



CASCWA

California Association of Supervisors
of Child Welfare and Attendance

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE October 2024

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Listed below is a brief synopsis of legislation that has been introduced and with minor or no opposition working thru the legislative approval process by the state Assembly, Senate and approved by the governor related to child welfare and attendance issues at a school site during this legislative session. For a full description of each bill, you may access this information: www.senate.ca.gov or www.assembly.ca.gov.

ASSEMBLY BILLS

AB 1796 (Alanis) Would require a school district, county office of education or charter school to annually notify parents and guardians of all courses offered in grades 7-12

AB 1884 (Ward) This bill would remove the requirement that the deployment be to a combat zone or combat support position, thereby expanding the scope of that excused absence to encompass all deployments.

AB 1913 (Addis) Commencing July 1, 2025, requires school districts, county offices of education, state special schools and diagnostic centers operated by the State Department of Education, and charter schools to, among other things, provide annual training to their employees on the prevention of abuse, including sexual abuse, of children on school grounds, by school personnel, or in school-sponsored programs, as provided, and would apply the above-described proof of training requirements to this training.

AB 1939 (Maienschein) Would require each county school attendance review-board and each local school attendance review board to, at least annually, consult with specified pupils for the purpose of soliciting input

AB 1976 (Haney) Would expressly provide that an individual who administers naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration to reverse opioid overdose in a suspected opioid overdose emergency shall not be liable for civil damages, as provided by, and subject to, the above-described provisions.

AB 2073 (Quirk-Silva) Would authorize the governing board of any school district maintaining any of grades 6 to 12, inclusive, to adopt a policy providing for an alternate term schedule for physical education courses if (A) pupils in grade 6 receive no less than 400 minutes of instruction every 10 days for a semester of not fewer than 18 weeks during the regular school year, for a total of 3,600 instructional minutes for the school year, and pupils in grades 7 to 12, inclusive, receive no less than 800 minutes of instruction every 10 days.

AB 2137 (Quirk-Silva) This bill instead would authorize a foster youth services coordinating program to provide tutoring, mentoring, and counseling services to a foster youth pupil, if a foster youth educational services coordinator determines, as specified, that the foster youth services coordinator is unable to secure those services provided by the foster youth pupil's school district and if those services are established as needed and identified by the foster youth educational services coordinator.

AB 2173 (Addis) This bill would provide that the term “emotional disturbance” as described above may also be known as “emotional disability” under state law. Chaptered

AB 2176 (Berman) Requires the office of Youth and Community Restoration to develop an annual report on chronic absenteeism rates in juvenile court schools. Additionally, requires the office to investigate the reasons for absenteeism at juvenile court schools with chronic absenteeism rates of 15% or more, and, if the office determines that insufficient staff, transportation, punitive policies, or any policies under the juvenile facility’s control are contributing to chronic absenteeism rates, require the office to provide technical assistance to ameliorate the identified causes of the chronic absenteeism.

AB 2181 (Gipson) Would revise and recast by, among other things, requiring a county office of education to exempt from all coursework or other requirements of the county office of education that are in addition to the statewide coursework requirements a pupil who (1) transfers into a juvenile court school any time after the completion of the pupil’s 2nd year of high school, (2) completes the statewide coursework requirements for graduation while attending a juvenile court school, and (3) is in their 3rd or 4th year of high school, unless the county office of education makes a finding that the pupil is reasonably able to complete these local graduation requirements in time to graduate from high school by the end of the pupil’s 4th year of high school. Would require the county office of education to notify a pupil who may qualify for the exemption from local graduation requirements, the person holding the right to make educational decisions for the pupil, and the pupil’s social worker and probation officer of the availability of the exemption and whether the pupil qualifies for the exemption, within 30 calendar days of the date that the pupil transfers into a juvenile court school for an enrollment period in the juvenile court school of at least 30 days, as provided. The bill would prohibit a county office of education from requiring or requesting that a pupil who is exempted from the local graduation requirements and completes the statewide coursework requirements graduate before the end of the pupil’s 4th year of high school, as provided. By imposing additional duties on local educational agencies, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

AB 2377 (Rivas) Would require a pupil in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to be excused from engaging in any physical activity components of a physical education course during a period of religious fasting upon the submission to the school principal of written notification from the pupil’s parent or guardian, if the pupil is less than 18 years of age, or from the pupil, if the pupil is 18 years of age or older, that the pupil is participating in religious fasting. The bill would, for purposes of calculating compliance with physical education instructional time requirements, require a pupil to be credited with instructional time for any time for which the pupil was excused from engaging in any physical activity components of a physical education course pursuant to that religious exemption-

AB 2711 (Ramos) This bill would prohibit the suspension of a pupil who voluntarily discloses, in order to seek help through services or supports, their use of a controlled substance, alcohol, intoxicants of any kind, or a tobacco product.

AB 2887 (Maienschein) Would require, as part of the comprehensive school safety plan, procedures to respond to incidents involving an individual experiencing a sudden cardiac arrest or a similar life-threatening medical emergency while on school grounds.

AB 2998 (Mckinnor) Would prohibit a school district, county office of education, or charter school from prohibiting a- pupil 12 years of age or older, while on a school site or participating in school activities, from carrying or administering, for the purposes of providing emergency treatment to persons who are suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering, from an opioid overdose, specified opioid overdose reversal medications that are federally approved for over-the-counter, nonprescription use, as provided. The bill would prohibit a pupil 12 years of age or older of those LEAs who administers naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid

antagonist on a school site or while participating in school activities, in good faith and not for compensation, to a person who appears to be experiencing an opioid overdose, from being held liable in a civil action or being subject to criminal prosecution for their acts or omissions, unless the pupil's acts or omissions constitute gross negligence or willful and wanton misconduct, as provided.

AB 3216 (Hoover) Would require the governing body of a school district, a county office of education, or a charter school to, by July 1, 2026, develop and adopt, and to update every 5 years, a policy to limit or prohibit the use by its pupils of smartphones while the pupils are at a school site or while the pupils are under the supervision and control of an employee or employees of that school district, county office of education, or charter school, as provided.

SENATE BILLS

SB 483 (Cortese) Would prohibit the use of prone restraint, defined to include prone containment, by an educational provider. The bill would also prohibit the use of prone restraint, including prone containment, on a pupil who is an individual with exceptional needs in a public-school program.

SB 691 (Portantino) Current truancy law mandates a school district to notify the pupil's parent or guardian of specified information, including, among other information, that the pupil and parent or guardian of the pupil may be subject to prosecution, as specified, and that it is recommended that the parent or guardian accompany the pupil to school and attend classes with the pupil for one day. This bill would remove those specific pieces of information from that notification and would require that notification to include additional information, including, among other information, that mental health and supportive services may be available to the pupil and the family and that school personnel look forward to meeting with the pupil and family to develop strategies to support and welcome the pupil at school.

SB 897 (Newman) Expands to further prohibit a school district of choice from rejecting the transfer of a pupil who is a foster youth, as defined, or a homeless child or youth, as defined.

SB 997 (Portantino) Would prohibit school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools from prohibiting pupils in middle schools, junior high schools, high schools, or adult schools, while on a school site or participating in school activities, from carrying fentanyl test strips or a federally approved opioid antagonist, as provided, for the emergency treatment of persons suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering, from an opioid overdose.

SB 1005 (Ashby) Authorizes a school district to implement a youth court in lieu of suspension from school for violations of Ed code 48900 only.

SB 1063 (Grove) This bill, commencing July 1, 2025, would require a public school or private school that serves pupils in any of grades 7 to 12, inclusive, and that issues pupil identification cards to have printed on the identification cards the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the mental health resources internet website of the county in which the public or private school is located or a quick response (QR) code that links to that internet website. The bill would require schools subject to this requirement that, as of January 1, 2025, have a supply of unissued identification cards that are noncompliant with this requirement to issue the noncompliant identification cards until that supply is depleted.

SB 1138 (Newman) This bill would add a pupil's participation in military entrance processing to the list of excused absences.