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**OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Community Schools, Thriving Students

Memo

To Board of Education

From Jacqueline Minor, General Counsel
Stephany Borja, Student at Oakland High School

Board Meeting Date August 26, 2015

Subject New Board Policy–BP 5148.3 Preschool–Early Childhood Education

Action Requested Approval of new policy to the Oakland Unified School District Board Policy BP 5148.3 Preschool – Early Childhood Education

Background New board policies are recommended to align with changes in law or recommended best practices. The proposed new board policy reflects the District’s standards.

Discussion In order to ensure that our policies are current, it is important for us to review and update our policies. The proposed new board policy is based upon the California Association of Schools Board’s recommended model. The new board policy has been reviewed and vetted by the General Counsel.

Policy reflects the mandate for districts offering California State Program (CSPP) programs to develop written admission policies and procedures with specified components. Policy also reflects new law SB 858, 2014 which (1) authorizes districts to use a portion of a reserve fund for purposes of staff development for CSPP instructional staff and (2) establishes the early learning quality rating and improvement efforts that increase the number of low income children in high-quality preschool programs.

Recommendation Approval of new board policy to the Oakland Unified School District BP 5148.3 Preschool – Early Childhood Education

Fiscal Impact No direct funding implications

Attachments New Board Policy BP 5148.3 Preschool – Early Childhood Education

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Policy

Students

BP 5148.3

Preschool/Early Childhood Education

The Governing Board recognizes that high-quality preschool experiences help children ages 3-4 years to develop knowledge, skills, abilities, and attributes necessary for a successful transition into the elementary education program. Early education programs should provide developmentally appropriate activities in a safe, adequately supervised, and cognitively rich environment.

Collaboration with Community Programs

The Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with the local child care and development planning council, other public agencies, organizations, the county office of education, and/or private preschool providers to assess the availability of preschool programs in the community and the extent to which the community's preschool needs are being met. The Board encourages the development of a comprehensive districtwide and/or countywide plan to increase children's access to high-quality preschool programs.

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)

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

(cf. 1700 - Relations Between Private Industry and the Schools)

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)

The Superintendent or designee shall provide information about preschool options in the community to parents/guardians upon request.

District Preschool Programs

When the Board determines that it is feasible, the district may contract with the California Department of Education (CDE) to provide preschool services in facilities at or near district schools.

The Board shall approve for the district's preschool program a written philosophical statement, goals, and objectives that reflect the cultural and linguistic characteristics of the families to be served and address the program components specified in 5 CCR 18272-18281 and the accompanying administrative regulation. (5 CCR 18271)

The Board shall set priorities for establishing or expanding services as resources become available, giving consideration to the benefits of providing early education programs for at-risk children and/or children residing in the attendance areas of the lowest performing district schools.

(cf. 0520.2 - Title I Program Improvement Schools)
(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)

On a case-by-case basis, the Board shall determine whether the district shall directly administer a preschool program or contract with a public or private provider to offer such a program.

Facilities for preschool classrooms shall be addressed in the district's facilities master plan, including an assessment as to whether adequate and appropriate space exists on school sites. As necessary, the Superintendent or designee shall provide information to the Board regarding facilities financing options for preschool classrooms and/or facilities available through partnering organizations or agencies.

(cf. 1330.1 - Joint Use Agreements)
(cf. 7110 - Facilities Master Plan)
(cf. 7210 - Facilities Financing)

Because parents/guardians are essential partners in supporting the development of their children, the Superintendent or designee shall involve them in program planning.

(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)
(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

The Superintendent or designee shall coordinate planning efforts for the district's preschool program, transitional kindergarten program, and elementary education program to provide a developmental continuum that builds upon children's growing skills and knowledge.

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)
(cf. 6170.1 - Transitional Kindergarten)

The district's program shall be aligned with preschool learning foundations and curriculum frameworks developed by the CDE which identify the knowledge, skills, and competencies that children typically attain as they complete their first or second year of preschool. The program shall be designed to facilitate children's development in essential skills related to language and literacy, mathematics, physical development, health, visual and performing arts, science, history-social science, English language development, and social-emotional development.

The district's preschool program shall provide appropriate services to support the needs of English learners and children with disabilities.

(cf. 6164.4 - Identification and Evaluation of Individuals for Special Education)

(cf. 6174 - Education for English Language Learners)

The district shall encourage volunteerism in the program and shall communicate frequently with parents/guardians of enrolled children regarding their child's progress.

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)

To maximize the ability of children to succeed in the preschool program, the program shall support children's health through proper nutrition and physical activity and shall provide or make referrals to available health and social services as needed.

(cf. 3550 - Food Services/Child Nutrition Program)

(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)

(cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations)

(cf. 5141.32 - Health Screening for School Entry)

(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that administrators, teachers, and paraprofessionals in district preschool programs possess the appropriate permit(s) issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, meet any additional qualifications established by the Board, and participate in professional development opportunities designed to continually enhance their knowledge and skills.

(cf. 4112.2 - Certification)

(cf. 4112.4/4212.4/4312.4 - Health Examinations)

(cf. 4112.5/4212.5/4312.5 - Criminal Record Check)

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4222 - Teacher Aides/Paraprofessionals)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

Preschool admissions policies and procedures shall be in writing and available to the public. Such policies and procedures shall include criteria designating those children whose needs can be met by the program and services, the ages of children who will be accepted, program activities, any supplementary services provided, any field trip provisions, any transportation arrangements, food service provisions, and a health examination requirement. (CCR 18105; 22 CCR 101218)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that subsidized preschool is provided to eligible families to the extent that state and/or federal funding is available and shall establish enrollment priorities in accordance with Education Code 8263 and 5 CCR 18106.

The Superintendent or designee shall recommend strategies to link the district's preschool program with other available child care and development programs in the district or community in order to assist families whose child care needs extend beyond the length of time that the district's part-day preschool program is offered.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement an annual plan of evaluation which conforms to state requirements. (5 CCR 18279)

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly report to the Board regarding enrollments in district preschool programs and the effectiveness of the programs in preparing preschoolers for transition into the elementary education program.

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

8200-8499.10 Child Care and Development Services Act, especially:

8200-8209 General provisions for child care and development services

8230-8233 Migrant child care and development program

8235-8239 California State Preschool Program

8240-8244 General child care and development programs

8250-8252 Programs for children with special needs

8263 Eligibility and priorities for subsidized child development services

8263.3 Disenrollment of families due to reduced funding levels

8300-8303 Early Learning Quality Improvement System Advisory Committee

8360-8370 Personnel qualifications

8400-8409 Contracts

8493-8498 Facilities

8499.3-8499.7 Local child care and development planning councils

48000 Transitional kindergarten

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

1596.70-1596.895 California Child Day Care Act

1596.90-1597.21 Day care centers

120325-120380 Immunization requirements

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

18000-18434 Child care and development programs, especially:

18130-18136 California State Preschool Program

18295 Waiver of qualifications for site supervisor

80105-80125 Permits authorizing service in child development programs

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6311-6322 Title I, relative to preschool

6319 Qualifications for teachers and paraprofessionals
6371-6376 Early Reading First
6381-6381k Even Start family literacy programs
6391-6399 Education of migratory children
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42
9831-9852 Head Start programs
9858-9858q Child Care and Development Block Grant
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 22
101151-101239.2 General requirements, licensed child care centers, including:
101151-101163 Licensing and application procedures
101212-101231 Continuing requirements
101237-101239.2 Facilities and equipment
OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 45
1301-1310 Head Start

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Expanding Access to High-Quality Preschool Programs, 2008
California Preschool Learning Foundations
14-02 Enrolling and Reporting Children in California State Preschool Programs, April 2014
12-08 Disenrollment Due to 2012-13 Budget Reduction for California State Preschool
Programs, Management Bulletin, July 2012
Dream Big for Our Youngest Children: Final Report of the California Early Learning Quality
Improvement System Advisory Committee, 2010
Preschool English Learners: Principles and Practices to Promote Language, Literacy, and
Learning, 2nd ed., 2009

Prekindergarten Learning Development Guidelines, 2000

First Class: A Guide for Early Primary Education, 1999

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Good Start, Grow Smart, April 2002

WEB SITES

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

California Association for the Education of Young Children: <http://www.caeyc.org>

California Children and Families Commission: <http://www.cafc.ca.gov>

California County Superintendents Educational Services Association: <http://www.ccsesa.org>

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

California Head Start Association: <http://caheadstart.org>

California Preschool Instructional Network: <http://www.cpin.us>

Child Development Policy Institute: <http://www.cdpi.net>

Cities, Counties, and Schools Partnership: <http://www.ccspartnership.org>

First 5 Association of California: <http://www.f5ac.org>

National Institute for Early Education Research: <http://nieer.org>

National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.org>

Preschool California: <http://www.preschoolcalifornia.org>

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

8/26/15