

# **Santa Barbara School Districts**

## **Board Policy**

**BP 5146**

### **Students**

#### **MARRIED/PREGNANT/PARENTING STUDENTS**

The Governing Board recognizes that early marriage, pregnancy or parenting may disrupt a student's education and increase the chance of a student dropping out of school. The Board, therefore, desires to provide instruction and services designed to assist in pregnancy prevention. The Board also desires to support pregnant and parenting students to attain strong academic and parenting skills and to promote the healthy development of their children.

Married, pregnant and parenting students shall have the same educational and extracurricular opportunities as all students. Participation in special programs or schools shall be voluntary.

For school-related purposes, married students under the age of 18 are emancipated minors and have all the rights and privileges of a student who is 18, even if the marriage has been dissolved. (Family Code 7002)

#### **Pregnant and Parenting Students**

The Board is committed to providing a comprehensive, continuous, community-linked program for pregnant and parenting students and their children that reflects the cultural and linguistic diversity of the community.

The Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with the County Superintendent of School and other community agencies and organizations to ensure that appropriate educational and related support services are available to meet the needs of pregnant and parenting teens and their children.

School placement and instructional strategies for participating pregnant or parenting students shall be determined on a case-by-case basis and shall be appropriate to the student's individual needs and learning styles. The student may continue attending school in the regular classroom or continuation education setting, may attend a separate program established for pregnant students, may enroll in adult education with adult status regardless of age, or may pursue a hospital instruction or independent study program.

The classroom setting shall be the preferred instructional strategy unless an alternative is necessary to meet the needs of the individual student and/or child. (Education Code 54745)

In addition to providing a quality academic program for pregnant and parenting students, the District's program shall provide parenting education and life skills classes, special school nutrition supplements for pregnant and lactating students, a child care and development program for the children of enrolled students on or near the school site, and other support services authorized by Education Code 54746 as necessary to meet the needs of students and their children. (Education Code 54745)

### **Pregnancy Prevention Program**

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that age-appropriate, culturally sensitive and community-sensitive instruction and services are available to assist in the prevention of pregnancy among minors. The District's program shall be based on strategies that have proven effective in delaying the onset of sexual activity and reducing the incidence of pregnancy among school-age youth.

Instruction shall include information regarding the consequences of pregnancy upon both the mother and father, including the effect upon future educational and employment opportunities; the meaning of parental responsibility and its effect upon one's personal life; strategies for resisting peer group pressure; and abstinence as a method of pregnancy prevention. Such instruction may be incorporated into health, social science or other appropriate courses in accordance with the requirements for those courses.

#### Legal Reference:

##### EDUCATION CODE

2551.3	Determination of state aid for pregnant minors program
8920-2929	Teenage pregnancy prevention grant program
17293	School Facilities for pregnant/parenting teen programs
48220	Compulsory education requirement
48410	Persons exempted from continuation classes
49553	Nutrition supplements for pregnant/lactating students
49558	Confidentiality of application and records for free or reduced price meals
51220.5	Parenting skills and education
51745	Independent study
52610.5	Enrollment of pregnant and parenting students in adult education
54740-54749.5	California School Age Families Education Program (Cal-SAFE)

#### **Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students**

Board Policy 5146

FAMILY CODE

7002 Description of emancipated minor  
7050 Purposes for which emancipated minor considered an adult

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

112475-124200 Adolescent and Family Life Act

CODE FOR REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

11820-11834 Pregnant minor program

18140-18175 School-age parenting and infant development programs

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1680-1688 Title IX, Education Act Amendments

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATION, TITLE 34

106.40 Marital of parental status

Management Resources:

CDE PUBLICATION

Pregnant and parenting Students: Cal-Learn Update/County Teen Birth Data Update, 9/12/94

Pregnant and Parenting Students: A Report to the Legislature, April 1996

SBE POLICIES

Policy statement on adolescent pregnancy and parenting, July 9, 1993

WEBSITES

CDE: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

Policy: SANTA BARBARA ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Adopted: March 22, 2000 Santa Barbara, California