

Test Integrity/Test Preparation

The Governing Board desires to protect the integrity of student assessment processes in order to obtain an accurate assessment of student achievement in the district and maintain accountability to the community and state. Students and staff are expected to maintain a high level of integrity in the completion and handling of student assessments.

Test Integrity

In the administration of standardized tests, staff shall not:

1. Provide inappropriate test preparation
2. Modify test administration procedures, except as allowed by law
3. Provide inappropriate assistance to students during test administration
4. Change or fill in answers on student answer sheets
5. Provide inaccurate data on student header sheets
6. Discourage or exclude certain students from taking the test
7. Engage in any other practice to artificially raise student scores without actually improving underlying student achievement

Preparation for State Tests

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 60640-60649, as amended by AB 484 (Ch. 489, Statutes of 2013), beginning in the 2013-14 school year, the state assessment system is transitioning from the Standardized Testing and Reporting program to the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP); see BP/AR 6162.51 – State Academic Achievement Tests.

The primary preparation for assessments shall be high-quality instruction in the content specified in state and district academic standards. The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) provides a practice and training test site which offers opportunities for administrators, students, and other to become familiar with the online testing environment before taking an actual online assessment. In addition, staff may prepare students for assessments by teaching general test-taking strategies.

(cf. 6011 – Academic Standards)

The Superintendent or designee, principals, and teachers shall not implement any program for the sole purpose of test preparation of students for the statewide assessment system or a particular test used within that program. (Education Code 60611)

Staff shall not use released test questions to develop practice tests that mimic or parallel state tests, or for teaching or drilling students only on the released items.

Students may be allowed to take the exam with variations, accommodations and modifications in accordance with law and administrative regulation.

Investigation and Consequences of Testing Irregularities

Reports of student cheating on assessments shall be submitted to the principal or designee for investigation. The Superintendent or designee shall immediately investigate with due diligence any reports of inappropriate test preparation or other testing irregularities.

Students found to have cheated on assessments shall be subject to disciplinary procedures in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulations.

(cf. 5144 – Discipline)

A staff member found to have committed testing irregularities shall be subject to discipline in accordance with law, applicable collective bargaining agreements, Board policy, and administrative regulations.

(cf. 4118 – Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 4218 – Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

If the Superintendent or designee is made aware of a testing irregularity on state assessments, he/she shall report the irregularity to the California Department of Education.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

60611 Inappropriate test preparation

60640-60649 California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress

GOVERNMENT CODE

54957 Complaints against employees, closed session

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

850-864 California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Guidelines on Academic Preparation for State Assessments, December 2009

WEB SITES:

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

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

Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium: <http://smarterbalanced.org>

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LONG BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT