

## **AWARDS FOR ACHIEVEMENT**

The Board of Trustees encourages excellence as a goal for all students and wishes to publicly recognize students for exemplary achievements in academic, artistic, extracurricular, athletic, and community service activities.

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

(cf. [5127](#) - Graduation Ceremonies and Activities)

(cf. [6142.4](#) - Service Learning/Community Service Classes)

### **District/School Awards**

Student awards may include verbal recognition, a letter, a certificate, a Board resolution, a public ceremony, trophy, gift, plaque or monetary gift.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop criteria for the selection of student award recipients.

### **Golden State Seal Merit Diploma**

At graduation from high school students whose academic achievements in core curriculum areas have been outstanding shall receive special recognition.

The Superintendent or designee shall identify graduating high school students who have demonstrated mastery of the high school curriculum qualifying them for the Golden State Seal Merit Diploma. (Education Code [51454](#))

(cf. [6162.51](#) - State Academic Achievement Tests)

### **State Seal of Bi-literacy**

The District shall present the State Seal of Biliteracy to each graduating high school student who has attained a high level of proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing in one or more languages in addition to English. (Education Code 51460-51464)

(cf. [6142.2](#) - World Language Instruction)

(cf. [6174](#) - Education for English Language Learners)

In order to affirm the value of bilingualism and encourage students' enrollment in world language programs, the Superintendent or designee may present awards at appropriate grade levels to recognize the pursuit and/or attainment of grade-level proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English. The Superintendent or designee may also present awards to English learners who are reclassified as fluent English proficient to recognize proficiency in both English and the student's native language.

## **AWARDS FOR ACHIEVEMENT**

### **State Seal of Civic Engagement**

The Superintendent or designee shall present the State Seal of Civic Engagement to each student who demonstrates excellence in civics education and participation and has demonstrated an understanding of the U.S. Constitution, the California Constitution, and the democratic system of government. (Education Code 51470-51474)

All district students shall be afforded the opportunity to earn the State Seal of Civic Engagement, regardless of their background, communities, or experiences. No student shall be denied such opportunity based on academic ability, alternative school setting, or unique or unconventional expression of civic engagement.

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

(cf. 0415 - Equity)

(cf. 6157 - Distance Learning)

(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

(cf. 6172 - Gifted and Talented Student Program)

(cf. 6181 - Alternative Schools/Programs of Choice)

(cf. 6183 - Home and Hospital Instruction)

(cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)

### **Scholarship and Loan Fund**

The Board shall establish and maintain a scholarship and loan fund which shall be used to provide interest-free loans for educational advancement, scholarship, and/or grants-in-aid to bona fide organizations, students, or graduates of District schools. (Education Code 35310, 35315)

(cf. 1260 - Educational Foundation)

(cf. 3290 - Gifts, Grants and Bequests)

The District's scholarship and loan fund shall be administered by a district committee composed of Board members, the Superintendent, and such other community, staff, administrative, and/or student representatives as determined by the Board. (Education Code 35310)

The Board shall select its own representatives to the committee. Staff, community, and/or student representatives shall be selected by the Superintendent. Members of this committee shall serve two-year terms.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

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(cf. 9140 - Board Representatives)

The committee may accept gifts, donations, and bequests made for the purposes of the fund and may prescribe conditions or restrictions on these gifts and bequests. If the donor imposes any conditions, the committee shall review the conditions and make a recommendation to the Board as to the compatibility of such conditions with the intent and purpose of the fund. The Board may prohibit the committee from accepting any donation under conditions it finds incompatible with the fund's intents and purposes. (Education Code 35313)

The Superintendent or designee shall report to the Board at least annually regarding the status and activity of the fund. (Education Code 35319)

### Legal Reference:

#### EDUCATION CODE

220 Nondiscrimination

35160 Authority of governing boards

35310-35319 Scholarship and loan funds

44015 Awards to employees and students

51243-51245 Credit for private school foreign language instruction

51450-51455 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma

51460-51464 State Seal of Bilingualism

51470-51474 State Seal of Civic Engagement

52164.1 Assessment of English language skills of English learners

#### GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54963 Brown Act open meeting laws

#### CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

876 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma

1632 Credit for private school foreign language instruction

11510-11516 Assessment of English language development

### Management Resources:

#### CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

SSCE Implementation Guidance

#### WEB SITES

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

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

Californians Together: <http://www.californianstogether.org>

Adopted: December 14, 2010

Adopted: May 27, 2014

Adopted: August 25, 2015