



1300 17th Street, 7th Floor | Bakersfield, CA 93301
(661) 636-4830 | Email: sls@kern.org | schoolslegalservice.org

Abigale M. Auffant
General Counsel

Melissa D. Allen
Assistant General Counsel

Mark E. Pafford
Lead Counsel

Giovanna Fournier Ocampo

Kristina Funderburk

Alan B. Harris

Nick Lackie

Alyssa N. Reed

Julia K. Vlahos

Counsel

Confidential Attorney-Client Privileged Communication

TO: Schools Legal Service Clients

**FROM: Melissa D. Allen, Assistant General Counsel
Alyssa Reed, Senior Associate Counsel
Yolanda Gonzalez, Paralegal**

DATE: June 9, 2026

RE: Annual Notice to Parents/Guardians (2026-27)

It is that time of year again! We are pleased to share the updated Annual Notice to Parents for the 2026-2027 school year and hope you find these materials helpful as you prepare for the year ahead.

Attached, please find the updated Annual Notice to Parents for the 2026-2027 school year. This year, we are providing a condensed version of the Notice. Please review the notes below carefully before distributing it to families.

CONDENSED VERSION - NEW THIS YEAR

For the 2026-2027 school year, we are providing a condensed version of the Annual Notice to Parents instead of the long-form version distributed in prior years. This condensed version contains all legally required annual notification content and is designed to be more accessible and readable for families. Although condensed, this version satisfies the district's obligations under Education Code section 48980.

DISTRICT - SPECIFIC ITEMS REQUIRING ATTENTION

Please review the following items and make any necessary changes before distributing the Notice to families. For ease of reference, these areas are highlighted in the attached notice:

(1) District of Choice (EC §§48300–48315)

If your district has not adopted a District of Choice policy, you may remove this section from the notice. If your district HAS adopted a District of Choice program, this section is required and must remain in the notice.

(2) Attendance by Suspended Pupil's Parent (EC §48900.1)

This section applies ONLY if your district's governing board has adopted a policy authorizing teachers to require a parent or guardian to attend school with a suspended student. If your district has NOT adopted such a policy, please remove this section from the notice. This policy is found in sample BP and AR 5144.4.

(3) Special Education / Child Find (EC §56301)

The Child Find section currently contains a placeholder for your district's designated contact person for special education assessment requests. Please insert name, title, and contact information of the appropriate person at your district. This information is required before distributing the notice.

(4) Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials, Facilities, and Teacher Vacancies (EC §35186)

Please confirm what procedures are used under this notice. Once confirmed, please update the policy reference accordingly before distributing the notice.

(5) High School Sections

The notice contains several sections that apply only to districts serving students in grades 9 through 12. These sections are clearly labeled "**High Schools Only**" within the notice for easy identification. They include: College Admission Requirements and Career Technical Education (EC §51229), Apprenticeship and Preapprenticeship Programs (EC §48980.5), Release of Information to Military Services Representatives (EC §49073.5), Automatic Cal Grant Applicant Status (EC §69432.9), California High School Proficiency Exam (5 CCR §11523), CSU Direct Admission (SB §640), and Driver Training (EC §35211, if applicable).

If your district does NOT serve students in grades 9 through 12, please remove these sections from your notice before distributing it.

ATTACHMENTS REQUIRED

Pursuant to Education Code section 48980(f), a copy of your district's written Sexual Harassment Policy must be physically included with, or attached to, the Annual Notice when distributed to families.

Pursuant to Education Code section 48980(c), a copy of your district's school calendar must also be included.

You may also include any district-specific documents you have typically provided to parent in the past.

Schools Legal Service Clients

June 9, 2026

Page 3

If you have any questions about the Annual Notice to Parents or any of the items noted above, please do not hesitate to contact our office. We are always here to help and wish you and your district a fantastic start to the new school year!

MDA/ANR/yg/aag

Attachment: Annual Notice to Parents/Guardians (2026-27)