

ARTICLE 2

ADMINISTRATION

(Series 2000)

NOTE: The CSBA comprehensive index/table of contents is widely used by districts throughout the state. It provides a standard index system designed to accommodate future policies/regulations and at the same time provides a table of contents for this manual. This manual contains only those Board policies (BP), administrative regulations (AR) and exhibits (E) specified in the right-hand column.

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CONCEPTS AND ROLES

The Governing Board expects the administration to promote the creation of the best possible educational program and to maintain an environment conducive to learning. The Superintendent shall provide the vision and educational leadership in this effort and shall give top priority to meeting the needs of all students and actively helping teachers raise academic achievement.

The Superintendent shall develop decision-making processes which are responsive to the school community and to the specific needs of individual students. He/she shall provide means by which staff, students and parents/guardians at the school may participate in decisions related to school improvement and matters which the Board identifies as appropriately managed at the school site level. The administration shall provide professional advice to the Board and to citizen advisory committees.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

(cf. 2230 - Representative and Deliberative Groups)

Within the parameters of law, the Board may employ administrative and supervisory personnel to assist in the effective management of the district. All departments shall form a single administrative system organized so that appropriate decision making may take place at various levels in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulations. The Board expects the Superintendent to recognize, develop and use the leadership abilities of staff.

The Board desires to give all administrators the authority they need in order to carry out their assigned responsibilities. The Board shall clearly state what it expects of the Superintendent and shall evaluate him/her on how well those expectations have been met. In turn, the Superintendent shall clearly state what is expected of all other administrators and shall evaluate how well those expectations have been met.

(cf. 4119.3/4219.3/4319.3 - Duties of Personnel)

(cf. 4300 - Management, Supervisory and Confidential Personnel)

(cf. 4315 - Evaluation/Supervision)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35020 Duties of employees fixed by governing board

35028 Qualifications for employment

35031 Term of employment

35160 Authority of governing boards

35160.1 Broad authority of school districts

35161 Powers and duties generally

41401-41407 Teaching and nonteaching certificated employee ratio

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF ORGANIZATION

The Superintendent shall organize the administrative staff in a manner which best enables the district to provide an effective program of instruction.

(cf. 2230 - Representative and Deliberative Groups)

Authority originates with the publicly elected Governing Board. Through the Superintendent, authority and responsibility are delegated to the administrators and staff.

The Superintendent may adjust staff responsibilities temporarily or permanently to accommodate the workload and/or individual capabilities.

SUPERINTENDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES

The Governing Board desires to set clear expectations of the Superintendent's responsibilities and duties in order to establish a productive working relationship with the Superintendent, ensure that the work of the Superintendent is focused on achievement of the district's vision and goals, and provide a fair basis for holding the Superintendent accountable. The responsibilities are detailed in law, Board policy and the Superintendent's contract.

(cf. 0000 - Vision)

(cf. 2000 - Concepts and Roles)

(cf. 2111 - Superintendent Governance Standards)

(cf. 2121 - Superintendent's Contract)

(cf. 2140 - Evaluation of the Superintendent)

As the chief executive officer of the district, the Superintendent shall implement all Board decisions and manage the schools in accordance with law and Board policies. The Superintendent has responsibilities related to students and the instructional program, personnel, noninstructional operations, and the community. The Superintendent also serves as a member of the district's governance team and has responsibilities to support Board operations and decision making.

(cf. 2210 - Administrative Leeway in Absence of Governing Board Policy)

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

The Superintendent may delegate any of his/her responsibilities and duties to other district staff but remains accountable to the Board for all areas of operation under the Superintendent's authority.

(cf. 2220 - Administrative Staff Organization)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

17604 Delegation of powers to agents

17605 Delegation of authority to purchase supplies, equipment and services

35020 Duties of employees set by governing board

35026 Employment and duties of district superintendent

35035 Additional powers and duties of superintendent

48900 Authority of superintendent to recommend suspension or expulsion

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Maximizing School Board Leadership, 1996

WEB SITES

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

ACSA: <http://www.acsa.org>

Policy

adopted: April 9, 2002

Revised: April 12, 2005

COLUMBIA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Columbia, California

SUPERINTENDENT GOVERNANCE STANDARDS

The Governing Board recognizes that effective district governance requires strong collaboration and teamwork with the Superintendent. Because the Board and Superintendent each have their unique roles and responsibilities, both contribute to the responsible governance of the district and the quality of education provided to the community's students.

(cf. 2000 - Concepts and Roles)

(cf. 2110 - Superintendent Responsibilities and Duties)

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

The Superintendent is expected to hold himself/herself to the highest standards of ethical conduct and professionalism.

To support the Board in the governance of the district, the Superintendent:

1. Promotes the success of all students and supports the efforts of the Board to keep the district focused on learning and achievement
2. Values, advocates and supports public education and all stakeholders
3. Recognizes and respects the differences of perspective and style on the Board and among staff, students, parents/guardians and the community – and ensures that the diverse range of views inform Board decisions
4. Acts with dignity, treats everyone with civility and respect, and understands the implications of demeanor and behavior
5. Serves as a model for the value of lifelong learning and supports the Board's continuous professional development

(cf. 9240 - Board Development)

6. Works with the Board as a “governance team” and assures collective responsibility for building unity of purpose, communicating a common vision and creating a positive organizational culture

(cf. 0000 - Vision)

7. Recognizes that the Board/Superintendent governance relationship is supported by the management team in the district
8. Understands the distinctions between Board and staff roles, and respects the role of the Board as the representative of the community

SUPERINTENDENT GOVERNANCE STANDARDS (continued)

9. Understands the authority that rests with the Board as a whole; provides guidance to the Board to assist in decision-making; and provides leadership based on the direction of the Board as a whole
10. Communicates openly with trust and integrity, including providing all members of the Board with equal access to information and recognizing the importance of both responsive and anticipatory communications
11. Accepts leadership responsibility and accountability for implementing the vision, goals and policies of the district

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35020 Duties of employees set by governing board

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Superintendent Governance Standards, 2001

CSBA Professional Governance Standards, 2000

AASA PUBLICATIONS

Professional Standards for the Superintendency, 1993

WEB SITES

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

ACSA: <http://www.acsa.org>

American Association of School Administrators: <http://www.aasa.org>

SUPERINTENDENT RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION

The Governing Board recognizes that it has a direct responsibility to select and employ the Superintendent. Whenever it becomes necessary for the Board to fill a vacancy in the position of Superintendent, the Board shall work diligently to employ a person whose management and leadership abilities are most closely aligned with district needs.

(cf. 2000 - Concepts and Roles)

(cf. 2110 - Superintendent Responsibilities and Duties)

(cf. 2111 - Superintendent Governance Standards)

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

The Board shall establish and implement a search and selection process that includes consideration of:

1. The district's current and long-term needs, including a review of the district's vision and goals

(cf. 000 - Vision)

(cf. 0100 - Philosophy)

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)

2. The desired characteristics of a new Superintendent, including professional experience, educational qualifications, leadership characteristics, philosophy of education, and other management, technical, interpersonal and conceptual skills, as well as the priorities the Board wants to place on different abilities, traits and levels of knowledge
3. The scope of the search, including whether to promote from within the district or broaden the search to include both internal and external candidates and, if external candidates will be considered, whether to conduct a statewide or nationwide search
4. The salary range and benefits to be offered
5. Basic elements to be included in the Superintendent's contract
6. Whether to hire a professional adviser to facilitate the process
7. How and when to involve the community in certain phases of the selection process

(cf. 1000 - Concepts and Roles)

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committee)

8. The best methods for advertising the vacancy and recruiting qualified candidates
9. The process for screening applications and determining how the screener(s) will be selected
10. Interview questions, process and participants

SUPERINTENDENT RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION (continued)

11. How and when candidate's qualifications will be verified through reference checks

(cf. 4112.5/4312.5 - Criminal Record Check)

12. Other actions necessary to ensure a fair selection process and a smooth transition to new leadership

Even if a professional adviser is used to facilitate the process, the Board shall retain the right and responsibility to oversee the process and to review all applications if desired.

The Board shall select candidates to be interviewed based on recommendations of the screener(s) and the Board's own assessment of how candidates meet the criteria established by the Board.

The Board shall interview preliminary and final candidates in closed session and determine the most likely match for the district. (Government Code 54957)

The selected candidate shall hold both a valid school administration certificate and a valid teacher's certificate. The Board may waive any credential requirement, but shall not employ a person whose credential has been revoked by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing pursuant to Education Code 44421-44427. (Education Code 35028, 35029, 35029.1)

Before offering the position to the selected candidate or making any announcements, Board members may visit that candidate's current district, as appropriate, to obtain verification of his/her qualifications.

The Board shall deliberate in closed session to affirm the selection of the candidate and shall report the selection in open session. (Government Code 54957)

(cf. 2121 - Superintendent's Contract)

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

(cf. 9321.1 - Closed Session Actions and Reports)

The Board shall conduct these proceedings in accordance with legal and ethical obligations regarding confidentiality and equal opportunity.

(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)

(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)

(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)

(cf. 4111.2/4211.2/4311.2 - Legal Status Requirement)

(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)

As necessary, the Board may appoint an interim superintendent to manage the district during the selection process.

SUPERINTENDENT RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

220 Prohibition of discrimination
35026 Employment of superintendent by board
35028 Certification
35029-35029.1 Waiver of credential requirement
35031 Term of employment
44420-44440 Revocation and suspension of certification documents

GOVERNMENT CODE

11135 Unlawful discrimination
12900-12996 California Fair Employment and Housing Act
53260-53264 Employment contracts
54954 Time and place of regular meetings
54957 Closed session personnel matters
54957.1 Closed session, public report of action taken

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2

7287.6 Terms, conditions and privileges of employment

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

794 Section 504 of the Vocational Education Rehabilitation Act of 1973

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

2000d-2000d-7 Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964
2000e-2000e-17 Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended
2000h-2000h-6 Title IX, 1972 Education Act Amendments

12101-12213 Americans with Disabilities Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

100.6 Compliance information
106.9 Dissemination of nondiscrimination policy

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Maximizing School Board Leadership: Human Resources, 1996

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>
ACSA: <http://www.acsa.org>
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission: <http://www.eeoc.gov>
Office of Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OCR>
Department of Fair Employment and Housing: <http://www.dfeh.ca.gov>

SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT

The Governing Board believes that the Superintendent's employment contract should outline the framework through which the Board and Superintendent are to work together to achieve district goals and objectives. When approving the Superintendent's employment contract, the Board shall consider the need for stability in district administration and shall ensure the best use of district resources.

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)
(cf. 2120 - Superintendent Recruitment and Selection)
(cf. 4312.1 - Contracts)
(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

The contract shall be reviewed by the district's legal counsel and may include the following:

1. Term of the contract, which shall be for no more than four years pursuant to Education Code 35031
2. Length of the work year and hours of work
3. Salary, health and welfare benefits, and other compensation for the position

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

4. Reimbursement of work-related expenses, including mileage reimbursement, consistent with Board policies, regulations, and guidelines applicable to other professional administrative staff

(cf. 3350 - Travel Expenses)

The contract may also address payment for professional dues and activities, the district's provision of cell phones or other technological devices, and the Superintendent's use of his/her personal vehicle.

(cf. 4040 - Employee Use of Technology)

5. Vacation, illness and injury leave, and personal leaves

(cf. 4161/4261/4361 - Leaves)
(cf. 4161.1/4361.1 - Personal Illness/Injury Leave)
(cf. 4161.2/4261.2/4361.2 - Personal Leaves)
(cf. 4161.5/4261.5/4361.5 - Military Leave)
(cf. 4161.8/4261.8/4361.8 - Family Care and Medical Leave)

SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT (continued)

6. General duties and responsibilities of the position
(cf. 2110 - Superintendent Responsibilities and Duties)
7. Criteria, process, and procedure for annual evaluation of the Superintendent
(cf. 2140 - Evaluation of the Superintendent)
8. A statement that any subsequent increase in the Superintendent's salary shall be at the sole discretion of the Board
9. A statement that there shall be no automatic renewal or extension of the contract, although the Board can enter into a new contract with the Superintendent prior to the expiration of the existing contract
10. Timeline for providing written notice to the Superintendent if the Board does not wish to enter into a new contract, which shall be at least 45 days in advance of the expiration of the term of the contract pursuant to Education Code 35031, and the responsibility of the Superintendent to remind the Board in a timely manner of the requirement to give notice
(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)
11. Conditions and process for termination of the contract, including the maximum cash settlement that the Superintendent may receive if the contract is terminated prior to its expiration date
12. Matters related to liability and indemnification against demands, claims, suits, actions, and legal proceedings brought against the Superintendent in his/her official capacity in the performance of duties related to his/her employment

The Board may deliberate about terms of the contract in closed session at a regular meeting. Discussions regarding the salary, salary schedule, or other compensation may occur in closed session only as permitted under Government Code 54957.6 between the Board and its designated representative(s) (the "labor exception"), for the purpose of reviewing the Board's position or instructing the designated representative(s) prior to or during bona fide negotiations with the current or prospective Superintendent. (Government Code 54956, 54957, 54957.6)

The Board may consult with district legal counsel prior to holding a closed session with the designated representative(s) to discuss compensation to be paid to the current or prospective Superintendent.

SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT (continued)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)
(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)
(cf. 9321.1 - Closed Session Actions and Reports)

Terms of the contract shall remain confidential until the ratification process commences.

(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)

The Board shall take final action on the Superintendent's contract in an open meeting, which shall be reflected in the Board's minutes. Copies of the contract shall be available to the public upon request. (Government Code 53262, 54957.6)

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)
(cf. 3580 - District Records)

Termination of Contract

Prior to the expiration of the contract, the Board may terminate the Superintendent's employment contract in accordance with law and applicable contract provisions.

(cf. 4117.5/4217.5/4317.5 - Termination Agreements)

In such an event, any cash settlement that the Superintendent may receive upon termination of the contract shall not exceed his/her monthly salary multiplied by the number of months left on the contract or, if the unexpired term of the contract is more than 18 months and the contract was executed prior to January 1, 2016, no greater than the Superintendent's monthly salary multiplied by 18. For any contract executed on or after January 1, 2016, any cash settlement shall not exceed the Superintendent's monthly salary multiplied by 12. (Government Code 53260)

The cash settlement shall not include any noncash items other than health benefits, which may be continued for the same duration of time as covered in the settlement or until the Superintendent finds other employment, whichever occurs first. (Government Code 53260, 53261)

However, when the termination of the Superintendent's contract is based upon the Board's belief and subsequent confirmation through an independent audit that the Superintendent has engaged in fraud, misappropriation of funds, or other illegal fiscal practices, no cash or noncash settlement of any amount shall be provided. (Government Code 53260)

SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT (continued)

In addition, if the Superintendent is convicted of a crime involving an abuse of his/her office or position, he/she shall reimburse the district for payments he/she receives as paid leave salary pending investigation or as cash settlement upon his/her termination, and for any funds expended by the district in his/her defense against a crime involving his/her office or position. (Government Code 53243-53243.4, 53260)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35031 *Term of employment*

41325-41329.3 *Conditions of emergency apportionment*

GOVERNMENT CODE

3511.1-3511.2 *Local agency executives*

53243-53243.4 *Abuse of office*

53260-53264 *Employment contracts*

54954 *Time and place of regular meetings*

54956 *Special meetings*

54957 *Closed session personnel matters*

54957.1 *Closed session, public report of action taken*

54957.6 *Closed sessions regarding employee matters*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 26

105 *Self-insured medical reimbursement plan; definition of highly compensated individual*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

300gg-16 *Group health plan; nondiscrimination in favor of highly compensated individuals*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS

1.105-11 *Self-insured medical reimbursement plan*

COURT DECISIONS

San Diego Union v. City Council, (1983) 146 Cal.App.3d 947

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

57 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 209 (1974)

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Superintendent Contract Template, 2015

ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

The Brown Act: Open Meetings for Local Legislative Bodies, 2003

WEB SITES

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

Association of California School Administrators: <http://www.acsa.org>

Office of the Attorney General, Department of Justice: <http://caag.state.ca.us/>

EVALUATION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

The Governing Board shall annually conduct a formal evaluation of the Superintendent's performance in order to assess his/her effectiveness in leading the district toward established goals. The Board and Superintendent shall establish an appropriate schedule for the annual evaluation process.

(cf. 0000 – Vision)

(cf. 2121 – Superintendent's Contract)

(cf. 9000 – Role of the Board)

Evaluation criteria shall be based on district goals and success indicators agreed upon by the Board and Superintendent prior to the evaluation. The evaluation shall provide commendations in areas of strength, provide recommendations for improving effectiveness, and serve as a basis for making decisions about salary increases and/or contract extension.

(cf. 2110 - Superintendent Responsibilities and Duties)

The Board and Superintendent shall annually consider what evaluation method(s) will best serve the district and agree on the specific written instrument to be used.

Prior to the evaluation, the Superintendent shall be responsible for preparing and distributing to the Board for its review a report of progress toward district goals, the Superintendent's self-appraisal of accomplishments and performance, and a review of action taken to address any Board recommendations from the previous evaluation. The Board shall also review the Superintendent's current contract and any relevant Board policies.

Each Board member shall independently evaluate the Superintendent's performance. The board shall determine who will summarize and combine the individual evaluations to create a consensus document and how that consensus document will be formatted. The evaluation shall be a composite of individual Board members' opinions, but there shall be only one final evaluation representing the Board's collective judgment. This final evaluation shall be provided to the Superintendent for his/her response.

The Board shall meet in closed session with the Superintendent to discuss the evaluation. (Government Code 54957)

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

The Superintendent shall have an opportunity to ask questions, respond verbally and in writing to the evaluation, and present additional evidence of his/her performance or district progress.

EVALUATION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT (continued)

The Board president and Superintendent shall sign the evaluation as evidence that the evaluation has been discussed. The Superintendent shall place the evaluation in his/her personnel files.

(cf. 4112.6/4212.6/4312.6 - Personnel Files)

After each evaluation has been completed, the Board shall meet in open session to give the Board and Superintendent an opportunity to jointly identify performance goals for the next year.

(cf. 2111 - Superintendent Governance Standards)

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

(cf. 9400 - Board Self-Evaluation)

Legal Reference:

GOVERNMENT CODE

54957 Closed session for personnel matters

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Maximizing School Board Governance: Superintendent Evaluation, 2004

WEB SITES

Association of California School Administrators: <http://www.acsa.org>

CSBA, Single District Governance Services: <http://www.csba.org/sds>

ADMINISTRATIVE LEEWAY IN ABSENCE OF BOARD POLICY

Through Governing Board policy, the Board tries to anticipate critical policy issues that may affect district students and operations. However, the Board recognizes that questions may arise in the day-to-day operations of the schools that are not addressed in Board policy or administrative regulations. When resolution of such issues demands timely action, the Superintendent or designee shall have the authority to act on behalf of the district.

(cf. 2110 - Superintendent Responsibilities and Duties)

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

(cf. 9311 - Board Policies)

If the matter involves a policy decision that is likely to be controversial, or a matter that has a significant impact on student learning or safety, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the Board president as soon as practicable after its occurrence. The Board president shall then inform the Board as appropriate.

The Board president may schedule a review of the action at the next regular Board meeting.

If the action indicates the need for additions or revisions in Board policies, the Superintendent or designee shall make the necessary recommendations to the Board.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35035 Powers and duties of Superintendent

REPRESENTATIVE AND DELIBERATIVE GROUPS

The Governing Board believes that broad input on district operations and policy from staff, parents/guardians, students and members of the public can provide the district with a diversity of viewpoints and expertise, help build a sense of ownership of the schools, enhance district efficiency and assist district communications. As desired, the Superintendent or designee may establish a management team, administrative councils, task forces, cabinets or committees in accordance with law.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)
(cf. 2220 - Administrative Staff Organization)

The membership, composition and responsibilities of these groups shall be defined by the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee may establish, change or dissolve these groups at his/her discretion.

Groups established by the Superintendent or designee shall act in an advisory capacity unless specifically authorized to act on behalf of the Superintendent or designee. Advisory groups shall submit their recommendations to the Superintendent or designee, who may report the recommendations to the Board as appropriate.

(cf. 9130 - Board Committees)

Expenses incurred for consulting services, materials, travel or other related operations shall be approved by the Superintendent or designee in advance.

(cf. 3350 - Travel Expenses)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35160.1 Broad authority of school districts

45100.5 Senior classified management positions

45256.5 Designation of certain senior classified management positions

GOVERNMENT CODE

3540.1 Definitions

54952 Legislative body, definition

REPRESENTATIVE AND DELIBERATIVE GROUPS

Management Team

The Superintendent designates the following management and confidential positions as members of the management team:

- Associate Superintendents
- Assistant Superintendents
- Directors
- Principals
- Assistant Principals
- Central Office Administrators
- Business Assistant
- Maintenance and Operations Director
- Purchasing Agent
- Program Coordinators
- Psychologists
- Nurses
- Project Specialists
- Supervisors
- Accounting Technicians
- Deans of Students
- Executive Secretaries
- Administrative Secretaries

The management team is established to advise the Superintendent for the purposes of:

1. Improving management activities through effective research on district problems
2. Pooling technical knowledge
3. Establishing a coordinated program for evaluating district operations and staff
4. Improving communications among all district staff and with students, parents/guardians and the community
5. Increasing staff commitment to district services
6. Suggesting new or revised policies and regulations