

## MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION

The Governing Board recognizes that America is a multicultural society composed of diverse people who came here, from all parts of the globe. Since public school education is the most commonly shared experience for most Americans, Trustees believe it is the responsibility of schools to preserve and perpetuate the nation's common pluralistic culture and to accurately reflect the contributions of all ethnic groups to the common culture.

Students must learn to respect and work cooperatively with persons of all backgrounds, recognizing that all have equal claim to the American culture which has been collectively created and shared. Instruction should help students realize the value of individual differences, as well as the human dignity and worth common to all people. Education that emphasizes what people share in common, yet respects differences will strengthen the country and provide the basis for understanding, trust, effective communication, and unity of purpose.

Therefore, since there is a multicultural population at schools and in the communities served by the district, schools shall provide multicultural activities appropriate to the school's needs. Such activities include:

- Studies relative to the culture, history, and contributions of all ethnic groups.
- Special staff and student sessions which place emphasis on human relations, respect for diversity, and sensitivity toward all races and cultures.
- Infusion of multicultural education across the curriculum in subject-appropriate activities, lessons, and in the selection of classroom instructional materials.
- Staff development and inservice activities to enable all staff members to carry out the provisions of this policy.
- Outreach and collaboration with community agencies and organizations which share the commitment to multicultural education.
- Periodic assessment of the effectiveness of the district's multicultural education program and site plans.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

§44560 Inservice preparation in ethnic backgrounds

§60040 Portrayal of cultural and racial diversity

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

§3935 Multicultural education

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