordered to military/naval duty - computation of salary

#### GOVERNMENT CODE

18540 Definition of armed forces

18540.3 Recognized military service

20990-21013 Pension benefits, PERS members on military leave

#### MILITARY AND VETERANS CODE

146 Events justifying calling of militia into active service

389 Definitions; temporary military leave

394 Nondiscrimination based on military service

395-395.9 Military leave

#### UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 38

4301-4334 Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994

#### CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 20

1002.1-1002.314 Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994

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77 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 209 (1994)

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A Non-Technical Resource Guide to the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), rev. April 2005

#### NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS

The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), NSBA Federal File: Guidance on Federal School Law, 2003

#### WEB SITES

National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve: <http://www.esgr.org>

National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.org>

U.S. Department of Labor, USERRA: <http://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/userra>



**All Personnel**

AR 4161.8(a)

4261.8

**FAMILY CARE AND MEDICAL LEAVE**

4361.8

The district shall not deny any eligible employee the right to family care, medical, or pregnancy disability leave (PDL) pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), the California Family Rights Act (CFRA), or the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) nor restrain or interfere with the employee's exercise of such right. In addition, the district shall not discharge an employee or discriminate or retaliate against him/her for taking such leave or for his/her opposition to or challenge of any unlawful district practice in relation to any of these laws or for his/her involvement in any related inquiry or proceeding. (Government Code 12945, 12945.2; 2 CCR 11094; 29 USC 2615)

*(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)*

*(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)*

*(cf. 4033 - Lactation Accommodation)*

**Definitions**

The words and phrases defined below shall have the same meaning throughout this administrative regulation except where a different meaning is otherwise specified.

*Child (son or daughter)* means a biological, adopted, or foster child; a stepchild; a legal ward; or a child to whom the employee stands in loco parentis, as long as the child is under 18 years of age or an adult dependent child. (Government Code 12945.2; 2 CCR 11087; 29 USC 2611)

*Eligible employee for FMLA and CFRA purposes* means an employee who has been employed with the district for at least 12 months and who has at least 1,250 hours of service with the district during the previous 12-month period. However, these requirements shall not apply when an employee applies for PDL. (Government Code 12945.2; 2 CCR 11087; 29 USC 2611; 29 CFR 825.110)

*Employee disabled by pregnancy* means an employee whose health care provider states that the employee is: (2 CCR 11035)

1. Unable because of pregnancy to perform any one or more of the essential functions of the job or to perform any of them without undue risk to the employee or other persons or to the pregnancy's successful completion
2. Suffering from severe "morning sickness" or needs to take time off for prenatal or postnatal care, bed rest, gestational diabetes, pregnancy-induced hypertension, preeclampsia, postpartum depression, childbirth, loss or end of pregnancy, recovery from childbirth or loss or end of pregnancy, or any other pregnancy-related condition

*Parent* means a biological, foster, or adoptive parent; a stepparent; a legal guardian; or another person who stood in loco parentis to the employee when the employee was a child. Parent does not include a spouse's parents. (Government Code 12945.2; 2 CCR 11087; 29 USC 2611; 29 CFR 825.122)

**FAMILY CARE AND MEDICAL LEAVE** (continued)

*Serious health condition* means an illness, injury (including, but not limited to, on-the-job injuries), impairment, or physical or mental condition of the employee or his/her child, parent, or spouse, including, but not limited to, treatment for substance abuse, that involves either of the following: (Government Code 12945.2; 2 CCR 11087, 11097; 29 USC 2611; 29 CFR 825.113-825.115)

1. Inpatient care in a hospital, hospice, or residential health care facility, any subsequent treatment in connection with such inpatient care, or any period of incapacity

A person is considered an inpatient when a health care facility formally admits him/her to the facility with the expectation that he/she will remain overnight and occupy a bed, even if it later develops that the person can be discharged or transferred to another facility and does not actually remain overnight.

*Incapacity* means the inability to work, attend school, or perform other regular daily activities due to a serious health condition, its treatment, or the recovery that it requires.

2. Continuing treatment or continuing supervision by a health care provider, including one or more of the following:
  - a. A period of incapacity of more than three consecutive full days
  - b. Any period of incapacity or treatment for such incapacity due to a chronic serious health condition
  - c. Any period of incapacity due to pregnancy or for prenatal care under FMLA
  - d. Any period of incapacity which is permanent or long term due to a condition for which treatment may not be effective
  - e. Any period of absence to receive multiple treatments, including recovery, by a health care provider

*Spouse* means a partner in marriage as defined in Family Code 300, including same sex partners in marriage, or a registered domestic partner within the meaning of Family Code 297-297.5. (Family Code 297, 297.5, 300; 2 CCR 11087; 29 CFR 825.122)

**Eligibility**

The district shall grant FMLA or CFRA leave to eligible employees for any of the following reasons: (Government Code 12945.2, 12945.6; 29 USC 2612; 29 CFR 825.112)

**FAMILY CARE AND MEDICAL LEAVE** (continued)

1. The birth of a child of the employee or placement of a child with the employee in connection with the employee's adoption or foster care of the child (parental leave)
2. To care for the employee's child, parent, or spouse with a serious health condition
3. The employee's own serious health condition that makes him/her unable to perform one or more essential functions of his/her position
4. Any qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that the employee's spouse, child, or parent is a military member on covered active duty or call to covered active duty (or has been notified of an impending call or order to covered active duty)
5. To care for a covered servicemember with a serious injury or illness if the covered servicemember is the employee's spouse, child, parent, or next of kin, as defined

In addition, the district shall grant PDL to any employee who is disabled by pregnancy, childbirth, or other related medical condition. (Government Code 12945; 2 CCR 11037)

**Terms of Leave**

An eligible employee shall be entitled to a total of 12 work weeks of FMLA or CFRA leave during any 12-month period, except in the case of leave to care for a covered servicemember as provided under "Military Caregiver Leave" below. To the extent allowed by law, CFRA and FMLA leaves shall run concurrently. (Government Code 12945.2; 29 USC 2612)

This 12-month period shall coincide with the fiscal year. (29 CFR 825.200)

In addition, any employee who is disabled by pregnancy, childbirth, or other related condition shall be entitled to PDL for the period of the disability not to exceed four months. For a part-time employee, the four months shall be calculated on a proportional basis. (Government Code 12945; 2 CCR 11042)

PDL shall run concurrently with FMLA leave for disability caused by an employee's pregnancy. At the end of the employee's FMLA leave for disability caused by pregnancy, or at the end of four months of PDL, whichever occurs first, a CFRA-eligible employee may request to take CFRA leave of up to 12 work weeks, for the reason of the birth of a child or to bond with or care for the child. (Government Code 12945, 12945.2; 2 CCR 11046, 11093)

Leave taken for the birth or placement of a child must be concluded within the 12-month period beginning on the date of the birth or placement of the child. Such leave does not need to be taken in one continuous period of time. (2 CCR 11090; 29 USC 2612)

## **FAMILY CARE AND MEDICAL LEAVE (continued)**

If both parents of a child work for the district, their family care and medical leave related to the birth or placement of the child shall be limited to a combined total of 12 work weeks. This restriction shall apply regardless of the legal status of both parents' relationship. (Government Code 12945.2, 12945.6; 2 CCR 11088; 29 USC 2612)

### **Use/Substitution of Paid Leave**

An employee shall use his/her accrued vacation leave, other accrued time off, and any other paid time off negotiated with the district for any otherwise unpaid FMLA or CFRA leave not involving his/her own serious health condition. For PDL, CFRA, or FMLA leave due to an employee's own serious health condition, the employee shall use accrued sick leave and may use accrued vacation leave and other paid time off at his/her option. (Government Code 12945, 12945.2, 12945.6; 2 CCR 11044; 29 USC 2612)

The district and employee may also negotiate for the employee's use of any additional paid or unpaid time off instead of using the employee's CFRA leave. (2 CCR 11092)

*(cf. 4141/4241 - Collective Bargaining Agreement)*

*(cf. 4161/4261/4361 - Leaves)*

*(cf. 4161.1/4361.1 - Personal Illness/Injury Leave)*

*(cf. 4261.1 - Personal Illness/Injury Leave)*

### **Intermittent Leave/Reduced Work or Leave Schedule**

PDL and family care and medical leave for the serious health condition of an employee or his/her child, parent, or spouse may be taken intermittently or on a reduced work or leave schedule when medically necessary, as determined by the health care provider of the person with the serious health condition. However, the district shall limit leave increments to the shortest period of time that the district's payroll system uses to account for absences or use of leave provided it is not to be greater than one hour. (2 CCR 11042, 11090; 29 USC 2612)

*(cf. 4113.4/4213.4/4313.4 - Temporary Modified/Light-Duty Assignment)*

The basic minimum duration of leave for the birth, adoption, or foster care placement of a child shall be two weeks. However, the district shall grant a request for such leave of less than two weeks on any two occasions. (2 CCR 11090; 29 USC 2612)

The district may require an employee to transfer temporarily to an available alternative position under any of the following circumstances: (2 CCR 11041, 11090; 29 USC 2612)

1. The employee needs intermittent leave or leave on a reduced work schedule that is foreseeable based on a planned medical treatment for the employee or family member.

**FAMILY CARE AND MEDICAL LEAVE** (continued)

2. A medical certification is provided by the employee's health care provider that, because of pregnancy, the employee has a medical need to take intermittent leave or leave on a reduced work schedule.
3. The district agrees to permit intermittent leave or leave on a reduced work schedule due to the birth, adoption, or foster care placement of the employee's child.

The alternative position must have equivalent pay and benefits and must better accommodate recurring periods of leave than the employee's regular job, and the employee must be qualified for the position. Transfer to an alternative position may include altering an existing job to better accommodate the employee's need for intermittent leave or a reduced work or leave schedule. (2 CCR 11041, 11090; 29 USC 2612)

**Request for Leave**

The district shall consider an employee's request for PDL or family care and medical leave only if the employee provides at least verbal notice sufficient to make the district aware of the need to take the leave and the anticipated timing and duration of the leave. (2 CCR 11050, 11091)

For family care and medical leave, the employee need not expressly assert or mention FMLA/CFRA to satisfy this requirement. However, he/she must state the reason the leave is needed (e.g., birth of child, medical treatment). If more information is necessary to determine whether the employee is eligible for family care and medical leave, the Superintendent or designee shall inquire further and obtain the necessary details of the leave to be taken. (2 CCR 11091)

The district shall respond to requests for leave as soon as practicable, but no later than five business days after receiving the employee's request. (2 CCR 11091)

Based on the information provided by the employee, the Superintendent or designee shall designate the leave, paid or unpaid, as FMLA/CFRA qualifying leave and shall give notice of such designation to the employee. Failure of an employee to respond to permissible inquiries regarding the leave request may result in denial of CFRA protection if the district is unable to determine whether the leave is CFRA qualifying. (2 CCR 11091; 29 CFR 825.300)

When an employee is able to foresee the need for PDL or family care and medical leave at least 30 days in advance of the leave, the employee shall provide the district with at least 30 days advance notice before the leave. When the 30 days notice is not practicable because of a lack of knowledge of when leave will be required to begin, a change in circumstances, a medical emergency, or other good cause, the employee shall provide the district with notice as soon as practicable. Failure of an employee to provide required notice may result in a denial of leave. (2 CCR 11050, 11091)

**FAMILY CARE AND MEDICAL LEAVE** (continued)

In all instances, the employee shall consult with the Superintendent or designee and make a reasonable effort to schedule, subject to the health care provider's approval, any planned appointment or medical treatment or supervision so as to minimize disruption to district operations. (Government Code 12945.2; 2 CCR 11050, 11091)

**Certification of Health Condition**

Within five business days of an employee's request for family care and medical leave for his/her own or his/her child's, parent's, or spouse's serious health condition, the Superintendent or designee shall request that the employee provide certification by a health care provider of the need for leave. Upon receiving the district's request, the employee shall provide the certification within 15 days, unless either the Superintendent or designee provides additional time or it is not practicable under the particular circumstances, despite the employee's diligent, good faith efforts. (2 CCR 11091; 29 CFR 825.305)

**The certification shall include the following:** (Government Code 12945.2; 2 CCR 11087; 29 USC 2613)

1. The date on which the serious health condition began
2. The probable duration of the condition
3. If the employee is requesting leave to care for a child, parent, or spouse with a serious health condition, both of the following:
  - a. Statement that the serious health condition warrants the participation of the employee to provide care, such as by providing psychological comfort, arranging for third party care, or directly providing or participating in the medical care of the child, parent, or spouse during a period of the treatment or supervision
  - b. Estimated amount of time the health care provider believes the employee needs to care for the child, parent, or spouse
4. If the employee is requesting leave because of his/her own serious health condition, a statement that due to the serious health condition, he/she is unable to work at all or is unable to perform one or more essential functions of his/her job
5. If the employee is requesting leave for intermittent treatment or on a reduced work or leave schedule for planned medical treatment, a statement of the medical necessity for the leave, the dates on which treatment is expected to be given, the duration of such treatment, and the expected duration of the leave

**FAMILY CARE AND MEDICAL LEAVE (continued)**

When an employee has provided sufficient medical certification to enable the district to determine whether the employee's leave request is FMLA/CFRA-eligible, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the employee within five business days whether the leave is FMLA/CFRA-eligible. The Superintendent or designee may also retroactively designate leave as FMLA/CFRA leave as long as appropriate notice is given to the employee and there is no harm or injury to the employee. (2 CCR 11091; 29 CFR 825.301)

If the Superintendent or designee doubts the validity of a certification that accompanies a request for leave for the employee's own serious health condition, he/she may require the employee to obtain a second opinion from a district-approved health care provider, at district expense. If the second opinion is contrary to the first, the Superintendent or designee may require the employee to obtain a third medical opinion from a third health care provider approved by both the employee and the district, again at district expense. The opinion of the third health care provider shall be final and binding. (Government Code 12945.2; 2 CCR 11091; 29 USC 2613)

For PDL, the Superintendent or designee shall request that the employee provide certification by a health care provider of the need for leave at the time the employee gives notice of the need for PDL, or within two business days of giving the notice. If the need for PDL is unforeseen, the Superintendent or designee shall request the medical certification within two business days after the leave commences. The Superintendent or designee may request certification at some later date if he/she has reason to question the appropriateness of the leave or its duration. (2 CCR 11050)

For PDL that is foreseeable and for which at least 30 days notice has been given, the employee shall provide the medical certification before the leave begins. When this is not practicable, the employee shall provide the certification within the time frame specified by the Superintendent or designee which must be at least 15 days after the request, unless it is not practicable under the particular circumstances despite the employee's diligent, good faith efforts. (2 CCR 11050)

Medical certification for PDL purposes shall include a statement that the employee needs to take the leave because the employee is disabled by pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition, the date on which the employee became disabled because of pregnancy, and the estimated duration of the leave. (2 CCR 11050)

If additional PDL or family care and medical leave is needed when the time estimated by the health care provider expires, the district may require the employee to provide recertification in the manner specified for the leave. (Government Code 12945.2; 2 CCR 11050; 29 USC 2613)

## **FAMILY CARE AND MEDICAL LEAVE (continued)**

The Superintendent or designee shall not request any genetic information related to an employee except as authorized by law in accordance with the California Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2011.

### **Release to Return to Work**

Upon expiration of an employee's PDL or family care and medical leave taken for his/her own serious health condition, the employee shall present certification from the health care provider that he/she is able to resume work. The certification shall address the employee's ability to perform the essential functions of his/her job.

*(cf. 4112.4/4212.4/4312.4 - Health Examinations)*

### **Rights to Reinstatement**

Upon granting an employee's request for PDL or FMLA/CFRA leave, the Superintendent or designee shall guarantee to reinstate the employee in the same or a comparable position when the leave ends. (Government Code 12945.2; 2 CCR 11043, 11089; 29 USC 2614)

However, the district may refuse to reinstate an employee returning from FMLA or CFRA leave to the same or a comparable position if all of the following apply: (Government Code 12945.2; 2 CCR 11089; 29 USC 2614)

1. The employee is a salaried "key employee" who is among the highest paid 10 percent of district employees who are employed within 75 miles of the employee's worksite.
2. The refusal is necessary to prevent substantial and grievous economic injury to district operations.
3. The district informs the employee of its intent to refuse reinstatement at the time it determines that the refusal is necessary, and the employee fails to immediately return to service.

*(cf. 4117.3 - Personnel Reduction)*

*(cf. 4217.3 - Layoff/Rehire)*

The district may also refuse to reinstate an employee to the same or a comparable position if the FMLA/CFRA leave was fraudulently obtained by the employee. (2 CCR 11089; 29 CFR 825.216)

The district may refuse to reinstate an employee to the same position after taking PDL if, at the time the reinstatement is requested, the employee would not otherwise have been employed in that position for legitimate business reasons unrelated to the employee's PDL. (2 CCR 11043)



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## **FAMILY CARE AND MEDICAL LEAVE (continued)**

### **Maintenance of Benefits/Failure to Return from Leave**

During the period when an employee is on PDL or family care and medical leave, he/she shall maintain his/her status with the district and the leave shall not constitute a break in service for purposes of longevity, seniority under any collective bargaining agreement, or any employee benefit plan. (Government Code 12945.2; 2 CCR 11092; 29 USC 2614)

For up to a maximum of four months for PDL and 12 work weeks for other family care and medical leave, the district shall continue to provide an eligible employee the group health plan coverage that was in place before he/she took the leave. The employee shall reimburse the district for premiums paid during the leave if he/she fails to return to district employment after the expiration of all available leaves and the failure is for a reason other than the continuation, recurrence, or onset of a serious health condition or other circumstances beyond his/her control. (Government Code 12945.2; 2 CCR 11044, 11092; 29 USC 2614; 29 CFR 825.213)

*(cf. 4154/4254/4354 - Health and Welfare Benefits)*

In addition, during the period when an employee is on PDL or family care and medical leave, the employee shall be entitled to continue to participate in other employee benefit plans including life insurance, short-term or long-term disability insurance, accident insurance, pension and retirement plans, and supplemental unemployment benefit plans to the same extent and under the same conditions as would apply to an unpaid leave taken for any other purpose. However, for purposes of pension and retirement plans, the district shall not make plan payments for an employee during any unpaid portion of the leave period and the leave period shall not be counted for purposes of time accrued under the plan. (Government Code 12945.2; 2 CCR 11044, 11092)

### **Military Family Leave Resulting from Qualifying Exigencies**

An eligible employee may take up to 12 work weeks of unpaid FMLA leave, during each 12-month period established by the district in the section entitled "Terms of Leave" above, for one or more qualifying exigencies while his/her child, parent, or spouse who is a military member is on covered active duty or on call to covered active duty status. (29 USC 2612; 29 CFR 825.126)

*Covered active duty* means duty during the deployment of a member of the regular Armed Forces to a foreign country or duty during the deployment of a member of the National Guard or Reserves to a foreign country under a call or an order to active duty in support of a contingency operation pursuant to law. (29 USC 2611; 29 CFR 825.126)

**FAMILY CARE AND MEDICAL LEAVE** (continued)

**Qualifying exigencies include time needed to:** (29 CFR 825.126)

1. Address issues arising from short notice deployment of up to seven calendar days from the date of receipt of call or order of short notice deployment
2. Attend military events and related activities, such as any official ceremony or family assistance program related to the covered active duty or call to covered active duty status
3. Arrange child care or attend school activities arising from the covered active duty or call to covered active duty, such as arranging for alternative child care, enrolling or transferring a child to a new school, or attending meetings
4. Make or update financial and legal arrangements to address a military member's absence
5. Attend counseling provided by someone other than a health care provider
6. Spend time (up to 15 days of leave per instance) with a military member who is on short-term, temporary, rest and recuperation leave during deployment
7. Attend to certain post-deployment activities, such as arrival ceremonies or reintegration briefings
8. Care for a military member's parent who is incapable of self-care when the care is necessitated by the military member's covered active duty
9. Address any other event that the employee and district agree is a qualifying exigency

The employee shall provide the Superintendent or designee with notice of the need for the qualifying exigency leave as soon as practicable, regardless of how far in advance such leave is foreseeable. (29 CFR 825.302)

An employee who is requesting leave for qualifying exigencies shall provide the Superintendent or designee with a copy of the military member's active duty orders, or other documentation issued by the military, and the dates of the service. In addition, the employee shall provide the Superintendent or designee with certification of the qualifying exigency necessitating the leave. The certification shall contain the information specified in 29 CFR 825.309.

The employee's qualifying exigency leave may be taken on an intermittent or reduced work or leave schedule basis. (29 CFR 825.302)

## **FAMILY CARE AND MEDICAL LEAVE (continued)**

During the period of qualified exigency leave, the district's rule regarding an employee's use of his/her accrued vacation leave and any other accrued paid or unpaid time off, as specified in the section "Use/Substitution of Paid Leave" above, shall apply.

### **Military Caregiver Leave**

The district shall grant an eligible employee up to a total of 26 work weeks of leave during a single 12-month period, measured forward from the first date the leave is taken, to care for a covered servicemember with a serious illness or injury. In order to be eligible for such military caregiver leave, the employee must be the spouse, son, daughter, parent, or next of kin of the covered servicemember. This 26-week period is not in addition to, but rather is inclusive of, the 12 work weeks of leave that may be taken for other FMLA qualifying reasons. (29 USC 2611, 2612; 29 CFR 825.127)

Covered servicemember may be: (29 CFR 825.127)

1. A current member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy; is otherwise in outpatient status; or is otherwise on the temporary disability retired list for a serious injury or illness
2. A veteran who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable at any time during the five-year period prior to the first date the eligible employee takes FMLA leave to care for the covered veteran

*Son or daughter of a covered servicemember* means the biological, adopted, or foster child, stepchild, legal ward, or a child of any age for whom the covered servicemember stood in loco parentis. (29 CFR 825.127)

*Parent of a covered servicemember* means the covered servicemember's biological, adopted, step, or foster parent, or any other individual who stood in loco parentis to the covered servicemember (except "parents in law"). (29 CFR 825.127)

*Next of kin* means the nearest blood relative to the covered servicemember, or as designated in writing by the covered servicemember. (29 USC 2611, 2612)

*Outpatient status* means the status of a member of the Armed Forces assigned to a military medical treatment facility as an outpatient or a unit established for the purpose of providing command and control of members of the Armed Forces receiving medical care as outpatients. (29 USC 2611; 29 CFR 825.127)

*Serious injury or illness* means: (29 USC 2611; 29 CFR 825.127)

**FAMILY CARE AND MEDICAL LEAVE (continued)**

1. For a current member of the Armed Forces, an injury or illness incurred by the member in the line of duty on active duty, or that existed before the beginning of the member's active duty and was aggravated by the member's service in the line of duty while on active duty in the Armed Forces, and that may render the member medically unfit to perform the duties of the member's office, grade, rank, or rating.
2. For a veteran, an injury or illness incurred or aggravated by the member's service in the line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces, including the National Guard or Reserves, that manifested itself before or after the member became a veteran and that is at least one of the following:
  - a. A continuation of a serious injury or illness incurred or aggravated while the veteran was a member of the Armed Forces and rendered him/her unable to perform the duties of his/her office, grade, rank, or rating
  - b. A physical or mental condition for which the veteran has received a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Service-Related Disability Rating of 50 percent or greater, based wholly or partly on that physical or mental condition
  - c. A physical or mental condition that substantially impairs the veteran's ability to secure or follow a substantially gainful occupation by reason of one or more disabilities related to his/her military service or that would do so but for treatment received by the veteran
  - d. An injury, including a psychological injury, on the basis of which the veteran has been enrolled in the VA's Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers

The employee shall provide reasonable and practicable notice of the need for the leave in accordance with the procedures in the section entitled "Request for Leave" above.

An employee requesting leave to care for a covered servicemember with a serious injury or illness shall provide the Superintendent or designee with certification from an authorized health care provider of the servicemember that contains the information specified in 29 CFR 825.310.

The leave may be taken intermittently or on a reduced work or leave schedule when medically necessary. An employee taking military caregiver leave in combination with other leaves pursuant to this administrative regulation shall be entitled to a combined total of 26 work weeks of leave during a single 12-month period. When both spouses work for the district and both wish to take such leave, the spouses are limited to a maximum combined total of 26 work weeks during a single 12-month period. (29 USC 2612)

**FAMILY CARE AND MEDICAL LEAVE** (continued)

During the period of military caregiver leave, the district's rule regarding an employee's use of his/her accrued vacation leave and other accrued paid or unpaid time off, as specified in the section "Use/Substitution of Paid Leave" above, shall apply.

**Notifications**

The Superintendent or designee shall provide the following notifications regarding state and federal law related to PDL or FMLA/CFRA leave:

1. **General Notice:** Information explaining the provisions of the FEHA/PDL and FMLA/CFRA and employee rights and obligations shall be posted in a conspicuous place on district premises, or electronically, and shall be included in employee handbooks. (2 CCR 11049, 11095; 29 USC 2619)

The general notice shall also explain an employee's obligation to provide the Superintendent or designee with at least 30 days notice of the need for the requested leave, when the need is reasonably foreseeable at least 30 days prior to the start of the leave. (2 CCR 11050, 11091)

(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - *Employee Notifications*)

2. **Eligibility Notice:** When an employee requests leave, including PDL, or when the Superintendent or designee acquires knowledge that an employee's leave may be for an FMLA/CFRA qualifying reason, the Superintendent or designee shall, within five business days, provide notification to the employee of his/her eligibility to take such leave. (2 CCR 11049, 11091; 29 CFR 825.300)
3. **Rights and Responsibilities Notice:** Each time the eligibility notice is provided to an employee, the Superintendent or designee shall provide written notification explaining the specific expectations and obligations of the employee, including any consequences for a failure to meet those obligations. Such notice shall include, as applicable: (29 CFR 825.300)
  - a. A statement that the leave may be designated and counted against the employee's annual FMLA/CFRA leave entitlement and the appropriate 12-month entitlement period, if qualifying
  - b. Any requirements for the employee to furnish medical certification of a serious health condition, serious injury or illness, or qualifying exigency arising out of active duty or call to active duty status and the consequences of failing to provide the certification
  - c. The employee's right to use paid leave, whether the district will require use of paid leave, conditions related to any use of paid leave, and the employee's

**FAMILY CARE AND MEDICAL LEAVE** (continued)

entitlement to take unpaid leave if the employee does not meet the conditions for paid leave

- d. Any requirements for the employee to make premium payments necessary to maintain health benefits, the arrangement for making such payments, and the possible consequences of failure to make payments on a timely basis
- e. The employee's status as a "key employee" if applicable, potential consequence that restoration may be denied following the FMLA leave, and explanation of the conditions required for such denial
- f. The employee's right to maintenance of benefits during the leave and restoration to the same or an equivalent job upon return from leave
- g. The employee's potential liability for health insurance premiums paid by the district during the employee's unpaid FMLA leave should the employee not return to service after the leave

Any time the information provided in the above notice changes, the Superintendent or designee shall, within five business days of his/her receipt of an employee's first notice of need for leave, provide the employee with a written notice referencing the prior notice and describing any changes to the notice. (29 CFR 825.300)

- 4. Designation Notice: When the Superintendent or designee has information (e.g., sufficient medical certification) to determine whether the leave qualifies as FMLA/CFRA leave, he/she shall, within five business days, provide written notification designating the leave as FMLA/CFRA qualifying or, if the leave will not be so designated, the reason for that determination. (2 CCR 11091; 29 CFR 825.300)

If the amount of leave needed is known, the notice shall include the number of hours, days, or weeks that will be counted against the employee's FMLA/CFRA entitlement. If it is not possible to provide that number at the time of the designation notice, notification shall be provided of the amount of leave counted against the employee's entitlement upon request by the employee and at least once in every 30-day period if leave was taken in that period. (29 CFR 825.300)

If the district requires paid leave to be used during an otherwise unpaid family care and medical leave, the notice shall so specify. If the district requires an employee to present a release to return to work certification that addresses the employee's ability to perform the essential functions of the job, the notice shall also specify that requirement. (2 CCR 11091, 11097; 29 CFR 825.300)

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## **FAMILY CARE AND MEDICAL LEAVE (continued)**

Any time the information provided in the designation notice changes, the Superintendent or designee shall, within five business days, provide the employee with written notice referencing the prior notice and describing any changes to the notice. (29 CFR 825.300)

### **Records**

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain records pertaining to an individual employee's use of family care and medical leave in accordance with law. (Government Code 12946; 29 USC 2616; 42 USC 2000ff-1; 29 CFR 825.500)

#### *Legal Reference:*

##### EDUCATION CODE

44965 *Granting of leaves of absence for pregnancy and childbirth*

##### FAMILY CODE

297-297.5 *Rights, protections, and benefits under law; registered domestic partners*

300 *Validity of marriage*

##### GOVERNMENT CODE

12926 *Fair employment and housing act, definitions*

12940 *Unlawful employment practices*

12945 *Pregnancy; childbirth or related medical condition; unlawful practice*

12945.1-12945.2 *California Family Rights Act*

12945.6 *Parental leave*

12946 *Fair Employment and Housing Act: discrimination prohibited*

##### CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2

11035-11051 *Sex discrimination: pregnancy, childbirth and related medical conditions*

11087-11098 *California Family Rights Act*

##### UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 1

7 *Definition of marriage*

##### UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

2601-2654 *Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, as amended*

##### UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

2000ff-1-2000ff-11 *Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008*

##### CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 29

825.100-825.800 *Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993*

##### COURT DECISIONS

*United States v. Windsor, (2013) 699 F.3d 169*

*Faust v. California Portland Cement Company, (2007) 150 Cal.App.4th 864*

*Tellis v. Alaska Airlines, (9th Cir., 2005) 414 F.3d 1045*

#### *Management Resources:*

##### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR PUBLICATIONS

*Military Family Leave Provisions of the FMLA Frequently Asked Questions and Answers*

##### WEB SITES

*California Department of Fair Employment and Housing: <http://www.dfeh.ca.gov>*

*U.S. Department of Labor, FMLA: <http://www.dol.gov/whd/fmla>*

Regulation

Approved: January 4, 2012

Revised: September 24, 2015

Revised: April 4 2018

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California

**All Personnel**

BP 4161.9

4261.9

**CATASTROPHIC LEAVE PROGRAM**

4361.9

The Board of Trustees recognizes that district employees may desire to assist other employees who have an urgent need for a leave of absence but do not have sufficient accrued leave to cover their absence. The Superintendent or designee shall establish a catastrophic leave program by which employees may donate accrued vacation and/or sick leave credits, which shall be placed into a pool for use by eligible employees.

**Donations made under the catastrophic leave program shall be strictly voluntary.**

The district's policy and procedures regarding catastrophic leave shall be included in the employee handbook. The Superintendent or designee may notify employees annually, or more frequently if the need arises, of the process for donating leave for this purpose.

An employee may apply to use donated leave credits in accordance with the accompanying administrative regulation when he/she has exhausted all applicable paid leaves of absence and a catastrophic illness or injury incapacitates the employee or a member of his/her family for an extended period of time. (Education Code 44043.5)

*(cf. 4161/4261/4361 - Leaves)*

*(cf. 4161.1/4361.1 - Personal Illness/Injury Leave)*

*(cf. 4161.8/4261.8/4361.8 - Family Care and Medical Leave)*

*(cf. 4261.1 - Personal Illness/Injury Leave)*

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

44043.5 Catastrophic leave

44977 Salary deduction during sick leave, certificated employees

44978 Sick leave, certificated employees

44983 Compensation during leave, certificated employees

45190-45191 Sick leave and vacation, classified employees

45196 Salary deductions during sick leave, classified employees

LABOR CODE

245-249 Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act

(3/92 10/98) 5/18

Policy  
adopted: January 4, 2012  
revised: August 1, 2018

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Biggs, California



**All Personnel**

**AR 4161.9**

**4261.9**

**CATASTROPHIC LEAVE PROGRAM**

**4361.9**

When an employee or a member of his/her family experiences a catastrophic illness or injury which requires the employee to take time off from work for an extended period of time, and the employee has exhausted all available sick leave and other paid time off, he/she may request donations of accrued vacation or sick leave credits. (Education Code 44043.5)

In making such a request, the employee shall provide verification of the catastrophic injury or illness. (Education Code 44043.5)

Verification shall be made by means of a letter, dated and signed by the sick or injured person's physician, indicating the incapacitating nature and probable duration of the illness or injury.

Upon determination that the employee is unable to work due to his/her own or a family member's catastrophic illness or injury, any other employee, upon written notice to the Board of Trustees, may donate accrued vacation and/or sick leave credits to the requesting employee. Donations shall be at a minimum of eight hours, and in hour increments thereafter. (Education Code 44043.5)

To ensure that employees retain sufficient accrued sick leave to meet their own needs, donors shall not reduce their accumulated sick leave to fewer than 40 hours.

All transfers of eligible leave credit shall be irrevocable. (Education Code 44043.5)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all donations are confidential.

The employee who is the recipient of the donated leave credits shall use those credits within 12 consecutive months.

If donated credits are not used by the employee within 12 consecutive months, the credits shall be placed in a pool that will be available to the next eligible employee who requests catastrophic leave.

An employee who receives paid catastrophic leave shall use any leave credits that he/she continues to accrue on a monthly basis before receiving paid leave pursuant to this program. (Education Code 44043.5)