

MARRIED/PREGNANT/PARENTING STUDENTS

The Board of Trustees recognizes that early marriage, pregnancy or parenting may disrupt students' 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.

(cf. 5147 - Dropout Prevention)

(cf. 5149 - At-Risk Students)

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

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. 5127 - Graduation Ceremonies and Activities)

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

In addition, 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 goals for the District's program serving pregnant and parenting students shall be to provide continuity in education; increase attendance rates; enable achievement of District academic standards; increase graduation rates; develop positive parenting, decision-making and coping skills; develop economic self-sufficiency through job skills; and reduce the incidence of repeat pregnancies for minors.

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements/Standards of Proficiency)

(cf. 6146.2 - Certificate of Proficiency/High School Equivalency)

The Superintendent or designee shall provide a comprehensive program that supplements academic courses with practical instruction geared to pregnant and parenting students' specific needs.

(cf. 6030 - Integrated Academic and Vocational Instruction)

(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)

(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

(cf. 6178 - Vocational Education)

MARRIED/PREGNANT/PARENTING STUDENTS (continued)

The instructional program provided for pregnant or parenting students shall be determined on a case-by-case basis and shall be appropriate to the student's individual needs. 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 home instruction, hospital instruction or independent study program.

(cf. 1621 - Home-Based Schooling)
(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)
(cf. 6182 - Opportunity School/Class/Program)
(cf. 6183 - Home and Hospital Instruction)
(cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)
(cf. 6200 - Adult Education)

The Superintendent or designee may grant students a leave of absence due to pregnancy, childbirth or abortion for as long as it is deemed medically necessary. At the conclusion of the leave, the student shall be reinstated to the status she held when the leave began. (34 CFR 106.40)

(cf. 5112.3 - Student Leave of Absence)

Pregnant and parenting students also may request exemption from attendance because of a physical or mental condition or because of personal services that must be rendered to a dependent. (Education Code 48410)

(cf. 5112.1 - Exemptions from Attendance)

The Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with county welfare departments, other local health and social service agencies and community organizations to ensure that appropriate support services are provided by either the District or another agency in the community and to coordinate delivery of those services.

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)
(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)

The Superintendent or designee shall periodically collect and report to the Board data regarding the number of pregnant and parenting students in the District and the effectiveness of the District's programs in meeting the needs of these students.

(cf. 6190 - Evaluation of the Instructional Program)
(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

MARRIED/PREGNANT/PARENTING STUDENTS (continued)

Pregnancy Prevention

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that age-appropriate, culturally 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 and social science classes or other appropriate courses.

(cf. 5141.25 - Availability of Condoms)
(cf. 6142.1 - Family Life/Sex Education)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

MARRIED/PREGNANT/PARENTING STUDENTS (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 2551.3 *Determination of state aid for pregnant minors program*
- 8900-8901 *Pregnant minors program*
- 8902 *Pregnancy prevention materials and programs*
- 8920-8929 *Teenage pregnancy prevention grant program*
- 48220 *Compulsory education requirement*
- 48410 *Persons exempted from continuation classes*
- 49558 *Confidentiality of applications and records for free or reduced price meals*
- 49559 *Qualification of pregnant or lactating students for nutrition supplements*
- 51220.5 *Parenting skills and education*
- 52610.5 *Enrollment of pregnant and parenting students in adult education*

FAMILY CODE

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

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

- 124175-124200 *Adolescent and Family Life Act*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

- 11820-11834 *Pregnant minor program*
- 18140-18175 *School-age parenting and infant development programs*

UNITED STATE CODE, TITLE 20

- 1681-1688 *Title IX, Discrimination*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

- 106.40 *Marital or parental status*

Management Resources:

CDE PUBLICATIONS

Pregnant and Parenting Students: Cal-Learn Update/County Teen Birth Data Update, 9/12/1994

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

SBE POLICIES

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

Policy

Adopted: March 13, 2000

Revised: December 14, 2010

FORTUNA UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Fortuna, California