

CVUSD Board Policy

BP 6141.5

Instruction

Advanced Placement

Note: Education Code 52200-52212 provide funding for districts to develop educational opportunities for high-achieving and underachieving students in California public elementary and secondary schools who have been identified as gifted and talented. High schools often focus on AP and honors courses for their gifted and talented education program; see BP/AR 6172 - Gifted and Talented Student Program.

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.

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)
(cf. 6172 - Gifted and Talented Student Program)
(cf. 6172.1 - Concurrent Enrollment in College Classes)

The Board desires to provide at least four 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.

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.

(cf. 6141 - Curriculum Development and Evaluation)
(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

All students who meet course prerequisites shall have equal access to AP courses.

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

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

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

The Superintendent or designee shall make efforts to encourage students to participate in AP courses and to take end-of-course AP exams by creating support systems for AP students, such as resource centers 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.

(cf. 5126 - Awards for Achievement)

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

To increase the capacity of district schools to offer these courses, the Superintendent or designee shall provide staff development and support to AP 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.

(cf. 4111 - Recruitment and Selection)

(cf. 4113 - Assignment)

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

Note: The College Board has created a voluntary audit process in order to provide guidelines for administrators and AP teachers regarding the curricular and resource requirements for AP courses. The AP audit specifies a set of expectations established by college and university faculty for college-level courses. Courses that meet or exceed these expectations will be authorized to use the "AP" designation on students' transcripts. In addition, approved courses are listed in the AP Course Ledger, which is used by colleges to confirm high school course content. Schools that offer the AP exam without labeling the school's courses as AP on students' transcripts do not need to participate in the audit.

The Board desires that every district AP course receive authorization to use the AP designation by the College Board. To that end, the Superintendent or designee shall coordinate the process for submitting courses for approval as part of the AP course audit.

Examination Fee

***Note: The following optional section is for use by districts that receive federal funding distributed by the California Department of Education pursuant to 20 USC 6534, or choose to use district funds, to assist economically disadvantaged students in paying the cost of AP examination fees. Education Code 52244, which awarded state grants for this purpose, self-repealed on January 1, 2013, and the funding was redirected into the local control funding formula pursuant to AB 97 (Ch. 47, Statutes of 2013). ***

To the extent feasible, the district shall reduce the cost of AP examination fees for eligible low-income students. At the beginning of each school year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians of the availability of funds for this purpose and shall provide

information on how income-eligible students may apply for funding.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

52240-52243 Advanced Placement program

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

3840 Advanced Placement as program option for gifted and talented students

6534 Advanced Placement exam fee program

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

Advancement Via Individual Determination: <http://www.avidcenter.org>

California Colleges.edu: <http://californiacolleges.edu>

California Department of Education,: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

International Baccalaureate: <http://www.ibo.org>

U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov>

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