

CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION

The Governing Board affirms the importance of providing all students with quality career awareness and workplace skills implemented through integrated career path programs. This curriculum is intended to teach life skills, demonstrate the value of work, and provide training that leads to entry-level employment, while equipping each student with the skills and abilities to enable each to be a self-sufficient and contributing member of the community. The Board views career technical education and academic education as integrated educational programs. Career Pathway courses should give students abundant opportunities to obtain integrated academic skills. In addition, teachers of the core curriculum (English, mathematics, science and social science) should integrate as often as possible the practical applications of academics to the working world.

The Board recognizes that school to career education is best presented in a well articulated sequence of courses. School to career education is to include career pathway course development, research into various employment options, establishment of career goals, counseling and guidance to achieve these goals, and the development of job skills and good work attitudes and ethics.

Because the equipment used in business and industry changes rapidly, as do the skills needed to operate it, the Board especially desires that the district's career technical education program be updated regularly, within fiscal resources and priority needs, to reflect current career technical practices, changes in technology and labor market conditions.

Therefore, the Board of Trustees approves the establishment and maintenance of a school to career education program which includes:

1. Assistance to students in making informed and meaningful occupational choices.
2. Preparation of students for gainful employment in recognized occupations and in new or emerging occupations.
3. School to career education advisory committee(s) to assist schools with the development of career pathway program recommendations and provide liaison between the district and potential employers.
4. Encourage the integration of career education with regular course work.

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5. Participate in the regional occupational program.
6. Enter into articulation agreements with community colleges as well as private, technical and four year post secondary institutions. .
7. In furtherance of a program of work experience education, the Board will:
 - a. Conduct programs of general, vocational and exploratory work experience in accordance with rules of the State Board of Education.
 - b. Employ such personnel as may be required for arranging, approving, coordinating and awarding credit for work experience education courses.
 - c. Provide for the liability insurance coverage of students in exploratory work experience and nursing education off school grounds.

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Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

8070	Appointment of vocational education advisory committee
48430	Legislative intent; continuation education schools and classes
51225.3	Requirements for graduation commencing with 1988-89 school year
51226	Model curriculum standards
51228	Graduation requirements, minimum standards; required curriculum; pupil demonstration of competence
52300-52335.8	Regional occupational centers, especially
52304.1	Review of participation in centers and programs
52350-52355	Prevocational education
52370-52376	High school vocational courses
52450-52462	Agricultural Vocational Education
52910-92911	Career Vocational Education and Training
52980-52983	Pilot projects in applied academic areas and programs
54728	Funds allocated pursuant to 52300-52335.8; use (under School Based Motivation and Maintenance Program) for preparing individuals for employment
54761	Calculation; base funding; deposit; use

CARL D. PERKINS VOCATIONAL AND APPLIED TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION ACT

Public Law 98-524, 204

FEDERAL REGISTER

Vol. 45, No. 92, 5/9/ 90, p. 30929

Vol. 50, No. 159, 8/16/85, p. 3308

ADOPTED: 10/26/77

REVISION /REDESIGNATION: 6/14/95 (BP 114 - Vocational Education)

REVISED: 2/14/96

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1. Handicapped and Disadvantaged Students

- a. Equal access shall be provided to handicapped and disadvantaged individuals in recruitment, enrollment, and placement activities of the career pathways program.
- b. Schools to career programs and activities for handicapped persons shall be provided in the least restrictive environment and planned in coordination with appropriate representatives of school to career education and special education staffs.
- c. By the beginning of the ninth grade, information shall be provided to handicapped and disadvantaged students and to their parents/guardians concerning the opportunities available in career pathway education programs and the requirements for eligibility to enroll.

2. Regular Curriculum Reviews

- a. Every three years, the Board shall compare the district's existing career pathway curriculum, course content and course sequence with model state curriculum standards. (EC §51226, 52376)
- b. The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures for the systematic review of the district's school to career education courses to determine the degree to which each may offer an alternative means for completing and receiving credit for specific portions of the course of study prescribed by the district for high school graduation. The Superintendent or designee shall present the Board with evidence that enables the Board to ensure that these classes are equivalent in content and rigor to the courses prescribed for graduation. (EC §52376)

3. Career Pathways

To implement this board policy, academies should be established following career pathways within each curriculum. These academies should incorporate:

- a. Curriculum focused on an occupational theme, meeting state standards, and integrated with core subject classes.

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- b. A small group of teachers who work together to plan and implement the Program
- c. Counselors and Assistant Principals who will work with the teacher to effectively integrate these programs within the counseling process, and design the master schedule at the designated school site.
- d. A variety of motivational activities, including parental support, a well developed reward structure, speakers, field trips, and mentor program. Work experiences should be implemented through internships, work place learning or work experience. Constant monitoring of progress with feedback to students.

All students participating in school to career education programs supervised by this Board or in work experience programs are considered to be regularly enrolled in one of the schools of this district, subject to the policies and rules of this Board

4. Advisory Committees

The Superintendent or designee shall appoint a career pathway education advisory committee as required by law to develop recommendations on the school to career education program and provide liaison between the district and potential employers. (EC #8070) The Board expects that this advisory committee will provide staff with useful information about new technologies and the changing needs of community businesses.

5. Regional Occupational Program

At a public hearing or regular Board meeting, the Board shall annually review and assess the participation of students in the regional occupational program. Unless it is determined that no additional students would benefit from such participation, the Superintendent or designee shall prepare an annual plan to increase participation by these students. (EC §52304.1)

6. Program Criteria

In consultation with the district's regional occupational center/program and local community college, the Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement a career pathway education program which meets at least the following criteria (EC §52376)

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- a. Provides a series of school to career education programs, each with a sequence of courses leading to specific competencies that will enable students to manage personal work life and attain entry level employment in business or industry upon graduation from high school. This plan shall be consistent with local agreements with the regional occupational program and community colleges regarding responsibilities for the provision and articulation of services among those local agencies. The Superintendent or designee shall also develop and implement plans for articulation of school to career or technical courses, or both, with the community colleges to extend the sequence of courses through grades 13 and 14.
- b. Conducts or obtains access to data on local business and industry to ensure that the school to career education programs offered will prepare students in competencies for which employment opportunities exist.
- c. Provides counseling and guidance services to students to help them meet all necessary requirements for high school graduation and make informed career preparation choices.
- d. Involves business and industry in cooperative projects with the schools to provide work experience opportunities, instructors from business and industry, assistance with needs assessments and program evaluations, and access to business and industry employment placement services.
- e. Includes a system of data collection to report annually to the Board on the success or failure of each career pathway education program in terms of:
 - (1) Number of students enrolled in school to career pathway classes.
 - (2) Number and types of career pathway classes offered and the number of those classes that qualify as alternative means for completing the prescribed course of study
 - (3) Student achieving the desired competencies.