

The Board recognizes its obligation to ensure that all students have access to a free, appropriate, and high quality public education. The Board is committed to providing all students with an education that will prepare them to enter college, to obtain a living wage job, to be productive contributors to the economic growth of the State and the nation, and to actively participate in civic life.

To encourage students to challenge themselves academically and to enable students to be more competitive when applying for admission to postsecondary institutions, the Governing Board shall provide opportunities for college-level coursework that will prepare interested high school students to pass Advanced Placement (AP) examinations and participate in honors courses.

The Board desires to provide AP courses at each high school. The Superintendent or designee shall recommend subject areas for AP courses at each school based on student interest and the availability of qualified certificated staff, instructional materials, and other resources. The Superintendent or designee shall also explore alternative methods of delivering AP courses, such as online courses or distance learning.

To increase participation in AP and honors courses, the district shall provide all students with access to a rigorous, high-quality curriculum and instruction, in heterogeneously-grouped classrooms, while providing students with the supports necessary to be successful in challenging classes.

The superintendent or designee shall ensure that decisions related to placement in AP and honors courses will be in the students' best interest, as defined in law and administrative regulation, and be based on a multiple assessments, with no single criteria determinative. The Superintendent or designee will establish processes and procedures for students or parents to appeal decisions related to enrollment in AP or honors courses.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's educational program provides opportunities for students to acquire the skills necessary to successfully undertake AP coursework. To the extent possible, the Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with feeder middle schools in developing and implementing a preparation program.

All students who meet the multiple assessment criteria shall have equal access to AP and honors courses. The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations that identify assessment criteria that are objective, transparent, and reasonable.

Grades for AP courses shall be assigned in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation.

The Superintendent or designee will encourage students to participate in AP and honors courses and to take end-of-course AP exams by creating support systems for AP students, such as providing resources and programs to recognize student accomplishments. In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall explore partnerships with colleges and universities to help encourage students to pursue postsecondary education.

To increase the capacity of district schools to offer these courses, the Superintendent or designee may provide staff development and support to AP and honors teachers. Such professional development may include, but not be limited to, opportunities for teachers to obtain course-specific information, as well as information on instructional methods and data-driven decisions; mentoring for prospective AP teachers; and opportunities for staff within the district to share course syllabi and practices.

The Board desires that every district AP course meet the criteria used by the College Board to certify a course for AP designation. The Superintendent or designee may coordinate the process for submitting courses for approval as part of the AP course audit.

Legal Reference:

#### EDUCATION CODE

48980 Parental Notifications  
52200-52212 Gifted and talented education program  
52240-52244 Advanced Placement program

#### CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

3840 Advanced Placement as program option for gifted and talented students

Board of Trustees:  
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