



TO: Dr. J. Brian Sarvis, Superintendent

FROM: Robin Sawaske, Associate Superintendent for Education

DATE: July 2, 2010

SUBJECT: Name Change for the Bridge Program Continuation High Schools

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Starting with the 2010-11 school year, all three district high schools will oversee their own continuation schools. The San Marcos and Santa Barbara High schools have implemented programs within the last two school years and have been calling their continuation schools the Bridge Programs. However, the state registered names for the schools are Santa Barbara Continuation High School and San Marcos Continuation High School. Dos Pueblos also implemented a similar pilot program during the last school year called The Academy.

As each high school's program has been developed and continues to adjust to the school's student needs, the programs are somewhat different. Along with operating procedures and requirements for continuation schools, a common element in each school is supporting at-risk students to be successful in high school.

Given the slight differences in the programs and a desire to create a specialized unique community of learners at each school, the high schools are proposing a name change for their current continuation schools.

Recently, staff received information from the California Department of Education regarding requirements for naming continuation high schools. There is no requirement to include the word "continuation" in the official name of the school.

Following are proposed names for each high school's continuation school:

- Santa Barbara High School: Santa Barbara Alternative High School
- San Marcos High School: San Marcos Bridge High School
- Dos Pueblos High School: Dos Pueblos Charger Academy

The proposal for name changes will come to the board for action at the July 13<sup>th</sup> board meeting. Please contact me if more information is requested or questions arise regarding the proposal.

Attached is the California Education Code detailing the intent and guidelines for establishing continuation schools and classes.

CALIFORNIA CODES  
EDUCATION CODE  
SECTION 48430-48438

48430. It is the intent of the Legislature that continuation education schools and classes shall be established and maintained to provide all of the following:

(1) An opportunity for pupils to complete the required academic courses of instruction to graduate from high school.

(2) A program of instruction which emphasizes occupational orientation or a work-study schedule and offers intensive guidance services to meet the special needs of pupils.

(3) A program designed to meet the educational needs of each pupil, including, but not limited to, independent study, regional occupation programs, work study, career counseling, and job placement services, as a supplement to classroom instruction.

48431. The governing board of each high school district shall establish and maintain a program of guidance, placement, and follow-up for all minors within the district subject to compulsory continuation education.

48432. The governing board of each high school district and each unified school district shall establish and maintain within its boundaries special continuation education classes and may establish and maintain regional occupational centers or programs, in accordance with the provisions of Section 52301, whenever there are any minors residing within the district who are subject to compulsory continuation education; provided, that if there are fewer than 100 students enrolled in grade 12 in any school of the district maintaining that grade, the governing board of the district may apply to the State Department of Education for exemption of that school from the requirements of this section and such exemption may be granted in accordance with rules and regulations that

shall be adopted by the State Board of Education to govern the granting of the exemptions. An exemption may also be granted to schools having an enrollment of more than 100 pupils in grade 12 if the district seeking the exemption has entered into an agreement with another high school district or unified school district to maintain special continuation education classes for minors residing in either of the districts, but shall not be granted if the agreement would make it necessary for such minors to travel an excessive distance from their homes to the continuation education classes.

If there is a regional occupational center or program as provided in Article 1 (commencing with Section 52300) of Chapter 9 of Part 28, of this division within a county, the governing board of any school district within that county may enroll minors, otherwise subject to, and in lieu of, continuation education, in the center or program in accordance with the provisions of Section 52314.

Any minor admitted to a regional occupational center or program under the provisions of Section 52314.5 shall be considered to have enrolled in the regional occupational center or program in lieu of continuation education classes. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a minor from enrolling in a program of continuation education or a regular high school program if the minor voluntarily chooses to enroll in the program.

48432.5. The governing board of each high school or unified school district which assigns pupils to continuation schools shall adopt, rules and regulations governing procedures for the involuntary transfer of pupils to continuation schools.

Such rules and regulations shall provide that written notice be given to the pupil and the pupil's parent or guardian informing them of the opportunity to request a meeting with a designee of the district superintendent prior to the transfer.

At the meeting, the pupil or the pupil's parent or guardian shall be informed of the specific facts and reasons for the proposed transfer and shall have the opportunity to inspect all documents relied upon, question any evidence and witnesses presented and

present evidence on the pupil's behalf. The pupil may designate one or more representatives and witnesses to be present with him or her at the meeting.

A decision to transfer the pupil involuntarily shall be based on a finding that the pupil (a) committed an act enumerated in Section 48900, or (b) has been habitually truant or irregular in attendance from instruction upon which he or she is lawfully required to attend.

The decision to transfer shall be in writing, stating the facts and reasons for the decision, and sent to the pupil and the pupil's parent or guardian. It shall indicate whether the decision is subject to periodic review and the procedure therefore.

None of the persons involved in the final decision to make an involuntary transfer of a pupil to a continuation school shall be a member of the staff of the school in which the pupil is enrolled at the time that the decision is made.

A pupil, with the concurrence of a designee of the district superintendent, may transfer voluntarily to a continuation school in order to receive special attention such as individualized instruction.

Involuntary transfer to a continuation school shall be imposed only when other means fail to bring about pupil improvement; provided that a pupil may be involuntarily transferred the first time he or she commits an act enumerated in Section 48900 if the principal determines that the pupil's presence causes a danger to persons or property or threatens to disrupt the instructional process.

No involuntary transfer to a continuation school shall extend beyond the end of the semester following the semester during which the acts leading directly to the involuntary transfer occurred unless the local governing board adopts a procedure for yearly review of the involuntary transfer conducted pursuant to this section at the request of the pupil or the pupil's parent or guardian.

A pupil who has voluntarily transferred to a continuation school shall have the right to return to the regular high school at the beginning of the following school year and with the consent of a designee of the district superintendent, may return at

any time.

48433. Special continuation education classes or classes conducted by a regional occupational center or any combination thereof shall provide at least four 60-minute hours of instruction per week for each minor within the high school district who is subject to compulsory continuation education.

48434. (a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b), such classes shall be maintained during the district's regular school hours, or during special school hours for these classes established by the governing board.

(b) If the school district maintains classes for adults, the governing board of the school district may maintain continuation education classes during such hours and for such length of time during the day or evening as the classes for adults are maintained.

48435. Such classes shall provide suitable instruction for the various individuals for whose benefit they are established.

48436. The State Board of Education shall prescribe and enforce standards and regulations for the organization and administration of programs of guidance, placement and follow-up, for programs of coordination and instruction in continuation education, for the special reimbursement thereof, and for the certification of teachers and coordinators for continuation education.

48437. The governing board of a school district or school districts, as the case may be, maintaining special continuation education classes may accept and expend grants from the federal government or from other public or private sources for the purpose of this article.

48438. It is the intent of the Legislature that special funds for eligible pupils be expended by the continuation schools in which those pupils are enrolled.

State and federal categorical funds shall be

allocated to continuation schools in the same manner as to comprehensive schools to the maximum extent permitted by state and federal laws and regulations.