

**NOTIFICATION**

The Murrieta Valley Unified School District Board of Education strives to foster trust between the District and parent(s)/guardian(s) of its students. To that end, the Board supports the fundamental rights of parent(s)/guardian(s) to direct the care and upbringing of their children, including the right to be informed of and involved in all aspects of their child's education to promote the best outcomes.

The District acknowledges that a "custodial parent has a constitutional right to determine, without undue interference by the State, how best to raise, nurture, and educate the child." *Troxel v. Granville*, 350 U.S. 57, 67-68 (2000). The District also acknowledges that "the child is not the mere creature of the State; those who nurture him and direct his destiny have the right, coupled with the high duty, to recognize and prepare him for additional obligations." *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, 268 U.S. 510, 535 (1925).

It is the intent of Murrieta Valley Unified School District in enacting this notification policy to do all of the following:

1. Provide procedures designed to maintain trust with parent(s)/guardian(s) of pupils.
2. Bring parent(s)/guardian(s) into the decision-making process for mental health and social-emotional issues of their children at the earliest possible time in order to prevent or reduce potential instances of self-harm.
3. Promote communication and positive relationships with parent(s)/guardian(s) of pupils that promote the best outcomes for pupils' academic and social-emotional success.

It is the policy of the Murrieta Valley Unified School District that the District collaborates with parent(s)/guardian(s) in evaluating the needs of students having academic, attendance, social, emotional, or behavioral difficulties and in identifying strategies and programs that may assist such students in maximizing their potential.

The District notification policy requires the following:

1. Principal/designee shall notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) within three days from the date they become aware that a student is requesting to change any information contained in the student's official or unofficial records. Staff will refer students to school administration when a student requests a change to their official or unofficial records.
2. The principal/designee or staff shall notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student who participates in school-sponsored extracurricular and cocurricular activities or team(s) as soon as reasonably possible.

**NOTIFICATION** (continued)

3. The principal/designee, or staff shall notify the parent(s)/ guardian(s) of the student immediately or as soon as reasonably possible, that the student has experienced any significant physical injury while on school property or participating in a school sponsored activity.
4. All District employees shall take every student's statement regarding suicidal intent seriously.
  - a. Whenever an employee suspects or has knowledge of a student's suicidal intentions based on the student's verbalizations or act of self-harm, the employee shall promptly notify the principal or school counselor, who shall implement District's intervention protocols, as appropriate, and shall notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) immediately, or as soon as reasonably possible.
  - b. When a suicide attempt or threat is known, the principal or designee shall ensure student safety by taking the following actions:
    - i. Immediately secure medical treatment and/or mental health services as necessary;
    - ii. Keep the student under continuous adult supervision until the parent/guardian and/or appropriate support agent or agency can be contacted and has the opportunity to intervene;
    - iii. Notify law enforcement and/or other emergency assistance if a suicidal act is being actively threatened and remove other students from the area in the event of an active suicidal act.
  - c. The principal or designee shall document the incident in the student's record.
  - d. School employees shall act only within the authorization and scope of their credential or license. An employee is not authorized to diagnose or treat mental illness unless specifically licensed and employed to do so. (Education Code 215).
5. The principal/designee shall notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) of any incident or complaint of a verbal or physical altercation involving their child, including bullying by or against their child, as soon as practicable once becoming aware of the occurrence. Any student, parent/guardian, or other individual who believes that a student has been subjected to bullying or who has witnessed bullying may report the incident to an employee who will refer the student to the principal/designee.

**NOTIFICATION** (continued)

Any complaint of bullying, whether it is discriminatory or nondiscriminatory, shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with law and district policy.

Unless otherwise specified, the notification required in Sections 1 through 5 above, can be by telephone, mail, email or conference. The principal/designee who makes such notification shall either keep a record of such notification (if written) or document such notification (if verbal) and place the record or documentation in the student's official student information system.

For purposes of this Board policy, Family Code Section 6924, Health and Safety Code Section 124260, and Education Code Section 49602(c), inclusion of parent(s)/guardian(s) is appropriate unless specifically prohibited by law. Nothing in this policy affects the obligations of the District's employees, as mandated reporters under Article 2.5 of the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act Sections 11164-11174.3 of the penal code, and the District Policy 5141 and Administrative Regulations 5141.4.

**Policy Reference Disclaimer:**

These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

**Cross References**

5125  
5131.2  
5137  
5141.52  
5142  
6145  
6145.2

**Description**

Student Records  
Bullying  
Positive School Climate  
Suicide Prevention  
Safety  
Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities  
Athletic Competition