

## **BOARD POLICY**

Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District

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Students

5137 - BP

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

The Board of Education recognizes that early marriage, pregnancy, or parenting and related responsibilities may disrupt a student's education and increase the chance of a student dropping out of school. The Board desires to support married, pregnant, parenting and/or lactating students to attain strong academic and parenting skills and to promote the healthy development of their children.

The district shall not discriminate against any student on the basis of the student's marital status, pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or related recovery.

For school-related purposes, a student under the age of 18 years who enters into a valid marriage shall have all the rights and privileges of students who are 18 years old, even if the marriage has been dissolved.

#### **Education and Support Services for Pregnant and Parenting Students**

Pregnant and parenting students shall retain the right to participate in any comprehensive school or educational alternative program. The classroom setting shall be the preferred instructional environment unless an alternative is necessary to meet the needs of the student and/or his/her child.

Any education program or activity that is offered separately to pregnant students, including any class or extracurricular activity, shall be equal to that offered to other district students. A student's participation in such programs shall be voluntary.

As required for other students with physical or emotional conditions or temporary disabilities, the Superintendent or designee may require a student, based on pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or related recovery, to obtain certification from a physician indicating that the student is physically and emotionally able to participate in an educational program or activity.

To the extent feasible, educational and related support services shall be provided, either through the district or in collaboration with community agencies and organizations, to meet the needs of pregnant and parenting students and their children. Such services may include, but are not limited to:

1. Special diet and supplemental foods for pregnant and lactating students through the PYLUSD Nutrition Services.
2. Health care services, including prenatal care, at the St. Jude Clinic located at Topaz Elementary School.
3. Tobacco, alcohol, and/or drug prevention and intervention services.
4. Academic and personal counseling.
5. Supplemental instruction to assist students in achieving grade-level academic standards and progressing toward graduation.

## **Absences**

Pregnant or parenting students may be excused for absences related to confidential medical appointments.

The Superintendent or designee shall grant a student a leave of absence due to pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, and related recovery for as long as it is deemed medically necessary by a physician. At the conclusion of the leave, the student shall be reinstated to the status held when the leave began.

A parenting student may request exemption from attendance because of personal services that must be rendered to a dependent.

## **Reasonable Accommodations**

When necessary, the District shall provide reasonable accommodations to pregnant and parenting students to enable them to access the educational program.

A pregnant student shall have access to any services available to other students with temporary disabilities or medical conditions.

The school shall provide reasonable accommodations to any lactating student to express breast milk, breastfeed an infant child, or address other needs related to breastfeeding. A student shall not incur an academic penalty for using any of these reasonable accommodations, and shall be provided the opportunity to make up any work missed due to such use. Reasonable accommodations include, but are not limited to:

1. Access to a private and secure room, other than a restroom, to express breast milk or breastfeed an infant child.
2. Permission to bring onto a school campus a breast pump and any other equipment used to express breast milk.
3. Access to a power source for a breast pump or any other equipment used to express breast milk.
4. Access to a place to store expressed breast milk safely.
5. A reasonable amount of time to accommodate the student's need to express breast milk or breastfeed an infant child.

## **Complaints**

Any complaint of discrimination on the basis of pregnancy or marital or parental status shall be addressed through the District's uniform complaint procedures.

Any complaint alleging District noncompliance with the requirements to provide reasonable accommodations for lactating students also may be filed in accordance with the district's Uniform Complaint Procedures. A complainant who is not satisfied with the district's decision may appeal the decision to the California Department of Education (CDE). If the district or the CDE finds merit in an appeal, the district shall provide a remedy to the affected student.

## Program Evaluation

The Superintendent or designee shall periodically report to the Board regarding the effectiveness of district strategies to support married, pregnant, lactating, and parenting students, which may include data on participation rates in district programs and services, academic achievement, school attendance, graduation rate, and/or student feedback on district programs and services.

### LEGAL REFERENCE:

Education Code	222	Reasonable accommodations; lactating students
	230	Sex discrimination
	8200-8498	Child Care and Development Services Act
	48205	Excused absences
	48220	Compulsory education requirement
	48410	Persons exempted from continuation classes
	49553	Nutrition supplements for pregnant/lactating students
	51220.5	Parenting skills and education
	51745	Independent study
	52610.5	Enrollment of pregnant and parenting students in adult education
Civil Code	51	Unruh Civil Rights Act
Family Code	7002	Description of emancipated minor
Health and Safety Code	104460	Tobacco prevention services for pregnant and parenting students
Code of Regulations, Title 5	4600-4687	Uniform complaint procedures
	4950	Nondiscrimination, marital and parental status
Code of Regulations, Title 22	101151-101239.2	General licensing requirements for child care centers
	101351-101439.1	Infant care centers
United States Code, Title 20	1681-1688	Title IX, Education Act Amendments
United States Code, Title 42	1786	Special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children
Code of Federal Regulations, Title 7	246.1-246.28	Special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children
Code of Federal Regulations, Title 34	106.40	Marital or parental status
Policy adopted:	12/15/80	
Policy revised:	5/23/00	
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Policy revised:	2/7/17	