SUMMER SCHOOL: FAILING GRADES FOR EXCESSIVE ABSENCES

The Board of Trustees recognizes that summer school provides the opportunity for students to improve various basic skills or academic progress and to accelerate in core academic areas. It is the intent of the Board of Trustees to ensure that courses taught during the summer school session are of the same level of instructional breadth and difficulty as provided during the regular school year. Students enrolled in summer school will cover approximately ninety (90) regular school hours in sixty (60) instructional hours per semester course. With the shorter time period, attendance is very crucial. When a student is absent he/she misses class experiences that cannot be duplicated. Not only does the absent student miss these experiences, but on his/her return, valuable instructional time is taken from the class to assist the returning student.

The Board of Trustees authorizes teachers to assign a failing grade to any student attending a regular summer school program who has more than ten percent (10%) unexcused absenteeism.

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE
37252-37253.5 Supplemental instructional programs
41976.5 Summer school programs, substantially disabled persons or graduating high school seniors
42239-42239.2 Summer school apportionments
48070-48070.5 Promotion and retention
51210 Areas of study for elementary schools
51220 Areas of study for grades 7-12
51730-51732 Powers of governing boards (authorization for elementary summer school classes)
53025-53031 Intensive reading instruction, summer school
53091-53094 Intensive algebra instruction, summer school
58700-58702 Credit towards summer school apportionments for tutoring and homework assistance program
58806 Summer school apportionments
60851 Supplemental instruction toward exit examination
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
3043 Extended school year
11470-11472 Summer schools
ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS
The following criteria will be used in implementing this policy.

1. The student or student’s parent/guardian shall be provided a reasonable opportunity to explain any absences.

2. Failing grades on the basis of excessive absences shall be so noted on the student’s report card.

3. If a student is failing, or in danger of failing, a progress report must be sent.

4. When a subject is dropped during the first half of a summer school course, no grade or entry is recorded on the transcript. After the first half (first quarter) of a summer school semester course, a student withdrawing from or transferring to an unrelated class will receive a withdraw-failing (WF) grade on the summer school report card and on his/her permanent record, which will be used in computing the grade point average.

It is recognized that at times special circumstances exist for students that are beyond their control. The types of conditions that might apply under this section could include, but not limited to:

- traumatic family situations (immediate)
- illness or accident that requires extended periods away from school
- acts of God (unforeseen at the time of the development of the policy)

If the parent/guardian believes that special circumstances should preclude the student from receiving a (WF) grade, the normal grade appeal process will be followed. The decision of the district appeal committee is final.

The Governing Board recognizes that summer school provides valuable opportunities for students to improve their skills and make academic progress. When the need is demonstrated and funds are available, the Superintendent or designee, with Board approval, shall establish summer school day and/or evening classes for purposes of proficiency, remediation, enrichment, and/or acceleration.
The district shall offer summer instructional programs for high school seniors who need courses for graduation prior to September.

The district’s summer school program may be used to provide supplemental instruction for students failing to meet academic requirements and/or students who desire enrichment in core academic subjects in accordance with law, Board policy and administrative regulation.

Enrollment Priorities:

Priority to enroll in summer programs shall be given to district students as follows:

1. Senior students who did not meet graduation requirements prior to September.

2. Students who need course credits in order to meet graduation/promotion requirements.

3. Students who are eligible for supplemental instruction if there is insufficient progress toward the state high school exit examination requirement.

4. Students who are eligible for supplemental instruction on the basis of retention or recommendation for retention.

The remaining openings shall be offered to district students on a first-come first-serve basis or on a lottery basis.

To the extent that space is available after district students have enrolled, remaining openings in summer classes for core academic subjects may be open to private school students.

Attendance:

Summer courses cover extensive instructional content in a relatively short time period; therefore, consistent class attendance is crucial. Students who have more than ten percent (10%) absenteeism may not receive credit for their summer session class(es).

Rotation of school Sites:

Sites for summer school programs may be rotated in an effort to make summer school programs more accessible to all students, regardless of residence or regular attendance area, and to equalize long-term facility and maintenance needs.