



The Palmdale Aerospace Academy

Annual Notifications 2026-27

Dear Parent/Guardian and Student,

Welcome to The Palmdale Aerospace Academy for the 2026-27 school year! We are thrilled to kick off another incredible school year and extend our very best wishes for a rewarding, healthy, and engaging year ahead.

As part of our commitment to open communication and strong family partnerships, we are providing our annual notification of your rights and responsibilities under Education Code § 48980. Should you have questions about any details in this notice, or if you would like to look closer at the referenced policies, please connect with your school principal. They will be happy to provide additional context or print copies of any documents you wish to review.

Our core mission is to provide an outstanding, forward-looking education tailored to every student's potential. We know this requires seamless collaboration between families and our educators, and we deeply value your involvement in your child's educational journey.

Thank you for trusting us with your child's education. We look forward to an amazing year filled with designing, creating, and exploring.

Warmly,

Gary Schatz
Acting Superintendent
The Palmdale Aerospace Academy

(Please complete the form below and return it to your child's school.)

PARENT/GUARDIAN REQUIRED ANNUAL LEGAL NOTIFICATION

(Annual Notice to Parent or Guardian Regarding Your Rights)

Student Name: _____

Grade: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Telephone Number: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian (if student is under 18): _____

Signature of Student (if student is 18 or older): _____

Advanced Placement & International Baccalaureate Fees - EC 48980(j) (9-12)

Eligible high school students may receive financial assistance to cover the costs of the advanced placement examination fees or the International Baccalaureate examination fees, or both. For more information, please contact the High School/Middle School administrative office at 661- 273-3680.

Asbestos Management Plan – 40 CFR 763.93

The Palmdale Aerospace Academy maintains and annually updates its management plan for asbestos-containing material in school buildings. For a copy of the asbestos management plan, please contact the Chief Operations Officer at 661-273-3680.

Athletics, Safety, and Civil Rights (new) - CIF Bylaw 210C, EC 221.8, 230, 32050, 32051, 35179.4, HSC 124238.5, 20 U.S.C. § 1681, PC 245.6

The **LEA NAME** is committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment for all student athletes. Participation in athletic programs is provided without regard to actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, national origin, religion, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. Per California law, any incident of racial discrimination, harassment, or "hate-motivated behavior" occurring at an athletic event must be reported. A standardized Sporting Event/Game Incident Report is available on the **The Palmdale Aerospace Academy** website at www.tpaa.org. Violations of non-discrimination policies in athletics may be filed under the LEAs Uniform Complaint Procedure (UCP).

Hazing of any kind—defined as any method of initiation or pre-initiation into a student organization or team that causes, or is likely to cause, bodily danger or physical or mental harm—is strictly prohibited. Students found in violation of the anti-hazing policy will face immediate disciplinary action, including possible expulsion and removal from all athletic programs. Students who witness hazing but do not report it may also face disciplinary consequences.

To ensure the safety of our students during practice and competition, **The Palmdale Aerospace Academy** has implemented the following: *Written Emergency Action Plans* are posted at every athletic venue (gyms, fields, and courts). These plans outline the location of *Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)*, emergency exits, and procedures for medical emergencies. Before participating, parents and students must review and sign the annual *Athletic Safety Packet*, which includes specific information on:

- * Concussion Protocols: "When in doubt, sit them out."
- * Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA): Warning signs and the importance of immediate AED use.
- * Exertional Heat Illness: Standards for hydration and cooling.

The Palmdale Aerospace Academy follows the CIF "Pursuing Victory with Honor" principles. Please be advised: Any spectator who physically assaults a game official (referee, umpire, etc.) during or after an event will be permanently banned from attending any CIF-sanctioned athletic contest.

Spectators are expected to model sportsmanship. Taunting, profanity, or harassment of players, coaches, or officials may result in immediate removal from the facility.

By participating in interscholastic athletics, the student-athlete and parent/guardian agree that the student shall not use androgenic/anabolic steroids or any dietary supplement on the banned substance list without a written prescription from a licensed healthcare practitioner to treat a medical condition.

Attendance Definitions: Compulsory Education, Tardy, Truancy, Chronic Absenteeism and Consequences - EC 48200, 48260, 48260.5 48262, 48263, 48263.6, 48263, 48264, 48263, 48267, 48268, 48269, 60901; WIC 236, 601, 601.3, 653.5, 654, and 651.5

Each person between the ages of 6 and 18 years is subject to compulsory full-time education. Each person shall attend the public full-time day school or continuation school or classes and for the full time designated as the length of the school day by the governing board of the school district in which the residency of either the parent or legal guardian is located and each parent, guardian, or other person having control or charge of the pupil shall send the pupil to the public full-time day school or continuation school or classes and for the full time designated as the length of the school day by the governing board of the school district in which the residence of either the parent or legal guardian is located. A pupil shall not be enrolled for less than the minimum school day established by law. Exceptions are for persons enrolled in charter school, home school or other private school enrollments, and other online charter school options.

Regular school attendance is essential for student learning, academic success, and social development. Students who attend school consistently are more likely to achieve higher academic outcomes, stay engaged in learning, graduate on time and avoid the need for academic or legal interventions. Parents/guardians are legally responsible for ensuring their child attends school regularly and on time. The school is committed to supporting students and families in improving attendance. When attendance concerns occur, the school may offer attendance conferences, counseling or support services, academic interventions, referrals to school or community resources, and other supports.

Tardiness – EC 48260 (a)

Children should be encouraged to be prompt as part of developing good habits. They are expected to be at school on time. A student is considered tardy when they are not present in their assigned classroom or instructional area at the scheduled start time of the school day or class period. If a child is late, the child should bring a note from home to the school office. Excessive tardiness disrupts instruction and impacts student learning.

Truancy Definitions – EC 48260, 48262 and 48263.6

A student is considered *truant* after three full-day absences without a valid excuse or three tardies of more than a 30-minute period during the school day without a valid excuse on three occasions in one school year, or any combination thereof. Examples of truancy include missing an entire school day without an excuse, leaving school without permission or excessive unexcused tardiness. Repeated unexcused absences may lead to parent notification, attendance conferences, referrals to a School Attendance Review Team (or similar intervention), and additional actions by the district.

After a student has been reported as a truant three or more times in a school year and the district has made a conscientious effort to meet with the family, the student is considered a *habitual truant*.

A student who is absent from school without a valid excuse for 10% or more of the schooldays in one school year, from the date of enrollment to the current date, is considered a *chronic truant*. Unexcused absences are all absences that do not fall within EC 48205.

For questions regarding attendance policies, please contact: **Christopher Riley Director of Student Services and Human Resources: criley@tpaa.org**

Attendance: Residency and Alternative Enrollment Options – EC 35160.5(b), 46600, 48980(g)

Residency: A pupil may alternatively comply with the residency requirements for school attendance in a school district, if he or she is any of the following: placed in a foster home or licensed children's institution within the boundaries of the school district; a pupil who is placed in foster care may remain in his or her school of origin; an emancipated pupil who resides within the boundaries of the school district; a pupil who lives in the home of a caregiving adult that is located within the boundaries of the school district; a pupil residing in a state hospital located within the boundaries of the school district; or a pupil whose parent is transferred or is pending transfer to a military

installation within the state while on active military duty pursuant to an official military order. Students in military and migrant families may remain in their school of origin and shall have waived residency restrictions due to the frequency of movement of their families. Please contact **Christopher Riley Director of Student Services and Human Resources: criley@tpaa.org** for more information on the protections afforded to these student groups per California law.

Availability of Prospectus – EC 49063, 49091.14

Each school must annually compile a prospectus of the curriculum to include titles, descriptions and instructional goals for every course offered by The Palmdale Aerospace Academy. Please contact Administrative Coordinator of Curriculum Instruction and Assessment for a copy of the prospectus at 661.273.3680.

California College Guidance Initiative – EC 60900.5

The California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI) is part of California's efforts to close the gaps between systems and ensure that all California students, especially those who have been underrepresented in higher education, can move seamlessly from K-12 to college and career. CCGI provides a set of college and career planning tools designed to help students plan for and apply to California public colleges and universities. To support these efforts, CCGI receives enrollment data for all public-school students enrolled in grades six through twelve through California Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS). CALPADS is a longitudinal data system used to maintain individual-level data including student demographics, course data, discipline, assessments, staff assignments, and other data for state and federal reporting. The shared data will be used to provide students and families with direct access to online tools and resources and will enable the student to transmit information shared with the CCGI to both of the following:

1. Postsecondary educational institutions for the purpose of admissions and academic placement.
2. The Student Aid Commission for the purposes of admissions and academic placement.

Cal Grant Program – EC 69432.9 (9-12)

A Cal Grant is money for college that does not have to be paid back. To qualify, a student must meet the eligibility and financial requirements as well as any minimum grade point average (GPA) requirements. Cal Grants can be used at any University of California, California State University or California Community College. Some independent and career colleges or technical schools in California also take Cal Grants. In order to assist students, apply for financial aid, all students in grade 12 are automatically considered a Cal Grant applicant and each grade 12 student's GPA will be submitted by the October 1 deadline to the California Student Aid Commission (CASC) electronically by a school or school district official. A student, or the parent or guardian of a student under 18 years of age, may complete a form to indicate that he or she does not wish for the school to electronically send CASC the student's GPA. Until a student turns 18 years of age, only the parent or guardian may opt out the student. Once a student turns 18 years of age, only the student may opt himself or herself out, and can opt in if the parent or guardian had previously decided to opt out the student. Notification regarding CASC and the opportunity to opt out of being automatically deemed a Cal Grant applicant will be provided to all students and their parents or guardians by January 1 of the students' 11th grade year.

California Healthy Youth Act – EC 51930-51939

The California Healthy Youth Act requires that LEAs provide pupils with integrated, comprehensive, accurate, and unbiased sexual health and HIV prevention education at least once in middle school and once in high school. Course instruction and materials must encourage students to communicate with parents, guardians or other trusted adults about human sexuality. It is intended to ensure that pupils in grades 7-12 are provided with the

knowledge and skills necessary to: 1) protect their sexual and reproductive health from HIV, other sexually transmitted infections, unintended pregnancy and menstrual health; 2) develop healthy attitudes concerning adolescent growth and development, body image, gender, sexual orientation, relationships, marriage, and family; 3) promote understanding of sexuality as a normal part of human development; 4) ensure students receive integrated, comprehensive, accurate, and unbiased sexual health and HIV prevention instruction and provide educators with clear tools and guidance; 5) provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to have healthy, positive, and safe relationships and behaviors.

Parents or legal guardians have the right to:

1. Inspect the written and audiovisual educational materials used in comprehensive sexual health and HIV prevention education.
2. Request in writing that their child not receive comprehensive sexual health or HIV prevention education.
3. Request a copy of Education Codes 51930 through 51939, the California Healthy Youth Act.
4. Be informed whether comprehensive sexual health or HIV prevention education will be taught by district personnel or outside consultants.
5. Receive notice by mail or another commonly used method of notification no fewer than 14 days before the instruction is delivered if arrangements for the instruction are made after the beginning of the school year.
6. When the district chooses to use outside consultants or to hold an assembly with guest speakers to teach comprehensive sexual health or HIV prevention education, be informed of a) The date of the instruction, and b) The name of the organization or affiliation of each guest speaker.

If you do not want your student to participate in comprehensive sexual health or HIV prevention education, please provide a signed, written note to **Brandon Farmer, High School Principal, BFarmer@tpaa.org by 10/1/26.**

Camera Surveillance on School Property – PC 647(j)

For the safety of our students, staff and visitors, the School District employs camera surveillance equipment for security purposes. This equipment may or may not be monitored at any time.

Surveillance cameras will generally be utilized only in public areas where there is no “reasonable expectation of privacy.” Public areas may include building entrances; hallways; parking lots; front offices where students, employees, and parents come and go; gymnasiums during public activities; cafeterias; and supply rooms. However, it is not possible for surveillance cameras to cover all public areas of Academy buildings or all Academy activities.

Academy surveillance cameras will not be installed in “private” areas, such as restrooms, locker rooms, changing areas, private offices (unless consent by the office owner is given), or classrooms.

Career Counseling & Course Selection – EC 221.5(d)

Commencing grade 7, school personnel shall assist pupils with course selection or career counseling, exploring the possibility of careers, or courses leading to careers based on the interest and ability of the pupil and not on the pupil’s gender. Parents or legal guardians are notified so that they may participate in such counseling sessions and decisions.

Charter School Complaint Notice – EC 47605(d)(4)

Charter Schools may NOT discourage enrollment for any of these reasons: low academic achievement, economic disadvantaged, English Learner, Ethnicity, Foster Youth, Homelessness, Nationality, Neglect or Delinquent, Race, Sexual orientation, Disabilities. Charter Schools shall NOT: request records or require records to be submitted prior to enrollment, encourage disenrollment for any reason (other than suspension or expulsion). In order to submit a complaint, complete the

Charter School Complaint Form, submit to the charter school authorizer by mail or electronically:
Palmdale School District
39139 North 10th Street East
Palmdale, CA 93550
661-947-7191

Charter Schools: Pupil Admissions and Discipline – EC 47605, 47605.6

The Palmdale Aerospace Academy encourages the participation of parents for increased parental involvement, but it is not a requirement for acceptance to, or continued enrollment at, the Charter School.

Child Find System, Special Education and Individualized Education Program (IEP) - EC 56301; 20U SC1401(3); 1412(a)(3); 34CFR300.111(c)(d)

Under state law, each public school system is responsible for finding children with disabilities in its area. All students with disabilities are entitled to a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) designed to meet their individual educational needs. Special education and related services are provided at no cost to parents/guardians and are based on an Individualized Education Program (IEP) developed by a team that includes the parent/guardian.

The school has an obligation to identify, locate, and evaluate students who may have disabilities and who may be in need of special education and related services. Parents/guardians may request an assessment at any time by submitting a written request to the school.

If a student is found eligible for special education, an IEP meeting will be held to develop an individualized plan. Parents/guardians are members of the IEP team and have the right to: participate in IEP meetings, receive notice of meetings, provide input regarding their child's educational needs and consent to or decline proposed services, as permitted by law.

Students with disabilities are educated in the least restrictive environment (LRE) appropriate to their needs and, to the maximum extent appropriate, with peers who do not have disabilities. Services and supports are determined by the IEP team and are based on the student's unique needs.

Parents/guardians of students with disabilities have rights known as procedural safeguards, which include the right to receive prior written notice of proposed actions, review educational records, independent educational evaluations (IEEs), when applicable, and the right to resolve disagreements through IEP meetings, mediation, due process hearings and state complaint procedures.

A copy of the Special Education Procedural Safeguards Notice is provided at required times and is available upon request.

Parental consent is required before an initial special education assessment is conducted or special education services are provided for the first time. Consent may be withdrawn in writing, consistent with applicable law.

When a student with an IEP reaches 18 years of age, educational decision-making rights transfer to the student unless a legal exception applies. Parents/guardians will be notified prior to this transfer of rights.

Concussion and Head Injuries – EC 49475

A concussion is a brain injury that can be caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head, or by a blow to another part of the body with the force transmitted to the head. Even though most concussions are mild, all concussions are potentially serious and may result in complications including prolonged brain damage and death if not recognized and managed properly.

A school district, charter school, or private school that elects to offer an athletic program must immediately remove from a school-sponsored athletic activity for the remainder of the day an athlete who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury during that activity. The athlete may not return to that activity until he or she is evaluated by, and receives written clearance from, a licensed healthcare provider. If the licensed health care provider determines the athlete has a concussion or

head injury, the athlete shall also complete a graduated return-to-play protocol of no less than 7 days in duration under the supervision of a licensed healthcare provider.

On a yearly basis, a concussion and head injury information sheet must be signed and returned by the athlete and the athlete's parent or guardian before the athlete initiates practice or competition. This requirement does not apply to an athlete engaging in an athletic activity during the regular school day or as part of a physical education course.

Confidential Medical Services – EC 46010.1

School authorities may excuse any pupil in grades 7-12 from the school for the purpose of obtaining confidential medical services without the consent of the pupil's parent or guardians. When excusing students for confidential medical services or verifying such appointments, staff will not ask the purpose of such appointments but may contact a medical office to confirm the time of the appointment. Staff will not notify a parent when a student leaves school to obtain confidential medical services.

Confidentiality of Medical Information Act – CC 56.10

School linked service coordinators will have access to health care information which complies with federal health insurance requirements. The coordinator must be credentialed and serve with confidentiality requirements per licensed school nurses, marriage and family therapists, educational psychologists, and clinical counselors.

Controlled Substances: Opioids - EC49476

School Authorities must provide facts regarding the risks and side effects of opioid use each school year to athletes. Parents and student athletes must sign acknowledgement of the receipt of the document annually.

Coursework and Graduation – Military – EC 51225.1 and 51225.2

If you are a military family, your child may qualify to be exempted from local graduation coursework requirements that are beyond the California state requirements. Please make an appointment with the school counselor to review your child's options for graduation. All coursework that was completed at another school outside of The Palmdale Aerospace Academy will be issued full or partial credit. You may reach the counselor at – 661-273-3680.

Custody Issues

Custody disputes must be handled by the courts. The school has no legal jurisdiction to refuse a biological parent access to his/her child and/or school records. The only exception is when signed restraining orders or proper divorce papers, specifically stating visitation limitations, are on file in the school office. Any student release situation, which leaves the student's welfare in question will be handled at the discretion of the site administrator or designee. Should any such situation become a disruption to the school, law enforcement will be contacted, and an officer requested to intervene. Parents are asked to make every attempt not to involve school sites in custody matters. The school will make every attempt to reach the custodial parent when a parent or any other person not listed on the emergency card attempts to pick up a child.

Directory Information – EC 49073

"Directory Information" can include the student's name, address, telephone number, email address, date and place of birth, honors and awards, dates of attendance, grade level, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of athletic team members, degrees, honors, and awards received. Directory information may be disclosed without prior consent from the parent or legal guardian unless the parent or legal guardian submits a written notice to the school to deny access to his/her pupil's directory information.

No information may be released to private profit-making entities, other than employers, prospective employers, and representatives of the news media, including, but not limited to, newspapers, magazines, and radio and television stations.

Unless **The Palmdale Aerospace Academy** is providing information for a legitimate educational purpose under FERPA and the California Education Code or directory information, **The Palmdale Aerospace Academy** shall notify parents or guardians and eligible students—and receive their written consent—before it releases a student’s personally identifiable information. **The Palmdale Aerospace Academy** will not release information to third parties for immigration enforcement purposes, except as required by law or court order. The deadline to opt out of directory information sharing is 10/1/26.

Directory information regarding a pupil identified as experiencing homelessness shall not be released, unless a parent, or eligible pupil, has provided written consent that directory information may be released. The parent of a student experiencing homelessness must opt-in for the student’s information to be shared.

Exception to this practice: *A student experiencing homelessness may be automatically included in directory information only to facilitate free oral and vision health screenings. If a parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth is not interested in their student’s information being shared for free oral and vision health screening, the parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth must provide written notification that they do not consent to this release.*

Note: A school, district, the CDE, or any party that is authorized to receive personally identifiable information from education records may release the records or information without the required written consent if all personally identifiable information has been removed. Authorized parties must make a reasonable determination that a student’s identity is not personally identifiable, considering single or multiple releases and taking into account other reasonably available information. This determination must be made before releasing individual or summary student information.

Educational Equity: Immigration and Citizenship Status – EC 200, 220, 234.1, 234.7, 66251, 66260.6, 66270, and 66270.3

The Equity in Higher Education Act states that all persons, regardless of their disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, immigration status have equal educational rights and opportunities including financial aid for higher education to also be equitable, and an application may not be denied of a student based on their immigration status.

Education of Foster Youth – EC 42238.01, 47605, 47605.6, 48204, 48432.5, 48850, 48853, 48853.5, 48911, 48911.1, 48915.5, 48918.1, 49069.5, 51215.1 and 51225.

Students supervised by the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and placed in licensed foster homes, Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs [STRTP, (formerly referred to as group homes), with relatives, or residing with biological parent(s) have additional rights and enrollment protections that promote school stability. Students who are the subject of a DCFS voluntary placement agreement or Department of Probation (in certain circumstances) are also included within the definition of students in foster care. In addition, a dependent child of the court of an Indian tribe, consortium or tribes, or tribal organization is afforded the same guarantee of rights as the foster children identified through the county court systems.

Every LEA is required to designate a staff person as the educational liaison for foster children to: ensure that foster youth are:

- *Entitled to stable school placements in the least restrictive education programs, with access to academic resources, services, and extracurricular activities that are available to all pupils. This includes the right to remain in the school of origin and the right to matriculate with his or her peers.*
- *Students in foster care must be immediately enrolled in school regardless of the availability of school records, immunization records, school uniforms, or the existence of fines from a previous school. Educators, school*

personnel, social workers, probation officers, caregivers, and other interested parties shall work together to serve the educational needs of students in foster care.

- *Proper and timely transfer between schools. This includes the coordination between the local educational agency and the county placing agency, and the transfer of educational information and records of the foster youth to the next educational placement.*
- *Students in foster care have the right to attend their school of origin and, if applicable, matriculate in the secondary school in the same attendance area even when the student is placed with a family who resides in a different attendance area. The school district serving the student in foster care shall allow the youth to continue their education in the school of origin while the student is identified as a foster youth. If the jurisdiction of the court terminates prior to the end of an academic year, the student in foster care shall be allowed to continue their education in the school of origin for the duration of the academic school year, unless the student attends high school as they have the right to attend until they graduate.*
- *If a dispute arises over school selection or enrollment, the school must immediately enroll the student in the school where enrollment is sought. During the Dispute Resolution process, the student is to maintain enrollment in the school sought pending the final resolution of the dispute.*
- *No lowering of grades if the foster youth is absent from school due to a decision by a court or placing agency to change his or her placement, or due to a verified court appearance or related court ordered activity.*
- *Issuance and acceptance of partial credits for courses that have been satisfactorily completed by the foster youth. The foster youth shall not be required to retake the portion of the course already completed unless it has been determined that he or she is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate from high school.*
- *Not required to retake a course the pupil has satisfactorily completed.*
- *Students in foster care may qualify for an exemption from local graduation requirements. Designated school staff shall notify students and their parent/legal guardian of their eligibility to be exempt from coursework and other requirements adopted by The Palmdale Aerospace Academy in addition to the statewide coursework requirements. To qualify the student must be in foster care and have transferred schools after what would have been their second year of high school, the student cannot reasonably complete the additional local LEA graduation requirements within four (4) years, and the educational rights holder must determine that the graduation exemption is in the student's best interest. If these criteria are satisfied, the student may be offered the exemption to complete the state graduation requirements of 130 credits in specific course work within the four years and be offered a fifth year if needed.*
- *Once a student is found eligible for this exemption, their eligibility continues even if the student's foster care case closes or the student transfers to another school. It is unlawful for a school, student, educational rights holder, social worker, or probation officer to request or require a school transfer for the purpose of making a student eligible for an exemption from local requirements.*
- *Parents/legal guardians, foster caregivers, social workers and/or probation officers should notify the school district as soon as they become aware that a student is changing school placements so that partial credits may be calculated, if applicable, and school records can be transferred in a timely manner. For students experiencing a change in residence, a Best Interest Determination meeting should be held with the educational rights holder to determine whether the student will remain in the school of origin and if transportation is needed.*
- *If a student in foster care is issued a suspension (including in-school suspension), recommended for expulsion, scheduled for a manifestation determination meeting, or involuntarily transferred to a continuation school, notification must be made to the foster child's attorney and social worker, and, for the child's tribal social worker, if applicable, and county social worker. Attorneys and social workers have the same rights as parents during these processes, such as requests for meetings and the ability to inspect all documents.*
- *If these rights are not followed, a complaint of noncompliance may be filed with the local educational agency under the Uniform Complaint Procedures.*

For information regarding the right of foster youth, contact **Christopher Riley Director of Student Services and Human Resources: criley@tpaa.org**

Education of Homeless Youth: 42 USC 11432 – EC 48551, 48852.5, 48853, 48857, 51225.1, 51225.2

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act for Homeless Children and Youth entitles all school-age children experiencing homelessness to access to the same free and appropriate public education provided to students who have permanent housing.

Every LEA is required to appoint a homeless liaison to ensure parents and students experiencing homelessness are informed of educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in education of their children.

A student experiencing homelessness is defined as an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence who may live:

- in an emergency or transitional shelter;
- In substandard housing, car, garage, or other places not designed as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
- In another family's house or apartment due to a loss of housing or as a result of economic hardship (doubled or tripled-up);
- In a hotel or motel as a result of economic hardship;
- Temporarily in a trailer, recreational vehicle (RV), motor home, or campsite;
- Temporarily with an adult who is not their parent/legal guardian, known as an unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness.

Unaccompanied youth, such as teen parents not living with their parent/guardian or students that have run away or have been pushed out of their homes, have access to these same rights.

The Student Housing Questionnaire (SHQ) is distributed annually at the beginning of each school year by all schools along with other required enrollment/registration forms to all students. The SHQ allows parents/legal guardians, unaccompanied youth, or caregivers to self-identify their current living situation. At any time during the school year, students, parents/legal guardians, or caregivers may use the SHQ to self-identify. The SHQ shall be available in the primary language of the family. A paper version needs to be provided, upon request. The SHQ must include information on the educational rights for students experiencing homelessness.

Students experiencing homelessness are expected to attend school regularly and have the right to:

- Immediate enrollment in school of origin or school where currently residing without proof of residency, immunization records or tuberculosis skin-test results, school records, or legal guardianship papers. It is the responsibility of the enrolling school to request all necessary documents from the previous school(s).
- Education and other services (e.g., to participate fully in all school activities and programs for which a student is eligible, to qualify automatically for nutrition programs, to receive transportation services, and to contact liaison to resolve disputes that arise during enrollment).
- Be notified of the possibility of graduating within four years with reduced state requirements, and the ability to remain for a fifth year to graduate with reduced state or full LEA requirements, if the student experiencing homelessness transferred after the second year of high school, is credit deficient, and will not be able to graduate on time with local district requirements.
- For the district to accept and issue partial credits for courses that have been satisfactorily completed by the student experiencing homelessness.
- Enrollment protections that promote school stability, including the right to attend their school of origin and, if applicable, matriculate to the secondary school in the same attendance area even if they no longer live within the attendance boundaries of those schools.

- Students experiencing homelessness have the right to attend their school of residence or their school of origin, which includes the school at which the youth was last enrolled or that the student attended in the last 15 months to which they have a connection.
- At the request of the parent/legal guardian, unaccompanied youth, or caregiver, the LEA shall ensure that transportation is provided as appropriate and feasible to and from the school of origin.
- Refer parents/legal guardians and unaccompanied youth to applicable programs and services. Referrals may include but are not limited to community-based organizations, special education services, tutoring, preschool programs, before and after school enrichment programs, and any other appropriate educationally related services.

If a dispute arises over school selection or enrollment, the school must immediately enroll the student in the school where enrollment is sought. During the Dispute Resolution process, the student is to maintain enrollment in the school sought pending the final resolution of the dispute. For further information on the Dispute Resolution process, please **Christopher Riley Director of Student Services and Human Resources: criley@tpaa.org**

Students experiencing homelessness may qualify for an exemption from local graduation requirements. Designated school staff shall notify students and their parent/legal guardian of their eligibility to be exempt from coursework and other requirements adopted by the The Palmdale Aerospace Academy in addition to the statewide coursework requirements. To qualify the student must be identified as experiencing homelessness, have transferred schools after what would have been their second year of high school, the student cannot reasonably complete the additional local LEA graduation requirements within four (4) years, and the educational rights holder (or unaccompanied youth) must determine that the graduation exemption is in the student's best interest. If these criteria are satisfied, the student may be offered the exemption to complete the state graduation requirements of 130 credits in specific course work within the four years and be offered a fifth year if needed.

Once a student is found eligible for this exemption, their eligibility continues even if the student's homeless status changes or the student transfers to another school. It is unlawful for a school, student, or educational rights holder to request or require a school transfer for the purpose of making a student eligible for an exemption from local requirements.

Students experiencing homelessness shall be issued partial or full credits for coursework completed while attending another school. The Palmdale Aerospace Homeless Liaison must be notified if a student experiencing homelessness is referred for expulsion for a discretionary act and invited to any IEP meetings where a manifestation determination is to be made.

For further information on the rights of students experiencing homelessness, please contact **High School Counselor – 661-273-3680**

Educational Equity: Discrimination: Antisemitism Prevention- EC 244, 262.3, 280, 33800, 48980, 51500, 51501, 60151 & 60152

The Palmdale Aerospace Academy is committed to maintaining a learning environment free from discrimination, harassment, and bias. All instructional materials, textbooks, and teacher-led discussions must be factually accurate and free from content that promotes unlawful discrimination. This includes specific protections against antisemitism, Islamophobia, and bias based on shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics. **The Palmdale Aerospace Academy** is required to ensure that all curriculum aligns with state standards and does not subject students to a hostile environment. Any materials found to be discriminatory or factually inaccurate regarding protected groups will be removed from the classroom.

If you believe your student has experienced discrimination or that instructional materials violate these standards, you have the right to file a uniform complaint with UCP Coordinator and provide evidence that supports the allegations. The district will investigate and respond to all formal complaints within 60 days. If **The Palmdale Aerospace Academy** fails to meet this timeline or if you are unsatisfied with the local resolution, you have the right to appeal directly to the California Department of Education (CDE).

To report a concern or request more information about our anti-discrimination policies, please contact: **District Compliance Officer: [Christopher Riley Director of Student Services and Human Resources: criley@tpaa.org]**
Website: <https://www.tpaa.org/web-accessibility-complaint-form/>

Emergency Treatment for Anaphylaxis - EC 49414

EC 49414 requires school districts to provide epinephrine delivery systems to school nurses and trained personnel and authorizes them to use epinephrine delivery systems for any student who may be experiencing anaphylaxis, regardless of known history. Emergency epinephrine auto-injectors must be stored in an accessible location along with a copy of written training material upon need for emergency use. Notice of location must be publicly posted. Anaphylaxis is a severe and potentially life-threatening allergic reaction that can occur after encountering an allergic trigger, such as food, medicine, an insect bite, latex or exercise. Symptoms include narrowing of the airways, rashes or hives, nausea or vomiting, a weak pulse and dizziness. It is estimated that approximately 25% of the anaphylactic reactions occur during school hours to students who had not previously been diagnosed with a food allergy.

English Learners Identification Notice – EC 313.2

State law requires that parents of English learners are to be notified annually if they are identified as one of the following: Long-term English Learner or English learner at risk of becoming a Long-term English Learner. The school coordinator for English Language Development will be sending these notices at the beginning of each school year.

Entrance Health Screening (K-8) – HSC 124085, 124100, 124105

State law requires that the parent or legal guardian of each pupil provide the school within 90 days after entrance to first grade documentary proof that the pupil has received a health screening examination by a doctor within the prior 18 months. Pupils may be excluded up to 5 days from school for failing to comply or not providing a waiver. Free health screening is available for eligible students through the Child Health Disabilities Prevention Program.

Excused Absences – EC 46014, 48205

Pupils, with the written consent of their parents or guardians, may be excused from school in order to participate in religious exercises or to receive moral or religious instruction. No pupil shall have his or her grade reduced or lose academic credit for any excused absence or absences, if missed assignments and tests that can reasonably be provided are satisfactorily completed within a reasonable period of time.

(a) A pupil shall be excused from school when the absence is:

1. Due to his or her illness.
2. Due to quarantine under the direction of a county or city health officer.
3. For the purpose of having medical, dental, optometric, or chiropractic services rendered.
4. For the purpose of attending the funeral services of a member of his or her immediate family, or of a person that is determined by the pupil's parent or guardian to be in such close association with the pupil as to be considered the pupil's immediate family, so long as the absence is not more than five days per incident.

5. For the purpose of jury duty in the manner provided for by law.
6. Due to the illness or medical appointment during school hours of a child of whom the pupil is the custodial parent.
7. For justifiable personal reasons, including, but not limited to, an appearance in court, attendance at a funeral service, observance of a holiday or ceremony of his or her religion, attendance at religious retreats, attendance at an employment conference, or attendance at an educational conference on the legislative or judicial process offered by a nonprofit organization when the pupil's absence is requested in writing by the parent or guardian and approved by the principal or a designated representative pursuant to uniform standards established by the governing board. *Please note: attendance for religious retreats shall not exceed one school day per semester.*
8. For the purpose of serving as a member of a precinct board for an election pursuant to Section 12302 of the Elections Code.
9. For the purpose of spending time with a member of the pupil's immediate family, who is an active duty member of the uniformed services, as defined in section 49701, and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from, deployment. Absences granted pursuant to this paragraph shall be granted for a period of time to be determined at the discretion of the superintendent of the school district.
10. For the purpose of attending the pupil's naturalization ceremony to become a United States Citizen.
11. For the purpose of participating in a cultural ceremony or even *Please note: Cultural means relating to the practices, habits, beliefs, and traditions of a certain group of people.*
12. (A) For the purpose of a middle school or high school pupil engaging in a civic or political event, as provided in subparagraph (B), provided that the pupil notifies the school ahead of the absence. (B) (i) A middle school or high school pupil who is absent pursuant to subparagraph (A) is required to be excused for only one school day-long absence per school year. (ii) A middle school or high school pupil who is absent pursuant to subparagraph (A) may be permitted additional excused absences in the discretion of a school administrator, as described in subdivision (c) of Section 48260. *Please note: A "civic or political event" includes, but is not limited to, voting, poll working, strikes, public commenting, candidate speeches, political or civic forums, and town halls.*
13. (A) If an immediate family member of the pupil, or a person that is determined by the pupil's parent or guardian to be in such close association with the pupil as to be considered the pupil's immediate family, has died, so long as the absence is not more than three days per incident. (i) To access services from a victim services organization or agency. *Please note: "Victim services organization or agency" means an agency or organization that has a documented record of providing services to victims.* (ii) To access grief support services. (iii) To participate in safety planning or to take other actions to increase the safety of the pupil or an immediate family member of the pupil, or a person that is determined by the pupil's parent or guardian to be *Please note: "immediate family" means the parent or guardian, brother, sister, grandparent, or any other living relative living in the household of the pupil.* Any absences beyond three days for the reasons described in 13(A) above shall be subject to the discretion of the school administrator, or their designee. Extensions are based on the administrator's assessment of the necessity of the absence.
14. Due to the pupil's participation in military entrance processing.
15. Authorized at the discretion of a school administrator as described in subdivision (c) of Section 48260.

A pupil with an excused absence shall be allowed to complete all assignments and tests missed during the absence that can be reasonably provided and, upon satisfactory completion within a reasonable period of time, shall be given full credit therefor. The teacher of the class from which a pupil is absent shall determine which test and assignments shall be reasonably equivalent to, but not necessarily identical to,

the test or assignments that the pupil missed during the absence.

- a. For purposes to this section, attendance at religious retreats shall not exceed one school day per semester.
- b. Absences pursuant to this section are deemed to be absences in computing average daily attendance and shall not generate state apportionment payments.
1. A “civic or political event” includes, but is not limited to, voting, poll working, strikes, public commenting, candidate speeches, political or civic forums, and town halls.
2. “Cultural” means relating to the practices, habits, beliefs, and traditions of a certain group of people living in the household of the pupil.
3. “Immediate family” means the parent or guardian, brother or sister, grandparent, or any relative living in the household of the pupil.
4. “Victim services organization or agency” has the same meaning as defined in paragraph (7) of subdivision (g) of Section 230.1 of the Labor Code.

Extended School Year – 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq., 34 C.F.R. § 300.106; EC 56000–56885

Extended School Year (ESY) services are special education and related services that may be provided to eligible students with disabilities beyond the regular school year, in accordance with federal and state law. These services are not automatically provided to all students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). Eligibility is determined annually by the IEP team based on the individual needs of the student. The IEP team may consider factors such as regression (loss of skills) during breaks from instruction, rate of recoupment (time needed to regain lost skills), critical stages of skill development, and the likelihood that interruption of services would substantially jeopardize the student’s educational progress. No single factor is determinative, and eligibility decisions are made on an individual basis. If a student is found eligible for ESY services then services will be provided at no cost to parents/guardians and will be based on the goals and services identified in the student’s IEP. ESY services are designed to support the students’ continued access to a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) and are not enrichment, summer school, or remedial programs.

Parents/guardians are members of the IEP team and have the right to participate in decisions regarding ESY eligibility, receive notice of IEP meetings at which ESY is discussed and request an IEP meeting to discuss ESY services if they have concerns.

If parents/guardians disagree with an ESY eligibility determination or proposed services, they may use the procedural safeguards available under special education law, including: IEP meetings, mediation, filing a state complaint and/or requesting a due process hearing.

For questions regarding Extended School Year services or to request an IEP meeting, please contact: **Julie Fawcette, Director of Special Education**, jfawcette@tpaa.org

Federal Student Aid – EC 51225.8 (9-12), EC 51225.7

Under state law, school districts are required to inform parents that students prior to entering 12th grade are entitled to information on how to properly complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the California Dream Act Application as well as the ability to opt out of these opportunities. This information should be available in a timely manner as financial aid is awarded in order of submission according to deadlines, on a first-come, first served basis. All family and student personal information will be protected according to state and federal privacy laws and regulations. Student lists will be matched to FAFSA applications for the purpose of ensuring that either the FAFSA is completed or if an opt out form has been completed to maintain the students’ ability to graduate. Parents/guardians must be notified if the student is exempted.

Fingerprinting - EC 32390, 48980(f)

The Palmdale Aerospace Academy offers a fingerprint program for children enrolled in kindergarten or newly enrolled. Parents or guardians must declare, in writing, whether or not they want their child(ren) to be fingerprinted. Parents or guardians consenting to the fingerprinting must pay the applicable fee. Parents or guardians may reverse in writing the declaration on fingerprinting at any time. No child may be fingerprinted without the consent of the parent or guardian.

Free and Reduced-price Meals – EC 49501.5, 49510, 49391, and 49392

Commencing in SY 2022-23, Education Code (EC) 49501.5 requires public school districts, county office of education, and charter schools serving students in grades TK-12 to provide two meals free of charge (breakfast and lunch) during each school day to students requesting a meal, regardless of their free-or reduced-price meal eligibility. Charter Schools and Districts will still require eligible parents to submit an application in order to remain in compliance for accounting purposes only. Schools serving grades 1-6 will serve breakfast or a morning snack to non-school ages children with a guardian present.

Gun Safety – EC 48986, 49390, 48391, and 49392

This is a reminder that firearms are to be safely stored away from children and teens. The accidental shooting of children and youth is the third leading cause of death following accidents and suicide. California public schools are mandated to remind families to keep their home safe from such potential dangers. If there is a threat or perceived threat, then the public schools will cooperate with local law enforcement to conduct an immediate threat assessment.

Harm or Destruction of Animals – EC 32255 et seq.

Any pupil with a moral objection to dissecting or otherwise harming or destroying an animal, or any part thereof, must inform his or her teacher of the objection. Objections must be substantiated by a note from the pupil's parent or guardian. A pupil who chooses to refrain from participation in an education project involving the harmful or destructive use of an animal may receive an alternative education project, if the teacher believes that an adequate alternative education project is possible. The teacher may work with the pupil to develop and agree upon an alternative education project so that the pupil may obtain the knowledge, information, or experience required by the course of study in question.

Health Care Coverage – EC 49452.9

Your child and family may be eligible for free or low-cost health coverage. For information about health care coverage options and enrollment assistance, contact Julie Lovvik Director of Health Services – jlovvik@tpaa.org or go to www.CoveredCA.com. Additionally, California law allows all low-income children under 19 years old, regardless of immigration status, to enroll in Medi-Cal at any time in the year. Families can apply in person at their local county human services office, over the phone, online, with a mail-in application, or at a local health center. For more information about Medi-Cal enrollment, visit www.health4allkids.org.

Health Insurance Coverage for Athletes (9-12) – EC 32221.5

Under state law, school districts are required to ensure that all members of school athletic teams have accidental injury insurance that covers medical and hospital expenses. This insurance requirement can be met by the school district offering insurance or other health benefits that cover medical and hospital expenses. Some pupils may qualify to enroll in no-cost or low-cost local, state, or federally sponsored health insurance programs. For more information, contact Medi-Cal for Families at (800) 988-5305.

Human Trafficking Prevention (grade 6-12) – EC 49380, 49381

The Palmdale Aerospace Academy is committed to maintaining a safe and supportive learning environment for all students. California law requires schools to provide age appropriate instruction and information designed to prevent human trafficking, including sexual exploitation and labor trafficking.

Age-appropriate human trafficking prevention information may be provided to students as part of health education, safety instruction, or other school-based programs. Instruction is designed to help students recognize unsafe or exploitative situations, understand how traffickers may target or recruit youth, develop strategies to seek help from trusted adults and know how to access local and national support resources.

Students and families are encouraged to report concerns related to human trafficking, exploitation, or unsafe situations. Support and resources include:

- School staff, including administrators, counselors, or teachers
- Local law enforcement or child welfare agencies, if there is immediate danger
- Connecting to the National Human Trafficking Hotline by calling 1-888-373-7888, Text “HELP” or “INFO” to 233733 or online at <https://humantraffickinghotline.org>

Reports to the hotline may be made confidentially, and support is available 24 hours a day.

Immigration Enforcement: School Site Notification and Educational Equity - EC 234.7, FC 6550 & 6552, HSC 1597.640 & ProC 1502 & 2105

All children in **The Palmdale Aerospace Academy** have a right to a free public education, regardless of their immigration status, or the immigration status of their parents or guardians. This school district will not deny enrollment to any child based on immigration status. **The Palmdale Aerospace Academy** is committed to providing a safe, welcoming environment for all students. Our schools are "Safe Zones," where learning is protected. We will not allow immigration enforcement officers to enter any school site, or access student records, without a valid judicial warrant, court order, or subpoena. School personnel will not solicit, collect, or retain information regarding the citizenship or immigration status of students or their family members. We do not disclose student records to immigration authorities (such as ICE) without parent/guardian consent, a court order, or a subpoena. If an immigration enforcement officer enters a school campus, our staff will:

- Immediately notify the Principal, Superintendent, designee.
- Verify the officer's identification and credentials.
- Ask for a valid, signed judicial warrant or subpoena.
- Ensure that no students are interviewed or removed from campus without legal justification and parent notification, if allowed by law.

In the event that an immigration enforcement action occurs at or near a school site, The Palmdale Aerospace Academy will promptly notify parents/guardians, to the extent possible under law and consistent with the safety of students and staff.

The District strictly prohibits discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying based on actual or perceived Immigration status, national origin, or ethnicity. Students or parents who experience such actions are encouraged to report them to the site principal or through our Uniform Complaint Procedures. We encourage families to ensure that emergency contact information is updated, identifying a trusted adult who can care for their child in the event a parent is detained or deported.

Immunizations - EC 49403, 48216; HSC 120325, 120335, 120365, 120370, 120375

Students must be immunized against certain communicable diseases. Students are prohibited from attending school unless immunization requirements are met for age and grade. The Palmdale Aerospace Academy shall cooperate with local health officials in measures necessary for the prevention and control of communicable diseases in school age children. The district may use any funds, property, or personnel and may permit any person licensed as a physician or registered nurse to administer an

immunizing agent to any student whose parents have consented in writing.

Beginning January 1, 2016, parents of students in any school will no longer be allowed to submit a personal beliefs exemption to a currently required vaccine. A personal beliefs exemption on file at school prior to January 1, 2016 will continue to be valid until the student enters the next grade span at kindergarten (including transitional kindergarten) or 7th grade.

Students are not required to have immunizations if they attend a home-based private school or an independent study program and do not receive classroom-based instruction. However, parents must continue to provide immunizations records for these students to their schools. The immunization requirements do not prohibit students from accessing special education and related services required by their individualized education programs.

A student not fully immunized may be temporarily excluded from a school or other institution when that child has been exposed to a specified disease and whose documentary proof of immunization status does not show proof of immunization against one of the communicable diseases described above. For more information, please contact the Director of Health Services.

State law requires the following immunizations before a child may attend school:

- (a) All new students, in transitional kindergarten through grade 12, to The Palmdale Aerospace Academy provide proof of polio, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, measles, and mumps, rubella, and varicella immunizations.
- (b) All transitional kindergarten and kindergarten students must also provide proof of vaccination against hepatitis B.
- (c) All seventh grade students must also provide proof of a second measles-containing vaccine, and a pertussis booster vaccine.

Information about a medical exemption or personal beliefs exemption from immunizations for your student is available at CAIR ME. For more information on medical exemptions, please visit the following website: <https://cair.cdph.ca.gov/exemptions/home>.

Independent Study – EC 51744, 51745, 51745.5, 51746, 51747, 51747.5, 51749, 51749.5 and 51749.6 and 56026

Independent Study (IS) is an instructional choice and may not be mandated. Each district and charter school that chooses to offer IS must have board policies in place for independent study courses or curriculum equivalent time to complete work expectations equal to what is offered in person. In addition, short-term (15 school days or less) and long-term (16 school days or more) requires the IS engagement defined per the policies adopted by the local governing board.

The IS agreement must be signed any time during the school year for short-term IS or prior to beginning long-term IS. All IS agreements must include expectations of students, parent and supervising teacher, and must be updated to include equitable access to students with disabilities based upon individual student needs. For more information on how **The Palmdale Aerospace Academy** offers IS options, please contact the school attendance clerks at 661-273-3680.

Instruction for Pupils with Temporary Disabilities - EC 48206.3, 48207, and 48208

A pupil with a temporary disability which makes attendance in the regular day classes or the alternative educational program in which the pupil is enrolled impossible or inadvisable may receive individualized instruction provided in the pupil's home for one hour a day. Please contact the Special Education Program Specialist for further information. A pupil with a temporary disability, who is in a

hospital or other residential health facility, excluding a state hospital, may be deemed to have complied with the residency requirements for school attendance in the school district in which the hospital is located.

It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to notify the school district in which the hospital or other residential health facility is located of the presence of a pupil with a temporary disability. Upon receipt of the notification, the district will within five working days determine whether the pupil will be able to receive individualized instruction pursuant to EC 48206.3 and, if so, provide the instruction within five working days or less.

A pupil with a temporary disability may remain enrolled in the district of residence or charter school and may attend regular classes when not confined to the hospital setting, the total days of instruction may not exceed the maximum of five days with both school settings and attendance may not be duplicated. If necessary, the district of residence may provide instruction in the home for the days not receiving instruction in the hospital setting, depending upon the temporary doctor orders. The supervisor of attendance shall ensure that absences from the regular school program are excused until the pupil is able to return to the regular school program.

An honorary high school diploma which is clearly distinguishable from the regular diploma of graduation may be awarded to a pupil who is terminally ill, from the resident governing school board, a county office of education or a charter school.

Medication Regimen – EC 49423, 49480

The parent or guardian of any pupil taking medication on a regular basis must inform the school nurse, the Director of Health Services or designee of the medication being taken, the current dosage, and the name of the supervising physician. With the consent of the parent or legal guardian, the school nurse may communicate with the physician and may counsel with school personnel regarding the possible effects of the medication on the pupil.

Any pupil who is required to take, during the regular school day, medication prescribed by a physician may be assisted by the school nurse or other designated school personnel if the charter school receives both a written statement of instructions from the physician detailing the method, amount, and time schedules by which such medication is to be taken requesting the school nurse to assist the pupil with prescribed medication as set forth in the physician statement. Students may carry and self-administer auto-injectable epinephrine or inhaled asthma medication if the school receives both a written statement on instructions from the physician detailing the method, amount, and time schedules by which such medication is to be taken and a written statement from the parent or guardian requesting that the student self-administer. All requests are to be approved by the school nurse prior to use.

Mental Health – EC 49472

In order to initiate access to available pupil mental health services, you may contact your school counselor's office at (661)273-3680. Our school will notify parents and students at least twice per year. This one time through our Annual Notifications, we will also notify you again a second time each school year by the following means: ParentSquare.

Menstrual Products – EC 35292.6 (*applicable grades 3-12*)

The Palmdale Aerospace Academy supports period equity and now provides free and accessible menstrual products, in all women's restrooms and all-gender restrooms, and in at least one men's restroom at schools serving grades 3 to 12. Notice of this service is required to be posted in a prominent and conspicuous location in every restroom where menstrual products, available and accessible, free of cost, are required to be stocked. The posted notice will contain the name, email and phone number of the person responsible for maintaining this supply at this school site.

Oral Health Assessment – EC 49452.8 (K-8)

Record of a dental assessment done by a dental professional is required for all kindergarteners and first graders attending public school for the first time. Dental assessments must be completed in the 12 months prior to entry or by May 31st of the pupil's first school year.

Parent Participation in School Meetings and Conferences – LC 230.8

If the parent's employer has 25 or more employees, the parent must be allowed to attend school meetings and events for their child(ren), up to a maximum of 40 hours each year without discrimination or fear of job loss. Purposes to attend child-related activities include enrollment in grades 1-12, to address childcare or a school emergency, behavior or discipline concern that requires immediate parent attention, sudden school closure, or natural disaster. ("Parent" means a parent, guardian, stepparent, foster parent, or grandparent of, or a person who stands in.) If an employer discharges, threatens to discharge, demotes, suspends or otherwise discriminates against the parent, the employee may be entitled to reinstatement and reimbursement for lost income or benefits. See [Labor Code 230.8](#) for more details.

Pesticides - EC 17612 and 48980.3

To obtain a copy of all pesticide products and expected use at the school facility during the year, and to receive notification of individual pesticide applications at the school at least 72 hours before the application. The notice will identify the active ingredient(s) in each pesticide product, the intended date of application an Internet address on pesticide use and reduction, and the Internet address where the school site integrated pest management plan may be found if the school site has posted the plan. Please contact the Director of Facilities, Maintenance, and Operations at (661) 273- 3680 with any questions.

Physical Examination – EC 49451; 20 USC 1232h

A parent or guardian may file annually with the school principal a written statement, signed by the parent or legal guardian, withholding consent to a physical examination of the pupil. However, whenever there is good reason to believe that the pupil is suffering from a recognized contagious or infectious disease, the pupil shall be sent home and shall not be permitted to return until school authorities are satisfied that the contagious or infectious disease no longer exists.

Pregnant and Parenting Pupils - EC 221.51, 222.5, 46015, 48205, and 48980

The governing board of The Palmdale Aerospace Academy will treat both the pregnant teen mother and the teen father with the same accommodations, regardless of sex. The teen parents may not be excluded from any class or extracurricular activities, solely on the basis of pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or post-partum recovery. Physical and emotional ability to continue may only be determined by physician or nurse practitioner. Pregnant or parenting pupils may not be required to participate in pregnant minor programs or alternative programs, with the exception of personal choice. Parental rights will be an option available in annual notifications or at semester term periods, welcome packets, orientation, online or in print, or in independent study packets as provided to all regular students from school districts or charter schools. Parental leave for eight weeks for preparation of birth of infant, post-partum for mental and physical health needs of the teen parents and to bond with infants, or any additional medically approved time to protect the infant or parents is allowed. Additional leave may occur if deemed medically necessary, as prescribed by a physician or nurse practitioner. The pregnant and parenting teens are not required to take all or part of the leave to which they are entitled. Leave will be approved by the district or charter school supervisor of attendance, as excused absence, with a unique code similar to independent study. However, no work is required during the leave. Upon return, the parenting teens are entitled to return to the school courses that were in enrolled before

taking leave. Make up plans and reenrollment will be worked out with the school counselor or administrator to achieve an opportunity to fully participate in all activities, as before leave. If needed, parenting teen may enroll for a fifth year of instruction if on course for graduation requirements. If parenting teens were enrolled in an alternative school setting, a return to that environment is to be available as needed to achieve graduation. A pupil shall not incur any academic penalties due to using these available accommodations. An illness for sick child does not require a doctor note for the custodial parenting teens; the mother or father will be excused by the attendance supervisor.

Pupil health: opioid overdose prevention and treatment: Melanie's Law - EC 32282, 47605, 47605.6, 49414.3, 49414.4 and 49428.16 (See School Safety Plan)

School Districts may provide schools, grades 7-12, stock emergency naloxone or another opioid antagonist to provide emergency medical aid to persons suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering, from an opioid overdose.

Pupil Records Obtained from Social Media – EC 49073.6

Other than the school newspaper and yearbook, the school may gather information in the form of video, photograph, blog, texts, and emails, to maintain school and student safety. All social media information gathered will be destroyed within one year after the student turns 18 years old or one year after the student is no longer enrolled, whichever one comes first.

Pupil Records - EC 49063 and 49069, 34 CFR 99.7, 20 USC 1232g

A cumulative record, whether recorded by handwriting, print, tapes, film, microfilm or other means, must be maintained on the history of a pupil's development and educational progress. The Palmdale Aerospace Academy will protect the privacy of such records. Parents/guardians have the right to 1) inspect and review the pupil's educational record maintained by the school, 2) request that a school correct records which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading, and 3) have some control over the disclosure of information from educational records. The Palmdale Aerospace Academy shall disclose educational records without parental consent to school officials with legitimate educational interests, federal, state, or local education authorities and upon request from officials of another school district in which a pupil seeks or intends to enroll.

Parents' request to access their pupil's educational records must be submitted in a written form to the Registrar and the school will have five (5) business days from the day of receipt of the request to provide access to the records.

Any challenge to school records must be submitted in writing to the Director of Student Services.

A parent challenging school records must show that the records are:

- 1) inaccurate,
- 2) an unsubstantiated personal conclusion or inference,
- 3) a conclusion or inference outside the observer's area of competence,
- 4) not based on the personal observation of a named person with the time and place of the observation noted,
- 5) misleading, or
- 6) in violation of the privacy or other rights of the pupil. Parents have the right to file a complaint with the United States Department of Education concerning an alleged failure by the District to comply with the provisions of the United States Family Educational Rights and

Privacy Act (FERPA) by writing to: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW, Washington, D.C. 20202-4605.

Pupil Safety: Parental Notification: Synthetic Drugs - EC 48980, 48985.5

Our school is committed to the safety of all our students. Although the long-term effects of many synthetic drugs on physical and mental health are not yet known, immediate effects on a student's education, family, and life could be long-lasting. A synthetic drug is a drug with properties and effects similar to a known hallucinogen or narcotic but with a slightly altered chemical structure created to evade existing restrictions against illegal substances. These drugs may include synthetic cannabinoids, methamphetamines, bath salts, and fentanyl. Illicit fentanyl can be added to other drugs to make them cheaper, more powerful, and more addictive and has been found in heroin, methamphetamine, counterfeit pills, cocaine, and other drugs. Fentanyl mixed with any drug increases the likelihood of a fatal overdose. Unless tested, it is difficult to tell if drugs have been laced with fentanyl because it cannot be seen, smelled, or tasted. In addition, various social media platforms may be used to market and sell synthetic drugs, such as fentanyl. Additional information regarding fentanyl is available from the [CDPH's Substance and Addiction Prevention Branch](#).

Pupil Swimming Safety– EC 35179.6

The Academy is committed to safety for all our students at our planned events, including around swimming pools. There is already a requirement for pool sport coaches to be fully trained in CPR in case of accidental drowning in the pool. If there is any event on-campus or hosted at a swimming pool facility, at least one adult with a valid certification of CPR training will be present throughout the duration of the event.

Drowning Prevention and Swim Safety

Every year, communities in California are tragically impacted by drownings. Drowning is a leading cause of injury-related deaths among children under the age of five. Often, drownings occur at pools in people's homes—usually during times no one was supposed to be swimming. Drowning is silent and can happen in minutes. If you own a home with a pool or are visiting a home with a pool or other body of water, there are steps you can take to protect children from drowning, including: adult supervision at all times, swim lessons starting at a young age, installing barriers like fences and gates, and using life jackets (especially for water activities).

Additional Resources:

- [Toddler Pool and Spa Safety \(CDPH\)](#)
- [Drowning Prevention \(Department of Developmental Services\)](#)
- [Drowning Prevention Campaign Toolkit \(American Academy of Pediatrics\)](#)
- [Pool Safety Education Campaign \(U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission\)](#)

Videos

Water Safety and Drowning Prevention Message from CDPH (Full - 1:51)

- [Water Safety - Drowning Prevention](#)
- [Water Safety – Swimmer Safety](#)
- [Water Safety – Best Practices](#)
- [Water Safety – Lifejacket](#)

Drowning is often quick and silent. Take these steps to prevent drowning:

- Always supervise children around pools and near water, even when lifeguards are

present.

- Have children wear a properly fitting, U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket for their size and weight.

Learn more: <https://www.cdc.gov/drowning/prevention/index.html>

Keep water activities and swim time safe and fun by having an alert, sober and undistracted “water watcher” every time children are swimming. No cell phones, reading, drugs or alcohol. Switch watchers every 20 minutes to stay fresh and focused. Learn more: go.cdph.ca.gov/DrowningPrevention

As temperatures heat up, keep water safety top of mind. Prevent drowning by always keeping new or inexperienced swimmers and young children within arm’s reach when swimming or around water.

Children ages 1–4 are at greatest risk of drowning. Toddlers are mobile, curious, and fast. Always watch children around pools and near water. Never leave them alone, even for a few seconds. Young children can sometimes go outside unnoticed. If a child is missing, check the pool or spa area first.

Do you have a pool? Prevent drowning with layers of safety:

- Install a four-sided fence at least four feet tall that fully encloses the pool. Make sure it has a self-closing and self-latching gate
- Learn CPR for drowning victims
- Always keep rescue equipment near the pool
- Remove toys from the pool area that might attract children

<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/at-play/Pages/Water-Safety-for-Older-Children.aspx>

Young children can sometimes go outside unnoticed. If a child is missing, check the pool or spa area first.

Know your limits — don’t overestimate your swimming abilities.

- Don’t use alcohol or drugs when swimming or boating.
- Learn CPR and basic water safety.
- Choose swimming spots with lifeguards on duty.
- Enter the water feet first the first time and follow “No Diving” signs

Retroactive Grant of High School Diplomas: Departed/Deported Pupils (9-12) - EC 51430

The governing board of The Palmdale Aerospace Academy may award a diploma to any student who may have been deported outside the US, if in good standing after completing the second year of high school. Any transfer credits from outside the US will be considered as completion through online or foreign classes.

Ralph M. Brown Act: Required Notices and Agendas for Open Public Meetings – GC 54954.2, 54956, 54956.5, 54954.2, 54954.5, 54957.1, 54957.7, and 54954.2(b)

REGULAR MEETINGS: Agenda in 20 words or less, posted within 72 hours of meeting.

SPECIAL MEETINGS: Twenty-four-hour notice must be provided to members of the legislative body and media outlets, including brief general description of matters to be considered or discussed.

EMERGENCY MEETINGS: One hour notice in case of work stoppage or crippling activity, except in the case of a dire emergency.

CLOSED SESSION AGENDAS: All items to be considered in closed session **must be described in the notice or agenda for the meeting.** The body must orally announce the subject matter of the closed session. If final action is taken in closed session, the body generally must report the action at the conclusion of the closed session.

AGENDA EXCEPTION: Special procedures permit a body to proceed without an agenda in the case of emergency circumstances or where a need for immediate action came to the attention of the body after posting the agenda.

Rights of Parents and Guardians to Information – EC 51101

The parents and guardians of pupils enrolled in public schools have the right and should have the opportunity, as mutually supportive and respectful partners in the education of their children within the public schools, to be informed by the school, and to participate in the education of their children, as follows:

1. Within a reasonable period of time after making the request, to observe their child's classroom(s).
2. Within a reasonable time of their request, to meet with their child's teacher(s) and the principal.
3. To volunteer their time and resources for the improvement of school facilities and school programs under the supervision of district employees, including, but not limited to, providing assistance in the classroom with the approval, and under the direct supervision, of the teacher.
4. To be notified on a timely basis if their child is absent from school without permission.
5. To receive the results of their child's performance on standardized tests and statewide tests and information on the performance of their child's school on standardized statewide tests.
6. To request a particular school for their child, and to receive a response from the school district.
7. To have a school environment for their child that is safe and supportive of learning.
8. To examine the curriculum materials of their child's class(es).
9. To be informed of their child's progress in school and of the appropriate school personnel whom they should contact if problems arise with their child.
10. To have access to the school records of their child.
11. To receive information concerning the academic performance standards, proficiencies, or skills their child is expected to accomplish.
12. To be informed in advance about school rules, including disciplinary rules and procedures, attendance policies, dress codes, and procedures for visiting the school.
13. To receive information about any psychological testing the school does involving their child and to deny permission to give the test.
14. To participate as a member of a parent advisory committee, school site council, or site-based management leadership team.
15. To question anything in their child's record that the parent feels is inaccurate or misleading or is an invasion of privacy and to receive a response from the school.
16. To be notified, as early in the school year as practicable, if their child is identified as being at risk of retention and of their right to consult with school personnel responsible for a decision to promote or retain their child and to appeal a decision to retain or promote their child.

Right to Request Teacher and Paraprofessional Qualifications- ESSA 1112(e)(1)(A), EC 45330, 48980

Upon request, **The Palmdale Aerospace Academy** will provide details regarding teacher licensing, state qualification criteria, and grade/subject certifications, teacher emergency or provisional status, teacher's degree major, graduate certifications, and field of discipline and paraprofessional qualifications

To request this information, **Christopher Riley Director of Student Services and Human Resources:**
criley@tpaa.org

Safe Place to Learn Act – EC 234 and 234.1

The Palmdale Aerospace Academy is committed to maintaining a learning environment that is free from bullying discrimination, harassment, violence, intimidation, and bullying based on actual or perceived characteristics set forth in Section 422.55 of the Penal Code and EC 220, and disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. This policy applies to all acts related to school activity or school attendance occurring within any school under our jurisdiction. Any student who engages in acts of discrimination, harassment, violence, intimidation, or bullying related to school activity or school attendance occurring within a school of the school district may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

Under the **Athletes' Bill of Rights**, all students have the right to protection from discrimination based on sex in all athletic programs, access to participate in all academic and extracurricular activities, including the right to apply for athletic scholarships and the right to ask the Athletic Director about athletic opportunities offered by the school. The Palmdale Aerospace Academy provides specific guidance and a list of statewide resources aimed at preventing teen dating violence. This guidance is designed to improve pupil safety and strengthen connections between students and supportive adults. Resources can be accessed on our website at <https://www.tpaa.org/high/student-resources-high-school/>

The Palmdale Aerospace Academy has adopted a Uniform Complaint Procedure (UCP) to address complaints of discrimination or bullying. School personnel who witness an act of discrimination or bullying must take immediate steps to intervene when it is safe to do so. Incidents of racial discrimination or harassment at athletic events must be reported using the standardized form available at <https://www.tpaa.org/web-accessibility-complaint-form/>.

To report an incidence and/or to receive a copy of the district's antidiscrimination, anti-harassment, anti-intimidation, and anti-bullying policies, please contact Elementary or High School/Middle School administrative office.

Effective July 1, 2026 our campus maintains at least one all-gender restroom that is unlocked and available to all students during school hours.

Comprehensive School Safety Plans: Individualized Safety Plans - EC 32282

The Palmdale Aerospace Academy is committed to providing a safe, secure, and peaceful learning environment for all students and staff. The Palmdale Aerospace Academy school site is required to have a Comprehensive School Safety Plan, which includes a plan for disaster preparedness, emergency procedures and assessment and response to reports of dangerous, violent, or unlawful activities conducted or threatened to be conducted at school, a school activity or on a school bus. Fire and emergency and active shooter drills are held periodically at each school. The plan is required to include how parents and guardians of pupils, teachers, administrators, and school personnel will be notified when the presence of immigration enforcement has been confirmed on the school site.

In accordance with California Education Code Section 32281, each school site in the district has developed and maintains a Comprehensive School Safety Plan (CSSP) designed to address campus risks and prepare for emergencies.

- Fire/Evacuation Drills: Conducted [monthly].
- Lockdown/Active Shooter Drill: Conducted [quarterly].

- Earthquake Drills: Conducted [monthly].

We teach our students and staff about emergency procedures in a developmentally appropriate, trauma-informed way. We emphasize that drills are to prepare us, not to scare us. Teachers will explain to students what to do for each type of drill in a calm manner.

We will notify families via ParentSquare at least 24 hours before a scheduled drill. Please ensure your contact information is updated in our system.

In addition, parents and guardians of pupils, teachers, administrators, and school personnel will be notified when the presence of immigration enforcement has been confirmed on the school site.

If a real emergency occurs, the school will notify parents using ParentSquare. Please ensure your contact information is accurate.

Our full CSSP, which includes procedures for disasters, child abuse reporting, and school discipline, is reviewed and updated annually by March 1st.

The Palmdale Aerospace Academy comprehensive school safety plan is available for review.

If you have any questions regarding safety procedures, please contact **Rosalinda Jaramillo Safety and Security Specialist – rjaramillo@tpaa.org**

School Safety: Bullying – EC 234.4, 22589, and 32283.5

The Palmdale Aerospace Academy is committed to the prohibition of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying including cyberbullying on social media. Annual training will be provided to all staff who work with students, to prevent bullying and cyberbullying. You may find a list of education web pages describing the staff training at: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss/se/bullyres.asp> If you or your child should experience any bullying on campus, at school events, or on the way to or from school, please contact Elementary or High School/Middle School administrative office at (661) 273-3680.

Sexual Harassment – EC 231.5, 231.7 and 48980(f)

The Palmdale Aerospace Academy is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from sexual harassment. Any student who engages in sexual harassment of anyone in or from the district may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal. Any employee who permits, engages in, or fails to report sexual harassment shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal. For a copy of the district's sexual harassment policy, to report incidences of sexual harassment, or more information please contact the High School/Middle School administrative office at (661) 273-3680.

Student Discipline: Expulsions: Procedures – EC 48916, 48916.1, & 48926

Expulsion Process and Procedures

Expulsion is the most serious level of school discipline and may occur when a student commits certain violations of state law or district policy. According to AB 1230, LEAs are to adopt rules and regulations establishing procedures for the filing and processing of requests for readmission, the required review of expelled students for readmission, and the transition process for readmitted students.

If a student is recommended for expulsion:

- The student and parent/guardian will receive written notice of an expulsion hearing.
- The notice will include the date, time, and location of the hearing, as well as the reason the expulsion is being recommended.
- At the hearing, the student has the right to:
 - Be represented by a parent/guardian, advocate, or attorney
 - Review the evidence presented by the district
 - Present witnesses or evidence on the student's behalf

After the hearing, the governing board or administrative panel will determine whether the student will be expelled.

Educational Placement After Expulsion

If a student is expelled, they still have the right to continue their education. The district must ensure that an educational placement is provided to expelled students no later than three (3) school days after the issuance of the expulsion order. Possible educational placements may include: a district alternative education program, a community day school, a county office of education program, or another program designed to serve students who have been expelled. These programs provide academic instruction and support while students are serving the expulsion term.

Length of the Expulsion Term and Possible Extension

In many cases, an expulsion term may last up to one year. If, upon assessment, the student has not met the conditions of the rehabilitation plan, the governing board may grant one extension of the expulsion period (i.e., one semester). The district will continue to support and review the students' progress during the extension period to determine the student's readiness for readmission.

Individual Rehabilitation Plan

Students who are expelled will receive an individualized rehabilitation plan outlining the steps the student must take to be considered for readmission to school. The expelling district must ensure that the rehabilitation plan includes a periodic review and an assessment for readmission (45 days before the end of the expulsion term), is tailored to the individual student's needs, and specifically addresses the behavior that led to the expulsion. The plan may be developed in consultation with school personnel who have knowledge or special expertise regarding the student's unique needs. The governing board will assist the student and parent/guardian in locating accessible opportunities and services necessary for the successful completion of the rehabilitation plan. The governing board cannot require students or parents/guardians to pay for any costs or services deemed necessary to complete the rehabilitation plan.

The conditions of the rehabilitation plan may include:

- Regular attendance in the assigned educational program
- Participation in academic tutoring
- Demonstrating academic progress
- Participation in counseling or behavioral support services
- Completion of community service, job training, or other rehabilitative programs
- Participation in programs related to the behavior that led to the expulsion
- Other appropriate requirements determined by the district

The rehabilitation plan will be provided in writing to the student and the parent/guardian, along with the district's governing board-approved expulsion order.

Readmission Review Procedures

An assessment of the student's progress toward completion of the rehabilitation plan will be conducted 45 days before the end of the expulsion term to determine whether the student will be readmitted to the district. A student cannot be denied readmission because of financial or transportation barriers or a lack of viable opportunities to complete the plan. Upon a student's readmission, the governing board shall ensure that there is a procedure for the successful transition of readmitted students.

The governing board must readmit the student unless it finds that:

- (1) the student has not substantially met the plan *despite* having access to necessary resources and opportunities, or
- (2) the student continues to exhibit the behaviors that led to expulsion or commits new expellable acts.

If the student is denied readmission, the governing board is to provide the expelled student and the parent/guardian with written notice describing the reasons for denying the student readmittance into the regular school district program. This notice also includes the educational program in which the student is to be enrolled until the next readmission review and assessment (i.e., 45 days before the end of the expulsion term).

Student Suspension and Expulsion – EC 35291, 48900, 48900.5, 48925, 48911, 49069.7 and Mandatory Expulsion Violations – EC 48915

Suspension is the removal of a student from ongoing instruction for adjustment purposes. For all students, a single suspension may not be issued for more than five (5) consecutive school days.

Expulsion is the removal of a student from: (1) the immediate supervision and control, or (2) the general supervision of school personnel.

In general, other means of correction must be used prior to suspension except in specific circumstances.

Suspension, including supervised suspension (such as in-school suspension and class suspension) shall be imposed only when other means of correction have failed to bring about proper conduct and/or safety is at risk. Other means of correction used should be documented and kept in the student's discipline file, available to access.

A teacher may suspend a student from class for any of the acts enumerated in EC Section 48900, except for misconduct of willful defiance as described in EC Section 48900 (k)(1). More information regarding class suspension by teacher is available at: [EC 48910](#).

A pupil shall not be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion, unless the superintendent of the school district or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has committed an act as defined (a) to (r), inclusive:

- (a) (1) Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person.
- (2) Willfully used force or violence upon the person of another, except in self-defense.
- (b) Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished a firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object, unless, in the case of possession of an object of this type, the pupil had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, which is concurred in by the principal or the designee of the principal.
- (c) Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, or otherwise furnished, or been under the influence of, a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind.
- (d) Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind, and either sold, delivered, or otherwise furnished to a person another liquid, substance, or material and represented the liquid, substance, or material as a controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant.
- (e) Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.
- (f) Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property.
- (g) Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property.
- (h) Possessed or used tobacco, or products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets, and betel. However, this section does not prohibit the use or possession by a pupil of the pupil's own prescription products.
- (i) Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.

- (j) Unlawfully possessed or unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell drug paraphernalia, as defined in Section 11014.5 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (k) (1) Disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties.
(2) Except as provided in Section 48910, a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 5, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts specified in paragraph (1), and those acts shall not constitute grounds for a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to be recommended for expulsion.
(3) Except as provided in Section 48910, a pupil enrolled in any of grades 6 to 8, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts specified in paragraph (1). This paragraph is inoperative on July 1, 2029.
(4) Except as provided in Section 48910, commencing July 1, 2024, a pupil enrolled in any of grades 9 to 12, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts specified in paragraph (1). This paragraph is inoperative on July 1, 2029.
- (5) (A) A certificated or classified employee may refer a pupil to school administrators for appropriate and timely in-school interventions or supports from the list of other means of correction specified in subdivision (b) of Section 48900.5 for any of the acts enumerated in paragraph (1).
(B) A school administrator shall, within five business days, document the actions taken pursuant to subparagraph (A) and place that documentation in the pupil's record to be available for access, to the extent permissible under state and federal law, pursuant to Section 49069.7. The school administrator shall, by the end of the fifth business day, also inform the referring certificated or classified employee, verbally or in writing, what actions were taken and, if none, the rationale used for not providing any appropriate or timely in-school interventions or supports.
- (l) Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.
- (m) Possessed an imitation firearm. As used in this section, "imitation firearm" means a replica of a firearm that is so substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm.
- (n) Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault as defined in Section 261, 266c, 286, 287, 288, or 289 of, or former Section 288a of, the Penal Code or committed a sexual battery as defined in Section 243.4 of the Penal Code.
- (o) Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a pupil who is a complaining witness or a witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for purposes of either preventing that pupil from being a witness or retaliating against that pupil for being a witness, or both.
- (p) Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma.
- (q) Engaged in, or attempted to engage in, hazing. For purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" means a method of initiation or preinitiation into a pupil organization or body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution, that is likely to cause serious bodily injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to a former, current, or prospective pupil. For purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" does not include athletic events or school-sanctioned events.
- (r) Engaged in an act of bullying. For purposes of this subdivision, the following terms have the following meanings:
 - (1) "Bullying" means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, and including one or more acts committed by a pupil or group of pupils as defined in Section 48900.2, 48900.3, or 48900.4, directed toward one or more pupils that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:
 - (A) Placing a reasonable pupil or pupils in fear of harm to that pupil's or those pupils' person or property.
 - (B) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience a substantially detrimental effect on the pupil's physical or mental health.

- (C) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with the pupil's academic performance.
- (D) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with the pupil's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.
- (2) (A) "Electronic act" means the creation or transmission originated on or off the schoolsite, by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager, of a communication, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
 - (i) A message, text, sound, video, or image.
 - (ii) A post on a social network internet website, including, but not limited to:
 - (I) Posting to or creating a burn page. "Burn page" means an internet website created for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1).
 - (II) Creating a credible impersonation of another actual pupil for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1). "Credible impersonation" means to knowingly and without consent impersonate a pupil for the purpose of bullying the pupil and such that another pupil would reasonably believe, or has reasonably believed, that the pupil was or is the pupil who was impersonated.
 - (III) Creating a false profile for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1). "False profile" means a profile of a fictitious pupil or a profile using the likeness or attributes of an actual pupil other than the pupil who created the false profile.
 - (iii) (I) An act of cyber sexual bullying.
 - (II) For purposes of this clause, "cyber sexual bullying" means the dissemination of, or the solicitation or incitement to disseminate, a photograph or other visual recording by a pupil to another pupil or to school personnel by means of an electronic act that has or can be reasonably predicted to have one or more of the effects described in subparagraphs (A) to (D), inclusive, of paragraph (1). A photograph or other visual recording, as described in this subclause, shall include the depiction of a nude, semi-nude, or sexually explicit photograph or other visual recording of a minor where the minor is identifiable from the photograph, visual recording, or other electronic act.
 - (III) For purposes of this clause, "cyber sexual bullying" does not include a depiction, portrayal, or image that has any serious literary, artistic, educational, political, or scientific value or that involves athletic events or school-sanctioned activities.
- (B) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) and subparagraph (A), an electronic act shall not constitute pervasive conduct solely on the basis that it has been transmitted on the internet or is currently posted on the internet.
- (3) "Reasonable pupil" means a pupil, including, but not limited to, a pupil with exceptional needs, who exercises average care, skill, and judgment in conduct for a person of that age, or for a person of that age with the pupil's exceptional needs.
- (s) A pupil shall not be suspended or expelled for any of the acts enumerated in this section unless the act is related to a school activity or school attendance occurring within a school under the jurisdiction of the superintendent of the school district or principal or occurring within any other school district. A pupil may be suspended or expelled for acts that are enumerated in this section and related to a school activity or school attendance that occur at any time, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
 - (1) While on school grounds.
 - (2) While going to or coming from school.
 - (3) During the lunch period whether on or off the campus.
 - (4) During, or while going to or coming from, a school-sponsored activity.
- (t) A pupil who aids or abets, as defined in Section 31 of the Penal Code, the infliction or attempted infliction of physical injury to another person may be subject to suspension, but not expulsion, pursuant to this section, except that a pupil who has been adjudged by a juvenile court to have committed, as an aider and abettor, a crime of physical violence in which the victim suffered great bodily injury or serious bodily injury shall be subject to discipline pursuant to subdivision (a).
- (u) As used in this section, "school property" includes, but is not limited to, electronic files and databases.

(v) For a pupil subject to discipline under this section, a superintendent of the school district or principal is encouraged to provide alternatives to suspension or expulsion, using a research-based framework with strategies that improve behavioral and academic outcomes, that are age appropriate and designed to address and correct the pupil's specific misbehavior as specified in Section 48900.5.

(w) (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that alternatives to suspension or expulsion be imposed against a pupil who is truant, tardy, or otherwise absent from school activities.

(2) It is further the intent of the Legislature that the Multi-Tiered System of Supports, which includes restorative justice practices, trauma-informed practices, social and emotional learning, and schoolwide positive behavior interventions and support, may be used to help pupils gain critical social and emotional skills, receive support to help transform trauma-related responses, understand the impact of their actions, and develop meaningful methods for repairing harm to the school community.

Prior to a suspension from school, the principal/designee will have an informal conference with the student where the student will be informed of the reason for disciplinary action, including other means of correction that were attempted before the suspension, and the evidence as well as the opportunity to present their version and evidence. If the school determines there is an emergency situation defined as a situation that constitutes a clear and present danger to the life, safety, or health of students or school personnel, the informal conference is not required.

Expulsion Recommendations

The principal or the superintendent of schools shall recommend the expulsion of a student for any of the following acts committed at a school or at a school activity off school grounds, unless the principal or the superintendent of schools determines that expulsion should not be recommended under the circumstances or that an alternative means of correction would address the conduct:

1. Causing serious physical injury to another person, except in self-defense;
2. Possession of any knife or other dangerous object of no reasonable use to the student;
3. Unlawful possession of any controlled substance, except for either of the following:
 - The first offense for the possession of not more than one (1) avoirdupois ounce of marijuana, other than concentrated cannabis;
 - The possession of over-the-counter medication for use by the student for medical purposes or medication prescribed for the student by a physician.
4. Robbery or extortion;
5. Assault or battery upon any school employee.

Mandatory Expulsion Violations

The principal or superintendent of schools shall immediately suspend and shall recommend expulsion of a student that they determine has committed any of the following acts at school or at a school activity off school grounds:

1. Possessing, selling, or furnishing a firearm;
2. Brandishing a knife at another person;
3. Unlawfully selling a controlled substance;
4. Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault or committing a sexual battery;
5. Possession of an explosive.

The principal or superintendent of schools may recommend expulsion for the remaining grounds.

For more information regarding student discipline, please contact: **Christopher Riley Director of Student Services and Human Resources:** criley@tpaa.org

Sudden Cardiac Arrest – EC 33479 et seq.

Sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) is when the heart stops beating, suddenly and unexpectedly. When this happens, blood stops flowing to the brain and other vital organs. SCA is not a heart attack; it is a

malfunction in the heart's electrical system, causing the victim to collapse. The malfunction is caused by a congenital or genetic defect in the heart's structure. SCA is more likely to occur during exercise or sports activity, so athletes are at greater risk. These symptoms can be unclear and confusing in athletes.

Often, people confuse these warning signs with physical exhaustion. If not properly treated within minutes, SCA is fatal in 92 percent of cases. In a school district, charter school, or private school that elects to conduct athletic activities, the athletic director, coach, athletic trainer, or authorized person must remove from participation a pupil who passes out or faints, or who is known to have passed out or fainted, while participating in or immediately following an athletic activity.

A pupil who exhibits any of the other symptoms of SCA during an athletic activity may be removed from participation if the athletic trainer or authorized person reasonably believes that the symptoms are cardiac related. A pupil who is removed from play may not return to that activity until he or she is evaluated by, and receives written clearance from, a physician or surgeon. On a yearly basis, an acknowledgement of receipt and review of information regarding SCA must be signed and returned by the pupil and the pupil's parent or guardian before a pupil participates in specific types of athletic activities which generally does not apply to those conducted during the regular school day or as part of a physical education course.

Surveys – EC 51513 and 51514 and 20 U.S.C. 1232h(b), (c)(1)(A) and (c)(2)

Anonymous, voluntary and confidential research and evaluation tools to measure student's health behaviors and risks, including tests, questionnaires, and surveys containing age appropriate questions about the student's attitudes and practices relating to sex, family life, morality, and religion may be administered to students if the parent is notified in writing that 1) this test, questionnaire, or survey is to be administered, 2) the student's parent is given the opportunity to review the test, questionnaire, or survey, and 3) the parent consents in writing. Questions pertaining to the sexual orientation and gender identity of a student shall not be removed from a survey that already includes them.

Suicide Prevention Policies - EC 215

Suicide is a serious public health problem that takes an enormous toll on families, friends, classmates, co-workers, and communities. A young person (ages 10–24) in California dies by suicide approximately every 16 to 24 hours on average. Recognizing that early prevention and intervention can drastically reduce the risk of suicide and is a collective effort of all adults that support and work with students, including parents/legal guardians, caregivers, families, local community organizations, mental health practitioners, and related professionals. The Palmdale Aerospace Academy has developed and implemented preventive strategies and intervention procedures that include the following: [TPAA Mental Health Resources](#)

Title IX – EC 221.61

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is one of several federal and state anti-discrimination laws that ensure equality in educational programs and activities that receive federal funding. Specifically, Title IX protects male and female pupils and employees, as well as transgender pupils and pupils who do not conform to sex stereotypes, against discrimination based on sex, including sexual harassment. California law also prohibits discrimination based on gender, gender expression, gender identity, and sexual orientation. Under Title IX, pupils may not be discriminated against based on their parental, family, or marital status, and pregnant and parenting pupils may not be excluded from participating in any educational program, including extracurricular activities, for which they qualify. For more information about Title IX, or how to file a complaint of noncompliance with Title IX, contact: Director of Student Services **(based on board policy)** office at (661) 273-3680.

Uniform Complaint Policy and Procedure – 5 CCR 4600 *et seq.*

The Palmdale Aerospace Academy has the primary responsibility to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations governing educational programs. The LEA shall investigate via the Uniform Complaint Procedures (UCP) alleging failure to comply with those laws and regulations including, but not limited to allegations of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying against any protected group or noncompliance with laws relating to all programs and activities implemented by the LEA that are subject to UCP as cited below. The LEA shall seek to resolve at the local level those complaints in accordance with the UCP set forth in the California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Sections 4600-4695, and the policies and procedures of the LEA.

1. failure to comply with federal or state law or regulations governing adult education, consolidated categorical aid programs, migrant education, vocational education, child care and developmental programs, child nutrition programs and special education programs;
2. unlawful discrimination against any protected group as identified under Education Code (EC) sections 200 and 220 and Government Code section 11135, including actual or perceived sex, sexual orientation, gender, ethnic group identification, race, ancestry, national origin, religion, color, or mental or physical disability, or age, or on the basis of a person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics, in any program or activity conducted by a local agency, funded directly by, or that receives or benefits from any state financial assistance;
3. failure to comply with school safety planning requirements as specified in Section 7114 of Title 20 of the United States Code;
4. unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying based on actual or perceived characteristics set forth in Section 422.55 of the Penal Code and EC 220, and disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics;
5. unlawful imposition of pupil fees for participation in educational activities in public schools;
6. failure to comply with the requirements established through the Local Control Funding Formula related to the Local Control and Accountability Plan as described in EC sections 52060 through 52076 or sections 47606.5 and 47607.3;
7. noncompliance with physical education instructional minutes at specified grade levels;
8. inappropriate assignment of a pupil to courses without educational content or previously completed and received a grade sufficient for satisfying the requirements for high school graduation and admission into post-secondary education;
9. noncompliance with education provisions for pupils in foster care, who are homeless, or who are former juvenile court school students; and
10. failure to reasonably accommodate lactating pupils.

Unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation or bullying complaints shall be filed no later than six months from the date the alleged discrimination, harassment, intimidation or bullying occurred, or six months from the date the complainant first obtained knowledge of the facts of the alleged discrimination, harassment, intimidation

or bullying. The district prohibits retaliation against any person who files a complaint or participates in an investigation.

Complaints must be filed in writing with **Christopher Riley Director of Student Services and Human Resources: criley@tpaa.org**. The district will complete the investigation and issue a written Decision (Investigation Report) within *60 calendar days* from receipt of the complaint.

Please contact **Christopher Riley Director of Student Services and Human Resources: criley@tpaa.org** if you would like more information on how to file a complaint with the school or district.

The parent may appeal to CDE within *30 calendar days* if not in agreement with the final report.

For more information on the CDE appeal process, you may visit: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cp/uc/ucpmonitoring.asp>