

California Comprehensive School Safety Plan
Implementation Plan
For Western Sierra
Charter Schools (WSCS)

Approved _____

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**California Comprehensive School Safety Plan (CSSP)
Implementation Plan
WESTERN SIERRA CHARTER SCHOOLS**

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PART 1: California Charter School Comprehensive School Safety Plan Program Overview

What is the California Charter School Safety Plan Compliance Requirement?

Source: http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billAnalysisClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB1747

Need for the Bill:

According to the author, “The California Constitution guarantees California children the right to attend public schools which are safe, secure and peaceful. The educational institutions of California, such as the CDE, public school districts, county offices of education, and the schools themselves are responsible for creating safe and secure learning environments.

According to a 2017 audit report conducted by the California State Auditor (CSA), schools face challenges in preparing and responding to incidents of school violence, including active shootings. Results from a statewide survey of districts and county offices conducted as part of the audit suggested that the frequency of active shooter threats and incidents in and around California schools is increasing.

“Comprehensive school safety plans are a collection of procedures for schools to utilize in the event of an emergency, and a policy guideline that promotes a safe learning space. Although the Department of Homeland Security and federal and state agencies recommend having procedures for responding to active shooter incidents, state law does not require that California schools include these procedures in their safety plans. Consequently, the CSA’s audit revealed that many districts and county offices do not independently require their schools to include these safety procedures, which results in schools being inadequately prepared to respond to violent incidents.”

Existing law specifies that school districts and county offices of education are responsible for the overall development of school safety plans. Each school is required to develop a school safety plan that includes procedures, and policies to ensure student and staff safety at a school site. The components of the plan range from procedures for safe ingress and egress of pupils, parents and school employees; to disaster and emergency procedures such as those during and after earthquakes; to behavioral policies such as discrimination and harassment policies.

State law does not currently require charter schools to have safety plans, but charter petitions must include procedures the school will follow to ensure the safety of pupils and staff. This bill requires charter schools to develop a school safety plan, including procedures for conducting tactical responses

to criminal incidents; requires comprehensive school safety plans to include procedures for conducting tactical responses to criminal incidents; increases the California Department of Education's (CDE's) responsibilities relating to school safety plans; and requires schoosite councils to also consult with the fire department and other first responder entities in the writing and development of the comprehensive school safety plan.

Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Adds classified employees to the language stating that is the intent of the Legislature that comprehensive school safety plans be developed in cooperation with local law enforcement agencies, community leaders, parents, pupils, teachers, administrators, and other persons who may be interested in the prevention of campus crime and violence.
- 2) States that it is the intent of the Legislature that all school staff be trained on the comprehensive school safety plan.
- 3) Requires the school site council to also consult with a representative from a fire department and other first responder entities in the writing and development of the comprehensive school safety plan. (Not required for charter schools, but is a best practice)
- 4) Requires the comprehensive school safety plan and any updates to the plan shall be shared with the law enforcement agency, the fire department, and the other first responder entities. ((Not required for charter schools, but is a best practice)
- 5) Requires the comprehensive school safety plan to include procedures for conducting tactical responses to criminal incidents, including procedures related to individuals with guns on school campuses and at school-related functions.
- 6) Requires the procedures to prepare for active shooters or other armed assailants to be based on the specific needs and context of each school and community.
- 7) Requires the CDE to:
 - a) Provide general direction to school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools on what to include in the school building disaster plan.
 - b) Maintain and conspicuously post on its Internet Web site a compliance checklist for developing a comprehensive school safety plan, and shall update the checklist when necessary.
 - c) Develop and post on its Internet Web site best practices for reviewing and approving school safety plans.
- 8) Requires charter schools to develop a school safety plan, based on many of the components of a comprehensive school safety plan, and procedures for conducting tactical responses to criminal incidents.

PART 2: What charter schools are required to include in their school safety plan

AB1747 specifically states the following:

The Charter Schools Act of 1992 provides for the establishment and operation of charter schools, including countywide charter schools, and requires a petition for the establishment of a charter school to contain comprehensive descriptions of various matters and procedures, including procedures that the charter school will follow to ensure the health and safety of pupils and staff.

This bill would require these procedures to also require the development of a school safety plan, as provided, and that the school safety plan be reviewed and updated by March 1 of every year by the charter school. To the extent the bill would impose additional duties on county boards of education, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

SEC. 5. (Establishment of a charter school within a school district)

Section 47605 of the Education Code is amended to read:

(6) Commencing January 1, 2003, a petition to establish a charter school shall not be approved to serve pupils in a grade level that is not served by the school district of the governing board considering the petition, unless the petition proposes to serve pupils in all of the grade levels served by that school district.

(F) The procedures that the charter school will follow to ensure the health and safety of pupils and staff. These procedures shall require all of the following:

(i) That each employee of the charter school furnish the charter school with a criminal record summary as described in Section 44237.

(ii) The development of a school safety plan, which shall include the safety topics listed in subparagraphs (A) to (H), inclusive, of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 32282 and procedures for conducting tactical responses to criminal incidents.

(iii) That the school safety plan be reviewed and updated by March 1 of every year by the charter school.

SEC. 6. (Establishment of a charter school with a County Board of Education)

Section 47605.6 of the Education Code is amended to read:

(G) The procedures that the charter school will follow to ensure the health and safety of pupils and staff. These procedures shall require all of the following:

(i) That each employee of the charter school furnish the charter school with a criminal record summary as described in Section 44237.

(ii) The development of a school safety plan, which shall include the safety topics listed in subparagraphs (A) to (H), inclusive, of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 32282 and procedures for conducting tactical responses to criminal incidents.

(iii) That the school safety plan be reviewed and updated by March 1 of every year by the charter school.

(l) The manner in which annual, independent financial audits shall be conducted, in accordance with regulations established by the state board, and the manner in which audit exceptions and deficiencies shall be resolved.

(O) The rights of an employee of the county office of education, upon leaving the employment of the county office of education, to be employed by the charter school, and any rights of return to the county office of education that an employee may have upon leaving the employment of the charter school.

(iv) In accordance with Section 49011, preferences shall not require mandatory parental volunteer hours as a criterion for admission or continued enrollment.

(k) If a county board of education denies a petition, the petitioner shall not elect to submit the petition for the establishment of the charter school to the state board.

SEC. 7.

If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

Summary

In accordance with the amended language cited above, a Charter School Comprehensive School Safety Plan must therefore comply specifically with education code sections 44237, and subparagraphs (A) to (H), inclusive, of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 32282. In addition, the plan must include procedures for conducting tactical responses to criminal incidents

PART 3: Charter School Employee Criminal Record Summary Policy (EC 47605.6.F.i; EC 44237)

Criminal Background Check

Western Sierra Charter Schools (the “School” Mountain Home School and Glacier High School inclusive) recognizes the importance of maintaining a safe workplace with employees who are honest, trustworthy, qualified, reliable, and nonviolent, and do not present a risk of harm to students, coworkers or others. Western Sierra Charter Schools (WSCS) will perform applicant background checks and employee investigations as required by Education Code section 47605 [b][f], which requires that “each employee of the school furnish the school with a criminal record summary”.

All employees of WSCS, all volunteers who will be performing services that are not under the direct supervision of a School employee, and any onsite independent contractors or vendors having unsupervised contact with students, will be required to submit to criminal background checks and fingerprinting in accordance with state law. The Principal of each school site shall monitor compliance with this policy. WSCS will maintain on file and available for inspection evidence that the school has performed criminal background checks for all employees and documentation that vendors have conducted required criminal background checks for their employees prior to any unsupervised contact with students. WSCS shall also ensure that the Principal receives subsequent arrest notifications of all individuals subject to background checks from the Department of Justice to ensure the ongoing safety of its students.

All employees must have Live Scan fingerprint results on file with WSCS. Proof of Live Scan fingerprinting is a requirement of employment and the results must be provided to WSCS prior to the first day of work. Live Scan fingerprinting will be required of all job applicants, employees, and volunteers as required by California and federal law. Background checks may also be required of employees whose job duties involve care of students, handling of money, valuables or confidential information, or as otherwise deemed prudent by the school. These background checks are performed through a fingerprinting service coordinated by the California Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Any and all information obtained by WSCS may be taken into consideration in evaluating one’s suitability for employment, promotion, reassignment, or retention as an Employee.

WSCS shall also request subsequent arrest notification from the Department of Justice and take all necessary action based upon such further notification.

WSCS may occasionally find it necessary to investigate current employees, where behavior or other relevant circumstances raise questions concerning work performance, reliability, honesty, trustworthiness, or potential threat to the safety of coworkers, students or others. Employee investigations may, where appropriate, include credit reports and investigations of criminal records,

including appropriate inquiries about any arrest for which the employee is out on bail. In the event that a background check is conducted, WSCS will comply with the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act and applicable state laws, including providing the employee with any required notices and forms. Employees subject to an investigation are required to cooperate with WSCS's lawful efforts to obtain relevant information, and may be disciplined up to and including suspension without pay and/or termination for failure to do so.

Employees with adverse background information (such as certain specific criminal conviction) may be ineligible for employment with WSCS.

PART 4: Charter School Safety Procedures—Child Abuse Reporting [EC 47605(6)(F)(ii); EC 32282.(2)(A)]

According to the Education Code (EC § 32282):


(2) Identifying appropriate strategies and programs that will provide or maintain a high level of school safety and address the school's procedures for complying with existing laws related to school safety, which shall include the development of all of the following:

(A) Child abuse reporting procedures consistent with Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 11164) of Chapter 2 of Title 1 of Part 4 of the Penal Code.

Child Abuse Identification & Reporting Guidelines

In accordance with state law, all teachers and staff are mandated to report any suspected child abuse. The procedure for the mandated individual is to immediately make a call to the Department of Children and Family Services. The mandated reporter will then file a report within 36 hours of first becoming aware of a suspected case of child abuse. The report will be filed with either the Police Department Child Abuse Unit or the Department of Children and Family services. The mandated individual will meet with the appropriate authorities accordingly and inform the administrator that a report has been made. Staff members will receive in-service training and sign a document verifying notification and understanding regarding this responsibility.

WSCS follows the guidelines issued by the California Department of Education (CDE), in conjunction with the California Department of Social Services, to help all persons who work at WSCS, to be able to identify signs of suspected cases of child abuse and/or child neglect and to have the tools to know how to make a report to the proper authorities. These guidelines are issued in conjunction with an extensive training module, specifically aimed at training school employees and educators on their obligations as mandated

reporters of child abuse, which can be located online at [California Child Abuse Mandated Reporter Training](#) .

Identification of Child Abuse and Neglect

Child abuse is more than bruises or broken bones. While physical abuse often leaves visible scars, not all child abuse is as obvious, but can do just as much harm. It is important that individuals working with and around children be able to know what constitutes child abuse or child neglect and know how to identify potential signs.

Child Abuse and/or Child Neglect Can Be Any of the Following:

- A physical injury inflicted on a child by another person other than by accidental means.
- The sexual abuse, assault, or exploitation of a child.
- The negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child by a person responsible for the child's welfare under circumstances indicating harm or threatened harm to the child's health or welfare. This is whether the harm or threatened harm is from acts or omissions on the part of the responsible person.
- The willful harming or endangerment of the person or health of a child, any cruel or inhumane corporal punishment or any injury resulting in a traumatic condition.

One does not have to be physically present or witness the abuse to identify suspected cases of abuse, or even have definite proof that a child may be subject to child abuse or neglect. Rather, the law requires that a person have a "reasonable suspicion" that a child has been the subject of child abuse or neglect. Under the law, this means that it is reasonable for a person to entertain a suspicion of child abuse or neglect, based upon facts that could cause a reasonable person, in a like position, drawing, when appropriate, on his or her training and experience, to suspect child abuse or neglect.

Red flags for abuse and neglect are often identified by observing a child's behavior at school, recognizing physical signs, and observations of dynamics during routine interactions with certain adults. While the following signs are not proof that a child is the subject of abuse or neglect, they should prompt one to look further.

Warning Signs of Emotional Abuse in Children

- Excessively withdrawn, fearful, or anxious about doing something wrong.
- Shows extremes in behavior (extremely compliant or extremely demanding; extremely passive or extremely aggressive).
- Doesn't seem to be attached to the parent or caregiver.
- Acts either inappropriately adult-like (taking care of other children) or inappropriately infantile (rocking, thumb-sucking, throwing tantrums).

Warning Signs of Physical Abuse in Children

- Frequent injuries or unexplained bruises, welts, or cuts.
- Is always watchful and “on alert” as if waiting for something bad to happen.
- Injuries appear to have a pattern such as marks from a hand or belt.
- Shies away from touch, flinches at sudden movements, or seems afraid to go home.
- Wears inappropriate clothing to cover up injuries, such as long-sleeved shirts on hot days.


Warning Signs of Neglect in Children

- Clothes are ill-fitting, filthy, or inappropriate for the weather.
- Hygiene is consistently bad (unbathed, matted and unwashed hair, noticeable body odor).
- Untreated illnesses and physical injuries.
- Is frequently unsupervised or left alone or allowed to play in unsafe situations and environments.
- Is frequently late or missing from school.

Warning Signs of Sexual Abuse in Children

- Trouble walking or sitting.
- Displays knowledge or interest in sexual acts inappropriate to his or her age, or even seductive behavior.
- Makes strong efforts to avoid a specific person, without an obvious reason.
- Doesn't want to change clothes in front of others or participate in physical activities.
- A sexually transmitted disease (STD) or pregnancy, especially under the age of fourteen.
- Runs away from home.

Reporting Child Abuse or Neglect

Community members have an important role in protecting children from abuse and neglect. While not mandated by law to do so, if child abuse or neglect is suspected, a report should be filed with qualified and experienced agencies that will investigate the situation. Examples of these agencies are listed below. Parents and guardians of pupils have the right to file a complaint against anyone they suspect has engaged in abuse or neglect of a child. **Community members do not need to provide their name when making a report of child abuse or neglect.** Telephone numbers for each county's emergency response for child abuse reporting are located at [California Emergency Response Child Abuse Reporting Telephone Numbers](#)  (PDF).

School volunteers, while not mandated reporters, should also be encouraged to report any suspected cases of abuse and neglect. Additionally, school volunteers are highly encouraged by the law to have training in the identification and reporting of child abuse and neglect. The training offered online to mandated reporters, is equally available to school volunteers.

Obligations of Mandated Reporters

A list of persons whose profession qualifies them as “mandated reporters” of child abuse or neglect is found in California Penal Code Section 11165.7. The list is extensive and continues to grow. **It includes all WSCS school/district employees, administrators, and athletic coaches.** All persons hired into positions included on the list of mandated reporters are required, upon employment, to be provided with a statement, informing them that they are a mandated reporter and their obligations to report suspected cases of abuse and neglect pursuant to California Penal Code Section 11166.5.

All persons who are mandated reporters are required, by law, to report all known or suspected cases of child abuse or neglect. It is not the job of the mandated reporter to determine whether the allegations are valid. If child abuse or neglect is reasonably suspected or if a pupil shares information with a mandated reporter leading him/her to believe abuse or neglect has taken place, the report must be made. No supervisor or administrator can impede or inhibit a report or subject the reporting person to any sanction.

To make a report, an employee must contact an appropriate local law enforcement or county child welfare agency, listed below. This legal obligation is not satisfied by making a report of the incident to a supervisor or to the school. An appropriate law enforcement agency may be one of the following:

- A Police or Sheriff’s Department (not including a school district police department or school security department).
- A County Probation Department, if designated by the county to receive child abuse reports.
- A County Welfare Department/County Child Protective Services.


The report should be made immediately over the telephone and should be followed up in writing. The law enforcement agency has special forms for this purpose that they will ask you to complete. If a report cannot be made immediately over the telephone, then an initial report may be made via e-mail or fax. A report may also be filed at the same time with your school district or county office of education (COE). School districts and COEs, however, do not investigate child abuse allegations, nor do they attempt to contact the person suspected of child abuse or neglect.

School districts and COEs may have additional policies adopted at the local level relating to the duties of mandated reporters. School staff should consult with their district to determine if there are additional steps that must be taken.

These policies do not take the place of reporting to an appropriate local law enforcement or county child welfare agency.

New Required Training for School Employees

Effective January 1, 2015, Assembly Bill 1432 (D-Gatto) requires all local educational agencies (LEAs) to train all employees each year on what they need to know in order to identify and report suspected cases of child

abuse and neglect. “All employees” includes anybody working on the LEA’s behalf, such as teachers, teacher’s aides, classified employees, and any other employees whose duties bring them into direct contact and supervision of students. LEAs must also develop a process to provide proof that employees received training. An online training module has been developed specially for educators and is located at [California Child Abuse Mandated Reporter Training](#)  .

Rights to Confidentiality and Immunity

Mandated reporters are required to give their names when making a report. However, the reporter’s identity is kept confidential. Reports of suspected child abuse are also confidential. Mandated reporters have immunity from state criminal or civil liability for reporting as required. This is true even if the mandated reporter acquired the knowledge, or suspicion of the abuse or neglect, outside his/her professional capacity or scope of employment.

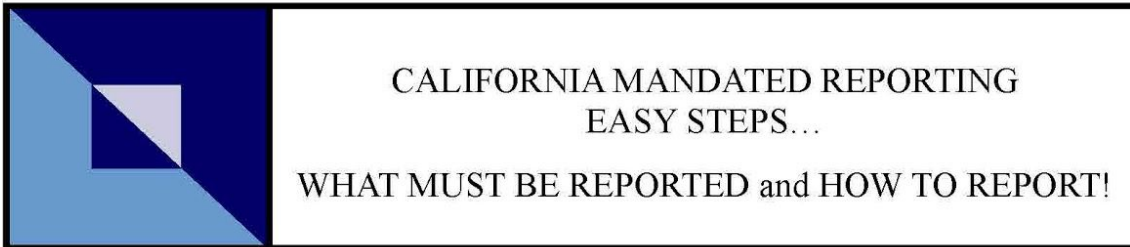
Consequences of Failing to Report

A person who fails to make a required report is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by up to six months in jail and/or up to a \$1,000 fine (California Penal Code Section 11166[c]).

After the Report is Made

The local law enforcement agency is required to investigate all reports. Cases may also be investigated by Child Welfare Services when allegations involve abuse or neglect within families.

California Mandated Reporting Easy Step Summary



What Must be Reported:

Any of the below acts involving anyone under the age of 18:

- Physical Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Neglect

The mandated reporter must only have **reasonable suspicion** that a child has been mistreated; no evidence or proof is required prior to making a report.

The case will be further investigated by law enforcement and/or child welfare services.

How to Report:

By Phone: Immediately, or as soon as possible, make a telephone report to child welfare services and/or to a Police or Sheriff's department.

1. Child Welfare Services phone # Madera - (559) 675-7829; Fresno - (559) 255-8320
2. Police Department phone # Madera Police (559) 675-4200 -Fresno - (559) 621-7000
3. Sheriff's Department phone # Madera County Sheriff (559) 675-7770 - Fresno - (559) 600-3111

In Writing: Within 36 hours, a written report must be sent, faxed or submitted electronically. The written report should be completed on a state form called the 8572, which can be downloaded at http://ag.ca.gov/childabuse/pdf/ss_8572.pdf

Other information:

- Safeguards for Mandated Reporters:
 - The Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act (CANRA) states that the name of the mandated reporter is strictly confidential, although it is provided to investigative parties working on the case.
 - Under state law, mandated reporters cannot be held liable in civil or criminal court when reporting as required; however, under federal law mandated reporters only have immunity for reports made in good faith.
- Failure to report:
 - Failure to report concerns of child abuse or neglect is considered a misdemeanor and is punishable in California by six months in jail and/or up to a \$1,000 fine.
- For the complete law and a list of mandated reporters refer to California Penal Codes 11164 -11174.3.

This document and Mandated Reporting information can be found at
www.mandatedreporter.ca.com

PART 5: Charter School Safety Procedures—Routine and Emergency Disaster Procedures [EC 47605(6)(F)(ii); EC 32282.(2)(B)]

According to the Education Code (EC § 32282):

(2) Identifying appropriate strategies and programs that will provide or maintain a high level of school safety and address the school’s procedures for complying with existing laws related to school safety, which shall include the development of all of the following:

(B) Disaster procedures, routine and emergency, including adaptations for pupils with disabilities in accordance with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq.). The disaster procedures shall also include, but not be limited to, both of the following:

(i) Establishing an earthquake emergency procedure system in every public school building having an occupant capacity of 50 or more pupils or more than one classroom. A school district or county office of education may work with the Office of Emergency Services and the Alfred E. Alquist Seismic Safety Commission to develop and establish the earthquake emergency procedure system. The system shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

(I) A school building disaster plan, ready for implementation at any time, for maintaining the safety and care of pupils and staff.

(II) A drop procedure whereby each pupil and staff member takes cover under a table or desk, dropping to his or her knees, with the head protected by the arms, and the back to the windows. A drop procedure practice shall be held at least once each school quarter in elementary schools and at least once a semester in secondary schools.

(III) Protective measures to be taken before, during, and following an earthquake.

(IV) A program to ensure that pupils and both the certificated and classified staff are aware of, and properly trained in, the earthquake emergency procedure system.

(ii) Establishing a procedure to allow a public agency, including the American Red Cross, to use school buildings, grounds, and equipment for mass care and welfare shelters during disasters or other emergencies affecting the public health and welfare. The school district or county office of education shall cooperate with the public agency in furnishing and maintaining the services as the school district or county office of education may deem necessary to meet the needs of the community.

(CDE School Safety Plan Compliance Checklist guidance: Use the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) as detailed in the California Emergency Services Act 8607 and the supporting California Code of Regulations.)

Fire Evacuation

In the event of a fire: Alarm Sounds

Teachers will:

- Secure their roll books (As appropriate)
- Escort students out of the building to the fire drill location
- Help insure that all students are out of the building
- Take roll once all students have arrived at the assigned area
- Await further instructions from Director or Principal

Students will:

- File out of building in a quiet orderly manner as directed by teachers
- Assemble in the designated fire drill area
- Remain quiet and orderly
- Await further instructions from their teacher

Director and/ or Principal will:

- Sweep buildings to insure all people are exited
- Prepare materials for emergency response personnel (Logistics)

Emergency status is clear when:

- Conditions are deemed safe by the Director or Principal
- Teachers are given the “All Clear” signal

Duck, Cover and Hold

In the event of: Earthquake, Fallen Aircraft, Possible Explosion, Tornado/Severe Storm

Teachers will:

- Direct students away from windows, bookshelves and carts
- Direct students to duck under desks, tables etc. and cover their heads and faces with their arms
- Assume the same duck and cover position as the students
- Await further instructions from Director or Principal or “All Clear” signal
- After the “All Clear” signal, take roll and determine the condition of all students in the room
- Report injuries or other immediate safety concerns to the Director or Principal

Students will:

- Move quickly away from windows, bookshelves or unsecured carts or equipment

- If possible, duck under their desk or tables
- Once positioned, kneel with head resting at knees, arms covering back of head
- Remain in place until given the “All Clear” signal

Director and/ or Principal will:

- Sweep buildings to determine safety of all people in buildings
- Prepare materials for emergency response personnel (Logistics)

Emergency status is clear when:

- Conditions are deemed safe by the Director or Principal
- Teachers are given the “All Clear” signal

Shelter in Place

To be used in the event of: Chemical spill (off Campus), Civil Disturbance, Gunfire/Police action in vicinity, Flood

Teachers will:

- Report to their building or classroom
- Get everyone inside their rooms, including students and staff seeking shelter
- Lock their classroom door, close windows and curtains
- Take roll, and document the names of all students present
- Await further instructions from Director or Principal or “All Clear” signal

Students will:

- Report to the main building or their classroom
- Identify themselves to the teacher or staff member in charge
- Sit calmly and quietly
- Await further instructions from teacher or staff member

Director and/ or Principal will:

- Either make intercom contact with each building and classroom or physically sweep buildings to ensure safety of all people
- Prepare materials for emergency response personnel (Logistics)

Emergency status is clear when:

- Conditions are deemed safe by the Director or Principal
- Teachers are given the “All Clear” signal

Lockdown

To be used in the event of: Armed Intruder, Hostage Crisis

Teachers will:

- Immediately lock all three main building doors or the classroom doors
- Instruct students to lie on the floor
- Close all blinds and curtains
- Turn off all lights
- Instruct students to remain silent
- Await further instruction from Director, Principal, or Police

Students will:

- Immediately drop to the floor, away from doors or windows
- Remain silent
- Await further instructions from teacher

Director and/ or Principal will:

- Establish communication with appropriate law enforcement agency
- Establish an incident command center
- Notify District officials (Planning/Intelligence)
- Prepare materials for emergency response personnel (Logistics)

Emergency status is clear when:

- Conditions are deemed safe by the Director, Principal or ranking law enforcement official
- Teachers are given the “All Clear” signal

Fire Evacuation – Fresno Resource Center

In the event of a fire: Fire Watch monitor alerts staff and students through siren and phone speaker system.

Teachers with a class will:

- Secure their roll books (As appropriate)
- Escort students out of the building to the fire drill location in parking lot
- Take roll once all students have arrived at the assigned area
- Await further instructions from Principal or Fire Watch monitor.

Teachers and Staff with no class will:

- In Main Building check all areas to insure that all students are out of the building
 - Teachers with offices on the second floor will sweep bathrooms, classroom 1, storage areas, and offices.
 - Teachers with offices on the first floor will sweep bathrooms, classrooms 2-5, storage rooms, and offices.
- Escort students out of the building to the fire drill location in parking lot

Students will:

- File out of building in a quiet orderly manner as directed by teachers
- Assemble in the designated fire drill area in parking lot
- Remain quiet and orderly
- Await further instructions from their teacher

Parents will:

- If parent has their child with them
 - parents are to file out of building **with** their child, in a quiet orderly manner as directed by teachers
- If parent's child is not immediately with them but somewhere in building or on grounds
 - parents are to file out of building **without** their child, in a quiet orderly manner as directed by teachers
- Assemble in the designated fire drill area in parking lot and meet your children there
- Remain quiet and orderly
- Await further instructions from their teacher

Principal and/ or Fire Watch will:

- Sweep buildings to insure all people are exited
- Prepare materials for emergency response personnel (Logistics)

Emergency status is clear when:

- Conditions are deemed safe by the Principal or Fire Watch
- Teachers are given the "All Clear" signal

Fire Watch for Fresno Resource Center

In the absence of a fire alarm system for our Fresno resource center, WSCS has implemented a Fire Watch monitoring system.

WSCS Administration will insure that at least one responsible Fire Watch staff is present in the Fresno Resource Center at all normal operating hours. The Fresno Administrator or designee will provide ongoing building surveillance of unwanted fire and will raise an alarm for the building occupants and notify the fire department should a fire occur.

1. The Fire Watch staff will be familiar with the building, knowing the location and operation of the following:
 - the address, cross streets and phone number of the Fresno Resource Center
 - (777 West Shaw Ave, Fresno CA 93704 and 559-248-0471)
 - breaker box and main power to building for electrical shut off
 - main gas shut-off
 - fire extinguishers
2. Throughout the operational school day (approximately each hour), the Fire Watch staff will conduct regular patrols of the entire building and facility. During these rounds the Fire Watch staff will confirm:
 - fire extinguishers are in place and not obstructed
 - aisles and exit ways are all clear
 - heating units are working properly
 - flammable materials are properly stored
3. Identify and report to WSCS Administration any fire, life, or property hazard
4. Have a cell phone for means of direct communication with fire department
5. Maintain a log of Fire Watch activities
6. In the event of fire or smoke the Fire Watch staff will:
 - Immediately notify all building occupants of the need to evacuate. (See the document: Fire Evacuation for Fresno Resource Center)
 - Notify the Fresno Fire Department
 - (Call 911)
 - (Resource Center-777 West Shaw Ave, Fresno CA 93704)

PART 6: Charter School Safety

Procedures—Suspension/Expulsion Policies and Procedures [EC 47605(6)(F)(ii); EC 32282.(2)(C)]

According to the Education Code (EC § 32282):

(2) Identifying appropriate strategies and programs that will provide or maintain a high level of school safety and address the school’s procedures for complying with existing laws related to school safety, which shall include the development of all of the following:

(C) Policies pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 48915 for pupils who committed an act listed in subdivision (c) of Section 48915 and other school-designated serious acts which would lead to suspension, expulsion, or mandatory expulsion recommendations pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 48900) of Chapter 6 of Part 27 of Division 4 of Title 2.

(CDE School Safety Plan Compliance Checklist guidance: Refer to Board Policy, include site-specific steps, if needed.)

I. DISCIPLINE POLICY

WSCS believes that students learn best in an environment of clear expectations about behavioral and community norms that allows them to feel safe and nurtured. In order to maintain a positive learning community, WSCS has developed a comprehensive set of student discipline policies which in many respects are consistent with California Education Code Section 48900’s requirements for school districts. As a group of public charter schools, WSCS will develop its own specific procedures for student suspension and expulsion.

Policies regarding suspension or expulsion conform to applicable state and federal laws regarding all students, including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and its amendments, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, AB 602, and the ADA. WSCS’s Site Principals bears primary responsibility for overseeing all student discipline, though the Executive Director also has the authority to suspend students.

The Discipline, Suspension and Expulsion Policy (“Policy”) has been established to align in most material respects with Education Code Section 48900 *et seq.*, although WSCS is exempt from those and several other statutory provisions applicable to school districts (Ed. Code section 47610.). WSCS will review policies and procedures surrounding suspensions and expulsions at least once annually and, as necessary, modify our Policy accordingly. The Policy shall serve as the Charter School’s policy and procedures for student suspension and expulsion, and may be amended from time to time without the need to amend the charter so long as the amendments comport with legal requirements.

WSCS staff shall enforce disciplinary rules and procedures fairly and consistently among all students. The Policy and its procedures will be printed and distributed as part of the Parent and Student Handbook and will clearly describe discipline expectations. WSCS will terminate a student's enrollment for the following reasons:

1. Non-compliance: If the parent/guardian or student is not fulfilling the requirements of the written agreement.
 - No work samples supplied.
 - Missing scheduled meetings.
 - Student not accomplishing a reasonable amount of work.
 - Attendance Sheet not returned by the due date.

Student/parent will be given reasonable opportunities to correct any non-compliance issues. If the issue is not corrected and continues, a second non-compliance will be given. If the issue still continues, the student will be dismissed prior to receiving a third notice.

2. Plagiarism Policy: if the student is caught cheating, the following disciplinary procedure applies:
 - student will receive a failing grade on that assignment and further disciplinary action as deemed appropriate.

3. WSCS has a Student Behavioral Expectations Policy that every student and their parent/guardian must agree to and sign.

Corporal punishment shall not be used as a disciplinary measure against any student. Corporal punishment includes the willful infliction of or willfully causing the infliction of physical pain on a student. For purposes of the Policy, corporal punishment does not include an employee's use of force that is reasonable and necessary to protect the employee, students, staff or other persons or to prevent damage to school property.

Each incident is addressed individually, though previous activities may be taken into account in order to determine the severity of the discipline assigned. Discipline begins with a meeting between the student and the Principal or his/her designee. Following this meeting, several actions may occur, including but not limited to:

- Warning, both verbal and written
- Loss of privileges (e.g. extra-curricular activities)
- Notices to parents by telephone or letter
- Request for parent conference (including teachers, counselors, or administrators)
- Behavior contract
- Detention
- Suspension
- Expulsion

For students who are truant, tardy, or otherwise absent from assigned school activities, alternatives to suspension or expulsion are attempted first.

II. GROUNDS FOR SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

A student may be suspended or expelled for prohibited misconduct if the act is related to school activity or school attendance occurring at any time including but not limited to:

- while on school grounds
- while going to or coming from school
- during the lunch period, whether on or off the school campus
- during, going to, or coming from a school-sponsored activity.

A single suspension may not be issued for more than 5 consecutive school days. The total number of days for which a student, including students with a 504 Plan, may be suspended from school shall not exceed 20 days. Students with an IEP shall not be suspended for more than 10 school days in any school year.

A. ENUMERATED OFFENSES

Discretionary Suspension Offenses: Students *may* be suspended for any of the following acts when it is determined the pupil:

- a) Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person.
- b) Willfully used force or violence upon the person of another, except self-defense.
- c) Unlawfully possessed, used, sold or otherwise furnished, or was under the influence of any controlled substance, as defined in Health and Safety Code 11053-11058, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind.
- d) Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any controlled substance as defined in Health and Safety Code Sections 11053-11058, alcoholic beverage or intoxicant of any kind, and then sold, delivered or otherwise furnished to any person another liquid substance or material and represented same as 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 cigars, cigarettes, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets and betel. This section does not prohibit the use of his or her own prescription products by a pupil.
- i) Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.
- j) Unlawfully possessed or unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any drug paraphernalia, as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 11014.5.
- k) Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.
- l) Possessed an imitation firearm, i.e.: 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.
- m) Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault as defined in Penal Code Sections 261, 266c, 286, 288, 288a or 289, or committed a sexual battery as defined in Penal Code Section 243.4.
- n) Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a student who is a complaining witness or witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for the purpose of preventing that student from being a witness and/or retaliating against that student for being a witness.
- o) Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma.
- p) Engaged in, or attempted to engage in hazing. For the 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, which 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 section, "hazing" does not include athletic events or school-sanctioned events.
- q) Made terroristic threats against school officials and/or school property. For purposes of this section, "terroristic threat" shall include any statement, whether written or oral, by a person who willfully threatens to commit a crime which will result in death, great bodily injury to

- another person, or property damage in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), with the specific intent that the statement is to be taken as a threat, even if there is no intent of actually carrying it out, which, on its face and under the circumstances in which it is made, is so unequivocal, unconditional, immediate, and specific as to convey to the person threatened, a gravity of purpose and an immediate prospect of execution of the threat, and thereby causes that person reasonably to be in sustained fear for his or her own safety or for his or her immediate family's safety, or for the protection of school property, or the personal property of the person threatened or his or her immediate family.
- r) Committed sexual harassment, as defined in Education Code Section 212.5. For the purposes of this section, the conduct described in Section 212.5 must be considered by a reasonable person of the same gender as the victim to be sufficiently severe or pervasive to have a negative impact upon the individual's academic performance or to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. This section shall apply to pupils in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive.
 - s) Caused, attempted to cause, threatened to cause or participated in an act of hate violence, as defined in subdivision (e) of Section 233 of the Education Code. This section shall apply to pupils in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive.
 - t) Intentionally harassed, threatened or intimidated a student or group of students to the extent of having the actual and reasonably expected effect of materially disrupting class work, creating substantial disorder and invading student rights by creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment. This section shall apply to pupils in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive.
 - u) Engaged in an act of bullying, including, but not limited to, bullying committed by means of an electronic act.
 - 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 student or group of students which would be deemed hate violence or harassment, threats, or intimidation, which are directed toward one or more students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:
 - i. Placing a reasonable student (defined as a student, including, but is not limited to, a student with exceptional needs, who exercises average care, skill, and judgment in conduct for a person of his or her age, or for a person of his or her age with exceptional needs) or students in fear of harm to that student's or those students' person or property.
 - ii. Causing a reasonable student to experience a substantially detrimental effect on his or her physical or mental health.
 - iii. Causing a reasonable student to experience substantial interference with his or her academic performance.
 - iv. Causing a reasonable student to experience substantial interference with his or her ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by the Charter School.
 - 2) "Electronic Act" means the creation and transmission originated on or off the school site, 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, or image.
 - ii. A post on a social network Internet Web site including, but not limited to:

- (a) Posting to or creating a burn page. A “burn page” means an Internet Web site created for the purpose of having one or more of the effects as listed in subparagraph (1) above.
 - (b) Creating a credible impersonation of another actual pupil for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in subparagraph (1) above. “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.
 - (c) Creating a false profile for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in subparagraph (1) above. “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. Notwithstanding subparagraphs (1) and (2) above, 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.
- v) 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, 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.
 - w) Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished any knife unless, in the case of possession of any object of this type, the student had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, with the Executive Director or designee’s concurrence.
 - x) Any other serious violation of WSCS’s student rules of conduct or behavioral expectations.

Non-Discretionary Suspension Offenses: Students *must* be suspended and recommended for expulsion for any of the following acts when it is determined the pupil:

- a) Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished any firearm, explosive, or other dangerous object unless, in the case of possession of any object of this type, the students had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, with the Executive Director or designee’s concurrence.

Discretionary Expellable Offenses: Students *may* be recommended for expulsion for any of the following acts when it is determined the pupil:

- a) Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person.
- b) Willfully used force or violence upon the person of another, except self-defense.
- c) Unlawfully possessed, used, sold or otherwise furnished, or was under the influence of any controlled substance, as defined in Health and Safety Code Sections 11053-11058, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind.
- d) Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any controlled substance as defined in Health and Safety Code Sections 11053-11058, alcoholic beverage or intoxicant of any kind, and then sold, delivered or otherwise furnished to any person another liquid substance or material and represented same as 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 cigars, cigarettes, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets and betel. This section does not prohibit the use of his or her own prescription products by a pupil.
- i) Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.
- j) Unlawfully possessed or unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any drug paraphernalia, as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 11014.5.
- k) Disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, other school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties.
- l) Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.
- m) Possessed an imitation firearm, i.e.: 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 Penal Code Sections 261, 266c, 286, 288, 288a or 289, or committed a sexual battery as defined in Penal Code Section 243.4.
- o) Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a student who is a complaining witness or witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for the purpose of preventing that student from being a witness and/or retaliating against that student for being a witness.
- 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 the 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, which 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 section, "hazing" does not include athletic events or school-sanctioned events.
- r) Made terroristic threats against school officials and/or school property. For purposes of this section, "terroristic threat" shall include any statement, whether written or oral, by a person who willfully threatens to commit a crime which will result in death, great bodily injury to another person, or property damage in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), with the specific intent that the statement is to be taken as a threat, even if there is no intent of actually carrying it out, which, on its face and under the circumstances in which it is made, is so unequivocal, unconditional, immediate, and specific as to convey to the person threatened, a gravity of purpose and an immediate prospect of execution of the threat, and thereby causes that person reasonably to be in sustained fear for his or her own safety or for his or her immediate family's safety, or for the protection of school property, or the personal property of the person threatened or his or her immediate family.
- s) Committed sexual harassment, as defined in Education Code Section 212.5. For the purposes of this section, the conduct described in Section 212.5 must be considered by a reasonable person of the same gender as the victim to be sufficiently severe or pervasive to have a negative impact upon the individual's academic performance or to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. This section shall apply to pupils in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive.
- t) Caused, attempted to cause, threatened to cause or participated in an act of hate violence, as defined in subdivision (e) of Section 233 of the Education Code. This section shall apply to pupils in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive.
- u) Intentionally harassed, threatened or intimidated a student or group of students to the extent of having the actual and reasonably expected effect of materially disrupting class work, creating

- substantial disorder and invading student rights by creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment. This section shall apply to pupils in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive.
- v) Engaged in an act of bullying, including, but not limited to, bullying committed by means of an electronic act.
- 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 student or group of students which would be deemed hate violence or harassment, threats, or intimidation, which are directed toward one or more students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:
 - i. Placing a reasonable student (defined as a student, including, but is not limited to, a student with exceptional needs, who exercises average care, skill, and judgment in conduct for a person of his or her age, or for a person of his or her age with exceptional needs) or students in fear of harm to that student's or those students' person or property.
 - ii. Causing a reasonable student to experience a substantially detrimental effect on his or her physical or mental health.
 - iii. Causing a reasonable student to experience substantial interference with his or her academic performance.
 - iv. Causing a reasonable student to experience substantial interference with his or her ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by the Charter School.
 - 2) "Electronic Act" means the creation and transmission originated on or off the school site, 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, or image.
 - ii. A post on a social network Internet Web site including, but not limited to:
 - (a) Posting to or creating a burn page. A "burn page" means an Internet Web site created for the purpose of having one or more of the effects as listed in subparagraph (1) above.
 - (b) Creating a credible impersonation of another actual pupil for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in subparagraph (1) above. "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.
 - (c) Creating a false profile for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in subparagraph (1) above. "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. Notwithstanding subparagraphs (1) and (2) above, 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.
- w) 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, 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.

- x) Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished any knife unless, in the case of possession of any object of this type, the student had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, with the Executive Director or designee's concurrence.
- y) Any other serious violation of WSCS's student rules of conduct or behavioral expectations.

Non-Discretionary Expellable Offenses: Students *must* be recommended for expulsion for any of the following acts when it is determined pursuant to the procedures below that the pupil:

- a) Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished any firearm, explosive, or other dangerous object unless, in the case of possession of any object of this type, the students had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, with the Executive Director or designee's concurrence.
- b) Brandishing a knife at another person.
- c) Unlawfully selling a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code.
- d) Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 48900 or committing a sexual battery as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 48900.
- e) Possession of an explosive

If it is determined by an Administrative Panel that a student has brought a firearm or destructive device, as defined in Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code, on to campus or to have possessed a firearm or dangerous device on campus, the student shall be expelled.

The term "firearm" means (A) any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; (B) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (C) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or (D) any destructive device.

The term "destructive device" means (A) any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas, including but not limited to: (i) bomb, (ii) grenade, (iii) rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, (iv) missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, (v) mine, or (vi) device similar to any of the devices described in the preceding clauses.

B. IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION

As in Independent Study school, WSCS does not plan to use in-school suspension.

III. SUSPENSION PROCEDURES

Suspensions shall be initiated according to the following procedures:

A. CONFERENCE

Suspension shall be preceded, if possible, by a conference conducted by the Principal or designee with the student and his or her parent and, whenever practical, the teacher, supervisor or school employee who referred the student to the Principal.

The conference may be omitted if the Principal or designee determines that an emergency situation exists. An "emergency situation" involves a clear and present danger to the lives, safety or health of students or school personnel. If a student is suspended without this conference, both the parent/guardian and student shall be notified of the student's right to return to school for the purpose of a conference.

At the conference, the pupil shall be informed of the reason for the disciplinary action and the evidence against him or her and shall be given the opportunity to present his or her version and evidence in his or her defense. This conference shall be held within two school days, unless the pupil waives this right or is physically unable to attend for any reason including, but not limited to, incarceration or hospitalization.

No penalties may be imposed on a pupil for failure of the pupil's parent or guardian to attend a conference with school officials. Reinstatement of the suspended pupil shall not be contingent upon attendance by the pupil's parent or guardian at the conference.

B. NOTICE TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS

At the time of suspension, the Principal or designee shall make a reasonable effort to contact the parent/guardian by telephone or in person. Whenever a student is suspended, the parent/guardian shall be notified in writing of the suspension and the date of return following suspension. This notice shall state the specific offense committed by the student. In addition, the notice may also state the date and time when the student may return to school. If school officials ask the parent/guardian to confer regarding matters pertinent to the suspension, the notice may request that the parent/guardian respond to such requests without delay.

C. SUSPENSION TIME LIMITS/RECOMMENDATION FOR PLACEMENT/EXPULSION

Suspensions, when not including a recommendation for expulsion, shall not exceed five (5) consecutive school days per suspension. Upon a recommendation of expulsion by the Executive Director or designee, the pupil and the pupil's guardian or representative will be invited to a conference to determine if the suspension for the pupil should be extended pending an expulsion hearing.

This determination will be made by the Principal or designee upon either of the following determinations: 1) the pupil's presence will be disruptive to the education process; or 2) the pupil poses a threat or danger to others. Upon either determination, the pupil's suspension will be extended pending the results of an expulsion hearing. In such instances when the Charter School has determined a suspension period shall be extended, such extension shall be made only after a conference is held with the pupil or the pupil's parents, unless the pupil and the pupil's parents fail to attend the conference.

D. SUSPENSION APPEAL

At the time the parent/guardian is informed of the decision to suspend, information is provided about their right to appeal a suspension, along with information about the appeal process. To initiate an appeal, the student or parent or guardian must contact WSCS's Executive Director in writing within three days of the date of the suspension. The Executive Director will gather information from the Principal/designee, student,

parent or guardian to determine whether or not the Principal/designee suspended the student properly and followed all applicable procedures. The Executive Director will consider the reasons the family feels the suspension was incorrect or inappropriate, and may contact the family and/or school staff to clarify information. Based on the information submitted or requested, the Executive Director may make one of the following decisions regarding the suspension.

1. Uphold the suspension
2. Uphold the suspension but clear the student's record of the suspension at the end of the semester, if the student has no additional discipline problems at the school.
3. Determine that the suspension was not within the school's guidelines, overturn the suspension, and order that all records and documents regarding the disciplinary proceeding be destroyed. No information regarding the suspension will be placed in the student's permanent record, or shared with anyone not directly involved in the proceedings.

The Executive Director will mail a copy of the decision to the student and/or parent or guardian within five days of the issuing the decision. A copy of the decision is also emailed to the school Executive Director. The Executive Director's decision is final.

IV. EXPULSION PROCEDURES

A. AUTHORITY TO EXPEL

A student may be expelled following a hearing before an Administrative Panel on the recommendation from the Executive Director. The Administrative Panel will consist of up to three members, who are certificated and neither a teacher of the pupil nor a member of the Board of Directors. The Board or the Directors will appoint an Administrative Panel. The Administrative Panel may expel a student found to have committed an expellable offense.

A student and his or her parents may appeal an expulsion decision by the Administrative Panel to the Charter School's Board, which will make the final determination.

B. HEARING PROCEDURES

Students recommended for expulsion are entitled to a hearing to determine whether the student should be expelled. If requested by the student, and unless postponed for good cause, the hearing shall be held within thirty (30) school days after the Executive Director determines that the pupil has committed an expellable offense and recommends the student for expulsion.

The Administrative Panel will hold a hearing on the case, and will make a determination whether to expel. The hearing shall be held in a confidential setting.

Written notice of the hearing shall be forwarded to the student and the student's parent/guardian at least ten (10) calendar days before the date of the hearing. Upon mailing the notice, it shall be deemed served upon the pupil. The notice shall include:

1. The date and place of the expulsion hearing;
2. A statement of the specific facts, charges and offenses upon which the proposed expulsion is based;

3. A copy of the school's disciplinary rules which relate to the alleged violation;
4. Notification of the student's or parent/guardian's obligation to provide information about the student's status at the school to any other school district or school to which the student seeks enrollment;
5. The opportunity for the student or the student's parent/guardian to appear in person or to employ and be represented by counsel or a non-attorney advisor;
6. The right to inspect and obtain copies of all documents to be used at the hearing;
7. The opportunity to confront and question all witnesses who testify at the hearing;
8. The opportunity to question all evidence presented and to present oral and documentary evidence on the student's behalf including witnesses.

C. SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR EXPULSION HEARINGS INVOLVING SEXUAL ASSAULT OR BATTERY OFFENSES

WSCS may determine that the disclosure of either the identity of the witness or the testimony of that witness at the hearing, or both, would subject the witness to an unreasonable risk of psychological or physical harm. Upon this determination, the testimony of the witness may be presented at the hearing in the form of sworn declarations which shall be examined only by the Board of Directors and/or Administrative Panel. Copies of these sworn declarations, edited to delete the name and identity of the witness, shall be made available to the pupil. The Administrative Panel shall be guided by the following principles:

1. The complaining witness in any sexual assault or battery case must be provided with a copy of the applicable disciplinary rules and advised of his/her right to (a) receive five days' notice of his/her scheduled testimony, (b) have up to two (2) adult support persons of his/her choosing present in the hearing at the time he/she testifies, which may include a parent, guardian, or legal counsel, and (c) elect to have the hearing closed while testifying.
2. The school will also provide the victim a room separate from the hearing room for the complaining witness' use prior to and during breaks in testimony.
3. At the discretion of the Administrative Panel, the complaining witness shall be allowed periods of relief from examination and cross-examination during which he or she may leave the hearing room.
4. The Administrative Panel may also arrange the seating within the hearing room to facilitate a less intimidating environment for the complaining witness.
5. The Administrative Panel may also limit time for taking the testimony of the complaining witness to the hours he/she is normally in school, if there is no good cause to take the testimony during other hours.
6. Prior to a complaining witness testifying, the support persons must be admonished that the hearing is confidential. Nothing in the law precludes the person presiding over the hearing from removing a support person whom the presiding person finds is disrupting the hearing. The Administrative Panel may permit any one of the support persons for the complaining witness to accompany him or her to the witness stand.
7. If one or both of the support persons is also a witness, the school shall present evidence that the witness' presence is both desired by the witness and will be helpful to the school. The person presiding over the hearing shall permit the witness to stay unless it is established that there is a substantial risk that the testimony of the complaining witness would be influenced by the support person, in which case the presiding official shall admonish the support person or persons not to prompt, sway, or influence the witness in any way. Nothing shall preclude the presiding officer from exercising his or her discretion to remove a person from the hearing whom he or she believes is prompting, swaying, or influencing the witness.
8. The testimony of the support person shall be presented before the testimony of the complaining witness and the complaining witness shall be excluded from the courtroom during that testimony.

9. Evidence of specific instances of a complaining witness' prior sexual conduct is presumed inadmissible and shall not be heard absent a determination by the person conducting the hearing that extraordinary circumstances exist requiring the evidence be heard. Before such a determination regarding extraordinary circumstances can be made, the witness shall be provided notice and an opportunity to present opposition to the introduction of the evidence. In the hearing on the admissibility of the evidence, the complaining witness shall be entitled to be represented by a parent, legal counsel, or other support person. Reputation or opinion evidence regarding the sexual behavior of the complaining witness is not admissible for any purpose.

D. RECORD OF HEARING

A record of the hearing shall be made and may be maintained by any means, including electronic recording, as long as a reasonably accurate and complete record of the proceedings can be made.

E. PRESENTATION OF EVIDENCE

While judicial rules of evidence do not apply to expulsion hearings, evidence may be admitted and used as proof only if it is the kind of evidence on which reasonable persons can rely in the conduct of serious affairs.

Findings of fact shall be based solely on the evidence at the hearing. While hearsay evidence is admissible, no decision to expel shall be based solely on hearsay. Sworn declarations may be admitted as testimony from witnesses.

The decision of the Administrative Panel shall be in the form of written findings of fact regarding the expulsion. The final decision by the Administrative Panel shall be made within ten (10) school days following the conclusion of the hearing.

If the Administrative Panel decides not to recommend expulsion, the pupil shall immediately be returned to his/her educational program at the school.

F. WRITTEN NOTICE TO EXPEL

The Executive Director or designee following a decision of the Administrative Panel to expel shall send written notice of the decision to expel, including the Administrative Panel's adopted findings of fact, to the student or parent/guardian. This notice shall also include the following:

1. Notice of the specific offense committed by the student
2. Notice of the student's or parent/guardian's obligation to inform any new district in which the student seeks to enroll of the student's status with the Charter School.
3. Notice of any appeal options
4. Information about alternative placement options

The Executive Director or designee shall send a copy of the written notice of the decision to expel to the student's district of residence and the authorizer. This notice shall include the following:

1. The student's name
2. The specific expellable offense committed by the student

G. EXPULSION APPEAL

If a pupil is expelled, the pupil or the pupil's parent or guardian may, within 10 calendar days following the written notice to expel, file a written appeal, requesting the Board reconsider the expulsion determination. The Board of Directors will consider the appeal in closed session at its next regularly scheduled board meeting or as soon as practicable. The Board will consider all information and evidence contained in the record from the expulsion hearing. The Board will inform the parent and student in writing within five (5) days of its decision. The decision of the Board of Directors is final.

1. CLOSED SESSION

The Board shall hear an appeal of an expulsion order in closed session. During closed session, if the Board admits any representative of the pupil or the Charter School, the Board shall, at the same time, admit representatives from the opposing party.

2. EVIDENCE ADMISSIBLE AT HEARING

The Board shall determine the appeal from a pupil expulsion upon the record of the hearing before the Administrative Panel, together with such applicable documentation or regulations as may be ordered.

3. SCOPE OF REVIEW

The review by the Board shall be limited to the following questions:

1. Whether the Administrative Panel acted without or in excess of its jurisdiction.
2. Whether there was a fair hearing before the Administrative Panel.
3. Whether there was a prejudicial abuse of discretion in the hearing.
4. Whether there is relevant and material evidence which, in the exercise of reasonable diligence, could not have been produced or which was improperly excluded at the hearing before the Administrative Panel.

A Board may not recommend reversing the decision of the Administrative Panel to expel a pupil based upon a finding of an abuse of discretion unless the Board also determines that the abuse of discretion was prejudicial.

4. DECISION OF THE BOARD

The decision of the Board shall be limited as follows:

- (a) If the Board finds that relevant and material evidence exists which, in the exercise of reasonable diligence, could not have been produced or which was improperly excluded at the hearing before the Administrative Panel, the Board may reconsider the matter and may in addition recommend the pupil reinstated pending the reconsideration.
- (b) In all other cases, the shall either affirm or reverse the decision of the Administrative Panel. The decision of the Board will be final.

H. EXPELLED PUPILS/ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

The school will help provide the parent necessary information and a list of placement options. Pupils who are expelled shall be responsible for seeking alternative education programs including, but not limited to, programs within the County or their school district of residence.

V. DISCIPLINARY RECORDS

WSCS shall maintain records of all student suspensions and expulsions at the Charter School. Such records shall be made available to the authorizer upon request.

VI. SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

WSCS shall immediately notify the SELPA and coordinate the procedures in this policy with the SELPA of the discipline of any student with a disability or student who WSCS or SELPA would be deemed to have knowledge that the student had a disability.

Students suspended for more than ten (10) school days in a school year shall continue to receive services so as to enable the student to continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting, and to progress toward meeting the goals set out in the child's IEP/504 Plan; and receive, as appropriate, a functional behavioral assessment and behavioral intervention services and modifications, that are designed to address the behavior violation so that it does not recur. These services may be provided in an interim alternative educational setting.

Within ten (10) school days of a recommendation for expulsion or any decision to change the placement of a child with a disability because of a violation of a code of student conduct, WSCS, the parent, and relevant members of the IEP/504 Team shall review all relevant information in the student's file, including the child's IEP/504 Plan, any teacher observations, and any relevant information provided by the parents to determine:

- a. If the conduct in question was caused by, or had a direct and substantial relationship to, the child's disability; or
- b. If the conduct in question was the direct result of the local educational agency's failure to implement the IEP/504 Plan.

If WSCS, the parent, and relevant members of the IEP/504 Team determine that either of the above is applicable for the child, the conduct shall be determined to be a manifestation of the child's disability.

If WSCS, the parent, and relevant members of the IEP/504 Team make the determination that the conduct was a manifestation of the child's disability, the IEP/504 Team shall:

- a. Conduct a functional behavioral assessment and implement a behavioral intervention plan for such child, provided that WSCS had not conducted such assessment prior to such determination before the behavior that resulted in a change in placement;
- b. If a behavioral intervention plan has been developed, review the behavioral intervention plan if the child already has such a behavioral intervention plan, and modify it, as necessary, to address the behavior; and
- c. Return the child to the placement from which the child was removed, unless the parent and WSCS agree to a change of placement as part of the modification of the behavioral intervention plan.

If WSCS, the parent, and relevant members of the IEP/504 Team determine that the behavior was not a manifestation of the student's disability and that the conduct in question was not a result of the failure to

implement the IEP/504 Plan, then the Charter School may apply the relevant disciplinary procedures to children with disabilities in the same manner and for the same duration as the procedures would be applied to students without disabilities.

The parent of a child with a disability who disagrees with any decision regarding placement, or the manifestation determination, or WSCS believes that maintaining the current placement of the child is substantially likely to result in injury to the child or to others, may request an expedited administrative hearing through the Special Education Unit of the Office of Administrative Hearings or by utilizing the dispute provisions of the 504 Policy and Procedures.

When an appeal relating to the placement of the student or the manifestation determination has been requested by either the parent or the Charter School, the hearing officer shall determine whether the student shall remain in the interim alternative educational setting pending the decision of the hearing officer or until the expiration of the forty-five (45) day time period provided for in an interim alternative educational setting, whichever occurs first, unless the parent and WSCS agree otherwise.

WSCS personnel may consider any unique circumstances on a case-by-case basis when determining whether to order a change in placement for a child with a disability who violates a code of student conduct.

The Executive Director or designee may remove a student to an interim alternative educational setting for not more than forty-five (45) days without regard to whether the behavior is determined to be a manifestation of the student's disability in cases where a student:

- a. Carries or possesses a weapon, as defined in 18 USC 930, to or at school, on school premises, or to or at a school function;
- b. Knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs, or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance, while at school, on school premises, or at a school function; or
- c. Has inflicted serious bodily injury, as defined by 20 USC 1415(k)(7)(D), upon a person while at school, on school premises, or at a school function.

The student's interim alternative educational setting shall be determined by the student's IEP/504 Team.

A student who has not been identified as an individual with disabilities pursuant to IDEIA and who has violated the Charter School's disciplinary procedures may assert the procedural safeguards granted under this administrative regulation only if the Charter School had knowledge that the student was disabled before the behavior occurred. The Charter School shall be deemed to have knowledge that the student had a disability if one of the following conditions exists:

- a. The parent/guardian has expressed concern in writing, or orally if the parent/guardian does not know how to write or has a disability that prevents a written statement, to Charter School supervisory or administrative personnel, or to one of the child's teachers, that the student is in need of special education or related services.
- b. The parent has requested an evaluation of the child.
- c. The child's teacher, or other Charter School personnel, has expressed specific concerns about a pattern of behavior demonstrated by the child, directly to the director of special education or to other Charter School supervisory personnel.

If the Charter School knew or should have known the student had a disability under any of the three (3) circumstances described above, the student may assert any of the protections available to IDEIA-eligible children with disabilities, including the right to stay-put.

If the Charter School had no basis for knowledge of the student's disability, it shall proceed with the proposed discipline. The Charter School shall conduct an expedited evaluation if requested by the parents; however the student shall remain in the education placement determined by the Charter School pending the results of the evaluation.

The Charter School shall not be deemed to have knowledge that the student had a disability if the parent has not allowed an evaluation, refused services, or if the student has been evaluated and determined to not be eligible.

PART 7: Charter School Safety Procedures—Procedures to Notify Teachers of Dangerous Pupils [EC 47605(6)(F)(ii); EC 32282.(2)(D)]

According to the Education Code (EC § 32282):

(2) Identifying appropriate strategies and programs that will provide or maintain a high level of school safety and address the school’s procedures for complying with existing laws related to school safety, which shall include the development of all of the following:

(D) Procedures to notify teachers of dangerous pupils pursuant to Section 49079.

(CDE School Safety Plan Compliance Checklist guidance: Refer to Board Policy, include site-specific steps, if needed.)

(D) Procedures to Notify Teachers of Dangerous Pupils (EC 49079) At times, dangerous students may be part of the WSCS student body. When a student that has a history of displaying dangerous behavior or is developing patterns of dangerous behavior, the staff member who becomes aware of the student shall notify the school administration. Administration shall then notify all staff that may have contact with the student of the history of the student, dangers posed by the student, and discuss appropriate response strategies. If a student that has not had a history of dangerous behavior acts in a dangerous manner toward anyone in the school community, the matter shall be investigated by school staff, as time permits. If the behavior is determined by school staff to need intervention by law enforcement, law enforcement shall be contacted by the school in an expeditious manner. If appropriate, an expulsion hearing may be conducted.

PART 8: Charter School Safety Procedures—Discrimination and Harassment Policy [EC 47605(6)(F)(ii); EC 32282.(2)(E)]

According to the Education Code (EC § 32282):

(2) Identifying appropriate strategies and programs that will provide or maintain a high level of school safety and address the school’s procedures for complying with existing laws related to school safety, which shall include the development of all of the following:

(E) A discrimination and harassment policy consistent with the prohibition against discrimination contained in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 200) of Part 1.

(CDE School Safety Plan Compliance Checklist guidance: Include complaint and investigation procedure.)

WSCS is committed to providing a school that is free from sexual harassment, as well as any harassment based upon race, color, religion, sex, gender, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, age, marital status, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, military or veteran status or any other characteristic protected by state or federal law. WSCS has developed a comprehensive policy regarding discrimination or harassment (including employee to employee, employee to student, and student to employee misconduct). Misconduct of this nature is very serious and will be promptly addressed in accordance with WSCS policy.

Sexual Harassment Policy

Sexual harassment of or by any student or member of the **Western Sierra Charter Schools** (the “School” Mountain Home School and Glacier High School inclusive) staff shall not be tolerated. The Governing Board considers sexual harassment to be a major offense, which may result in disciplinary action, including dismissal or expulsion, of the offending student or staff member, or other appropriate sanction.

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment when it interferes with an individual’s performance at school and/or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive educational environment. The conduct described above is also sexual harassment when submission to it is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual’s access to education.

Sexual harassment regulated by this policy pertains to behavior of a sexual nature while staff and students are under the jurisdiction of the School.

Staff and students may receive age-appropriate training and/or instruction on the prohibition of sexual harassment at

the School. Copies of this policy, implementing administrative regulations containing rules and procedures for reporting charges of sexual harassment and for pursuing available remedies shall be available at the School's Administrative Office.

Any staff or student who believes that he or she has been harassed or has witnessed sexual harassment is encouraged to immediately report such incident to his or her teacher or to the School's Sexual Harassment Investigator. The Investigator will promptly investigate all such incidents in a confidential manner. The Sexual Harassment Investigator will be each School's Administrator or his/her appointee.

Hate Crime Policy -Hate Crime Reporting Procedures and Policies-Hate crimes shall not be tolerated at WSCS, in accordance with State and Federal law. Any hate crime should be reported to as specified in the school's Uniform Complaint procedure.

- Immediately step in and stop behavior, interview witnesses

- Notify school administrators, law enforcement, request assistance if necessary.

- Follow through by using appropriate disciplinary action consistent with the school district policy and the Education Code. Law enforcement may proceed with a concurrent investigation based on Penal Code violations.

- Provide comfort to victims, inform family, provide medical attention.

PART 9: Charter School Safety Procedures—Schoolwide Dress Code (if it exists), Including Prohibition of Gang-Related Apparel [EC 47605(6)(F)(ii); EC 32282.(2)(F)]

According to the Education Code (EC § 32282):

(2) Identifying appropriate strategies and programs that will provide or maintain a high level of school safety and address the school’s procedures for complying with existing laws related to school safety, which shall include the development of all of the following:

(F) The provisions of any school wide dress code, pursuant to Section 35183, that prohibits pupils from wearing “gang-related apparel,” if the school has adopted that type of a dress code. For those purposes, the comprehensive school safety plan shall define “gang-related apparel.” The definition shall be limited to apparel that, if worn or displayed on a school campus, reasonably could be determined to threaten the health and safety of the school environment. A schoolwide dress code established pursuant to this section and Section 35183 shall be enforced on the school campus and at any school-sponsored activity by the principal of the school or the person designated by the principal. For purposes of this paragraph, “gang-related apparel” shall not be considered a protected form of speech pursuant to Section 48950.

(CDE School Safety Plan Compliance Checklist guidance: Comments.)

(F) Dress Code (EC 35183)

Students must dress modestly. Students will ensure that they are properly covered and neat. Students may not wear any clothing with profanity or violent images or messages. Earrings are the only body piercing allowed.

Clothing, jewelry, and personal items (backpacks, fanny packs, gym bags, water bottles, hats, etc.) shall be free of writing, pictures, or any other insignia which are crude, vulgar, profane, or sexually suggestive, which bear drug, alcohol, or tobacco company advertising, promotions and likenesses, or which advocate racial, ethnic, religious prejudice, or gang related activity.

PART 10: Charter School Safety Procedures—Procedures for Safe Ingress and Egress of Pupils, Parents, and School Employees to and from School Site [EC 47605(6)(F)(ii); EC 32282.(2)(G)]

According to the Education Code (EC § 32282):

- (2) Identifying appropriate strategies and programs that will provide or maintain a high level of school safety and address the school’s procedures for complying with existing laws related to school safety, which shall include the development of all of the following:
- (G) Procedures for safe ingress and egress of pupils, parents, and school employees to and from school.

(CDE School Safety Plan Compliance Checklist guidance: Reference campus visitor policies. Other items may include: crossing guard program, safe routes to school, pedestrian, vehicle and bicycle policies, traffic safety, etc.)

(G) Procedure for Safe Ingress and Egress of Pupils, Parents, and Staff to and from School (EC 35294.2)

The school shall maintain safe and secure methods of ingress and egress for pupils, parents, and staff to and from the school property which are ADA compliant. Facilities shall be inspected regularly by school staff and any necessary modifications shall be made in a timely fashion. Additionally, the school shall maintain a visitor record at both locations to assist in site security.

PART 11: Charter School Safety Procedures—A Safe and Orderly Environment Conducive to Learning at the School [EC 47605(6)(F)(ii); EC 32282.(2)(H)]

According to the Education Code (EC § 32282):

(2) Identifying appropriate strategies and programs that will provide or maintain a high level of school safety and address the school’s procedures for complying with existing laws related to school safety, which shall include the development of all of the following:

(H) A safe and orderly environment conducive to learning at the school.

(CDE School Safety Plan Compliance Checklist guidance: Comments.)

“The procedures that the school will follow to ensure the health and safety of pupils and staff. These procedures shall include the requirement that each employee of the school furnish the school with a criminal record summary as described in Section 44237.” Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(F).

WSCS will develop a Safe School Plan. The Safe School Plan will outline safety procedures for fire, earthquake, and harmful intruders (lockdown drills). All staff are trained on emergency and first aid response according to state standards and training programs.

In order to provide safety for all students and staff, the Charter School will adopt and implement full health and safety policies and procedures and risk management policies at its school site in consultation with its insurance carriers and risk management experts. A full draft will be provided to the County for review at least 30 days prior to operation or as otherwise agreed upon by the District and Charter School.

The health and safety of WSCS staff and students is the highest priority for the school. WSCS will adopt comprehensive, site-specific Health and Safety Policies and Emergency Policies and Procedures (collectively, Policies and Procedures), including policies regarding the acquisition and maintenance of adequate onsite emergency supplies. These Policies and Procedures will be in place prior to beginning operation of the school. WSCS will train all staff at least once annually in these Policies and Procedures. Emergency response drills will be held regularly for all students and staff. WSCS will periodically review, and modify as necessary, its Health and Safety Policies and Emergency Policies and Procedures, and keep these documents readily available for use and review upon request.

The Health and Safety Policy will address the following areas, at a minimum:

- Child Abuse Reporting
- Child predators (gates, walls, child pick-up and drop-off, etc.)

- Sexual/Other Harassment Reporting
- Asbestos management
- ADA adherence
- Food service safety
- Blood borne pathogens
- Pest management
- FERPA
- Immunizations
- TB Testing
- Medication in school
- Vision, hearing, and scoliosis screening, per code
- Student Illness & Injury Policies

Emergency Policies and Procedures will address the following areas, at a minimum:

- Earthquake
- Fire
- Terror threats
- Hostage situations
- School lock-down procedures
- Evacuation plans
- Safety drills
- Annual testing of sprinkler systems, fire extinguishers, and fire alarms

PROCEDURES FOR BACKGROUND CHECKS

All employees of WSCS, all volunteers who will be performing services that are not under the direct supervision of a School employee, and any onsite independent contractors or vendors having unsupervised contact with students, will be required to submit to criminal background checks and fingerprinting in accordance with state law. The Principal of WSCS shall monitor compliance with this policy. WSCS will maintain on file and available for inspection evidence that the school has performed criminal background checks for all employees and documentation that vendors have conducted required criminal background checks for their employees prior to any unsupervised contact with students. WSCS shall also ensure that the Principal receives subsequent arrest notifications of all individuals subject to background checks from the Department of Justice to ensure the ongoing safety of its students.

ROLE OF STAFF AS MANDATED CHILD ABUSE REPORTERS

In accordance with state law, all teachers and staff are mandated to report any suspected child abuse. The procedure for the mandated individual is to immediately make a call to the Department of Children and Family Services. The mandated reporter will then file a report within 36 hours of first becoming aware of a suspected case of child abuse. The report will be filed with either the Police Department Child Abuse Unit or the Department of Children and Family services. The mandated individual will meet with the appropriate authorities accordingly and inform the administrator that a report has been made. Staff members will receive in-service training and sign a document verifying notification and understanding regarding this responsibility.

BLOOD-BORNE PATHOGENS

WSCS shall meet state and federal standards for dealing with blood-borne pathogens and other potentially infectious materials in the workplace. WSCS will establish a written "Exposure Control Plan" designed to protect employees from possible infection due to contact with blood-borne viruses, including human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and hepatitis B virus (HBV). Whenever exposed to blood or other body fluids through injury or accident, students, and staff should follow the latest medical protocol for disinfecting procedures.

TB TESTING

Faculty and staff will be assessed or examined for tuberculosis ("TB") prior to commencing employment and working with students, in the manner required by Education Code Section 49406, as amended.

IMMUNIZATIONS

WSCS will adhere to all law related to legally required immunizations for entering students pursuant to Health and Safety Code §120325-120375, and Title 17, California Code of Regulations §6000-6075.

MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

Students requiring prescription medications and other medicines during school hours will be accommodated. Parents must bring medication to the office in the original containers, with the name of the prescribing physician, the name of the student, and dispensing instructions. Parents will complete the appropriate form authorizing school staff to administer medication. Designated staff will put medications in a locked cabinet or refrigerator as needed for medications requiring refrigeration. Designated staff will log times for administering medications for each student and will establish a tickler system to ensure that medications are dispensed at the appropriate times. Designated staff will call students to receive medications at the appropriate times. In cases where medications are long-term prescriptions, designated staff will provide parents with one week's notice to alert them that additional medications are needed.

AUXILIARY SERVICES

School staff will conduct annual reviews to ensure all auxiliary services are safe by developing appropriate policies and awareness training.

VISION/HEARING/SCOLIOSIS

WSCS shall adhere to Education Code §49450, et seq, to provide screening of students' vision and hearing and for scoliosis to the same extent required of non-charter public schools.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

WSCS shall adhere to an Emergency Preparedness Handbook containing procedures for safety, drafted specifically to the needs of the school site. This handbook shall include but not be limited to the following responses: fire, flood, earthquake, terrorist threats, and hostage situations. The handbook shall be prepared prior to anyone working on the site; all staff members will receive detailed training on emergency procedures. The handbook shall be kept on file for review.

Fire Drills

Fire drills will be held at least twice a semester. Office personnel will maintain a record of fire drills held and total required time for complete evacuation. When the fire drill signal sounds, teachers will lead the students in their room along the route indicated on the evacuation map posted for that purpose. Before leaving the room, teachers will see that all windows and doors are closed and that they have their class attendance roster with them. Students who are not in a classroom at the time the fire drill signal is given will attach themselves to the nearest teacher exiting the building for purposes of getting to the designated evacuation site.

Once at the designated evacuation site, teachers and other staff will ensure that all students find their respective teachers. Teachers will then take roll to ensure that all students are accounted for. The names of any missing students will be given to the office personnel and the administrative staff will attempt to locate missing students. Students will remain with their teachers at the designated evacuation site until the administrative staff gives the "all clear" signal.

Disaster Drills (I.E. EARTHQUAKE)

Disaster drills will be conducted at least once every two months. Students will be made familiar with the "duck and cover" routine. A disaster drill commencing with the "duck and cover" routine will be initiated by an announcement over the intercom. Staff and students will hear "This is an emergency drill. Duck and cover." During the "duck and cover" routine in the classroom, teachers will turn off the lights and have students get under a desk or table or against the wall away from the windows. Students must remain quiet and orderly so they will be able to hear additional instructions when given. All drills will be concluded with an "all clear" announcement on the intercom, or a visible signal from the administrative staff.

In the case of a real earthquake, everyone must engage in the "duck and cover" routine immediately and remain in position until the teacher determines that it is safe to leave the building. If remaining in the room becomes dangerous, or when the shaking stops, teachers will proceed with their students to the evacuation site or another safety zone. If students are in an outdoor area when a disaster drill is called or during an actual earthquake, students are to drop immediately to the ground, away from trees and power lines, and cover their heads with their hands. They are to remain in that position until given additional instructions.

In the case of disasters other than earthquakes, the administrative staff will contact each room, advise staff of potential dangers, and give further directions or orders. Teachers and students will remain in their classrooms until instructions are received for an all clear or an evacuation. For safety purposes, no one is to leave the rooms. If there has been a chemical spill, the teacher must make sure that all doors, windows, and vents remain closed. The school site maintenance staff will turn off the gas. All unassigned staff will report to the office for assignments such as searching offices, bathrooms, and all other common areas, including outdoor facilities.

Teachers will stay with their classes for the duration of the emergency. In the event of an earthquake or other national disaster, all school employees are immediately designated "Civil Defense Workers"

and are not allowed to leave school until they are given official clearance to do so by the administrative staff.

Bomb Threats

The person receiving the call or letter will note the time of day, wording of the message, background noises, and quality of the voice to try to determine if it is a child or an adult. This person will delay the caller as long as possible, while they alert another adult to the crisis. That adult will immediately notify the telephone company to trace the call and immediately thereafter, notify the police using 911.

Based on the information at hand, the administrative staff will make a decision whether an immediate evacuation is warranted. If so, a designated evacuation code word will be given over the intercom and evacuation procedures will be followed. The office personnel will coordinate information requests to and/or from law enforcement, the telephone company, and parents.

If an immediate evacuation is not warranted, the administrative staff will notify teachers to inspect their room for any suspicious materials or unknown packages, without alarming students. All unassigned staff will report to the office for assignments such as searching offices, bathrooms, and all other common areas, including outdoor facilities.

Lock-Downs

This action is taken when the threat of violence or gunfire is identified or directed by law enforcement and it is necessary to prevent the perpetrator(s) from entering occupied areas. During Lock Down, students are to remain in the classrooms or designated locations at all time. A designated Lock Down code word will be given over the intercom and Lock Down procedures will be followed. If inside, teachers will instruct students to lie on the floor, lock the doors, and close any shades or blinds if it appears safe to do so. If outside, students will proceed to their classrooms if it is safe to do so. If not, teachers or staff will direct students into nearby classrooms or school buildings (e.g., auditorium, library, cafeteria, gymnasium). Teachers and students will remain in the classroom or secured area until further instructions are given by the Principal or law enforcement. The front entrance is to be locked and no visitors other than appropriate law enforcement or emergency personnel are to be allowed on campus. The office personnel will coordinate information requests to and/or from law enforcement and parents.

Evacuation Plan

A disaster of a significant nature may require the evacuation of the school. Immediately upon notification by outside authorities that the school must be evacuated, the administrative staff will verify the name and position of the person placing the alert. Once the source is confirmed, the administrative staff will give the designated evacuation code word over the intercom.

Teachers will proceed with their students to the nearest school exit indicated on the evacuation map posted for this purpose. Before leaving the room, teachers will make sure they have their class attendance roster with them. Students who are not in a classroom at the time the intercom signal is given will attach themselves to the nearest teacher exiting the building for purposes of getting to the designated evacuation site.

Prior to evacuation, offices, bathrooms, and all other common areas, including outdoor facilities will be searched by unassigned staff members designated by the administrative staff.

Once at the designated evacuation site, teachers and other staff will ensure that all students find their respective teachers. Teachers will then take roll to ensure that all students are accounted for. The names of any missing students will be given to the office personnel and an individual will be assigned the task of finding any missing students. Teachers will work together to take care of students with injuries, respiratory problems, or other medical conditions.

Teachers will stay with their classes for the duration of the emergency. In the event of an evacuation, all school employees are immediately designated "Civil Defense Workers" and are not allowed to leave school until they are given official clearance to do so by the administrative staff.

Students will remain with their teachers at the designated evacuation site until the administrative staff gives the "all clear" signal. In the event students cannot return to the school site, the administrative staff will notify parents and/or the media as to where students can be picked up. The office personnel will sign out students as they are being picked up by a parent or other adult listed on the emergency information card. Parents will be asked to remain in a designated area, and students will be escorted to the designated area for release.

STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

All employees are responsible for their own safety, as well as that of others in the workplace. WSCS will rely upon its employees to ensure that work areas are kept safe and free of hazardous conditions. Employees will report any unsafe conditions or potential hazards to their supervisor immediately. If an employee suspects a concealed danger is present on WSCS's premises, or in a product, facility, piece of equipment, process, or business practice for which WSCS is responsible, the employee will bring it to the attention of their supervisor, the Principal, or Executive Director immediately. Supervisors will arrange for the correction of any unsafe condition or concealed danger immediately and will contact the Principal regarding the problem.

Employees will be encouraged to report any workplace injury or accident to their supervisor as soon as possible, regardless of the severity of the injury or accident. If medical attention is required immediately, supervisors will assist employees in obtaining medical care, after which the details of the injury or accident must be reported.

Periodically, WSCS may issue rules and guidelines governing workplace safety and health. All employees will familiarize themselves with the rules and guidelines, as strict compliance will be expected. Failure to comply with rules and guidelines regarding health and safety or work performance will not be tolerated.

DRUG FREE/ALCOHOL FREE/SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENT

WSCS shall function as a drug, alcohol and tobacco-free workplace.

COMPREHENSIVE SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

WSCS is committed to providing a school that is free from sexual harassment, as well as any harassment based upon race, color, religion, sex, gender, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, age, marital status, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, military or veteran status or any other characteristic protected by state or federal law. WSCS has developed a comprehensive policy regarding discrimination or harassment (including employee to employee, employee to student, and student to employee misconduct). Misconduct of this nature is very serious and will be promptly addressed in accordance with WSCS policy.

FERPA

WSCS, its employees and officers, will comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) at all times.

STUDENT RECORDS

WSCS will establish and adhere to procedures related to confidentiality and privacy of student records. WSCS will keep student records in a locked file cabinet to which only designated staff will have keys, in accordance with Academy policies. Student special education files will be kept in separate locked cabinets to which only staff designated to have access shall have keys. Electronic student information systems will use password protected accounts to ensure the same limits on access to student files. In the event that a student enters the school upon transfer from an existing district school, the student's records will be requested from the respective district.

PART 12: Charter School Safety Procedures—Tactical Responses to Criminal Incidents [EC 47605(6)(F)(ii)]

Active Shooter:

Appendix I: Background Information

Education Code (EC § 32282) Relevant Sections Summary

(2) Identifying appropriate strategies and programs that will provide or maintain a high level of school safety and address the school's procedures for complying with existing laws related to school safety, which shall include the development of all of the following:

(A) Child abuse reporting procedures consistent with Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 11164) of Chapter 2 of Title 1 of Part 4 of the Penal Code.

(B) Disaster procedures, routine and emergency, including adaptations for pupils with disabilities in accordance with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq.). The disaster procedures shall also include, but not be limited to, both of the following:

(i) Establishing an earthquake emergency procedure system in every public school building having an occupant capacity of 50 or more pupils or more than one classroom. A school district or county office of education may work with the Office of Emergency Services and the Alfred E. Alquist Seismic Safety Commission to develop and establish the earthquake emergency procedure system. The system shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

(I) A school building disaster plan, ready for implementation at any time, for maintaining the safety and care of pupils and staff.

(II) A drop procedure whereby each pupil and staff member takes cover under a table or desk, dropping to his or her knees, with the head protected by the arms, and the back to the windows. A drop procedure practice shall be held at least once each school quarter in elementary schools and at least once a semester in secondary schools.

(III) Protective measures to be taken before, during, and following an earthquake.

(IV) A program to ensure that pupils and both the certificated and classified staff are aware of, and properly trained in, the earthquake emergency procedure system.

(ii) Establishing a procedure to allow a public agency, including the American Red Cross, to use school buildings, grounds, and equipment for mass care and welfare shelters during disasters or other emergencies affecting the public health and welfare. The school district or county office of education shall cooperate with the public agency in furnishing and maintaining the services as the school district or county office of education may deem necessary to meet the needs of the community.

(C) Policies pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 48915 for pupils who committed an act listed in subdivision (c) of Section 48915 and other school-designated serious acts which would lead to suspension, expulsion, or mandatory expulsion recommendations pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 48900) of Chapter 6 of Part 27 of Division 4 of Title 2.

(D) Procedures to notify teachers of dangerous pupils pursuant to Section 49079.

(E) A discrimination and harassment policy consistent with the prohibition against discrimination contained in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 200) of Part 1.

(F) The provisions of any school wide dress code, pursuant to Section 35183, that prohibits pupils from wearing “gang-related apparel,” if the school has adopted that type of a dress code. For those purposes, the comprehensive school safety plan shall define “gang-related apparel.” The definition shall be limited to apparel that, if worn or displayed on a school campus, reasonably could be determined to threaten the health and safety of the school environment. A schoolwide dress code established pursuant to this section and Section 35183 shall be enforced on the school campus and at any school-sponsored activity by the principal of the school or the person designated by the principal. For purposes of this paragraph, “gang-related apparel” shall not be considered a protected form of speech pursuant to Section 48950.

(G) Procedures for safe ingress and egress of pupils, parents, and school employees to and from school.

(H) A safe and orderly environment conducive to learning at the school.

Lockdown

To be used in the event of: Armed Intruder, Hostage Crisis

Teachers will:

- Immediately lock all building doors or classroom doors
- Instruct students to lie on the floor
- Close all blinds and curtains
- Turn off all lights
- Instruct students to remain silent
- Await further instruction from Director, Principal, or Police

Students will:

- Immediately drop to the floor, away from doors or windows
- Remain silent
- Await further instructions from teacher

Director and/ or Principal will:

- Establish communication with appropriate law enforcement agency
- Establish an incident command center
- Notify District officials (Planning/Intelligence)
- Prepare materials for emergency response personnel (Logistics)

Emergency status is clear when:

- Conditions are deemed safe by the Director, Principal or ranking law enforcement official
- Teachers are given the “All Clear” signal