

**Policy 6142.5: Environmental Education**

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 09/01/1990 | Last Revised Date: 06/01/2021 | Last Reviewed Date: 06/01/2021

CSBA NOTE: The following optional policy may be revised to reflect district practice. Pursuant to Public Resources Code 71300-71304, the Office of Education and the Environment within the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) has developed "environmental principles and concepts," which have been adopted by the State Board of Education. For further information, see the web site of the California Education and the Environment Initiative.

The Governing Board recognizes that schools play a crucial role in educating students about the relationship between humans and the natural world and in preparing them to have the skills, knowledge, and principles needed to solve environmental problems. The Board believes that all students should understand ecological systems and the impact of human action on such systems, including, but not limited to, climate change. The district's environmental education program shall promote environmental literacy and shall prepare students to be stewards of natural resources and live an environmentally sustainable lifestyle.

The district's local control and accountability plan may include local goals and priorities for environmental literacy.

CSBA NOTE: Education Code 51210 requires the adopted course of study for grades 1-6 to include instruction on the relations of persons to their human and natural environment, the wise use of natural resources, and science instruction on the place of humans in the ecological systems. In grades 7-12, Education Code 51220 requires study of the relations of persons to their human and natural environment and science instruction that emphasizes the place of humans in ecological systems. See AR 6143 - Courses of Study.

Pursuant to Education Code 51227.3, the environmental principles and concepts must be integrated into the state content standards, curriculum frameworks, and textbook criteria in the subjects of English language arts, science, history-social science, health, and, to the extent practicable, mathematics. To date, the environmental principles and concepts have only been integrated into the science and history-social science curriculum frameworks.

The following optional paragraph reflects the content of the state-adopted environmental principles and concepts. The district's environmental education program may be taught across the district curriculum in science, history-social science, English language arts, health, and, to the extent practicable, mathematics. Such instruction shall be aligned with state-adopted standards and curriculum frameworks and may include, but not be limited to, the interactions and interdependence of human societies and natural systems, people's dependence and influence on natural systems, the ways that natural systems change and how people can benefit and influence that change, the fact that there are no boundaries to prevent matter from flowing between systems, and the fact that decisions affecting resources and natural systems are complex and involve many factors.

CSBA NOTE: Pursuant to Public Resources Code 71300-71304, CalRecycle's Office of Education and the Environment has developed environmental education resources, including a model curriculum and successful strategies, to help districts coordinate best practices for environment-based education and environmental science and technology. Further information can be found on the California Education and the Environment Initiative's web site.

The district's program may also provide for active student participation in onsite resource conservation and management programs and the promotion of service learning partnerships. The Superintendent or designee may collaborate with other local educational agencies and/or community-based organizations to enhance the curriculum and learning experiences provided to students.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that environment-based learning experiences are made available on an equitable basis and that the environmental literacy curriculum reflects the linguistic, ethnic, and socioeconomic diversity of California.

As appropriate, the Superintendent or designee shall provide professional development for teachers in the development and effective implementation of curriculum and activities inside and outside of the classroom that promote environmental literacy.

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

**State References**

Ed. Code 33541	Science requirements
Ed. Code 51210	Areas of study
Ed. Code 51220	Areas of study, grades 7 to 12
Ed. Code 51795-51797	School instructional gardens
Ed. Code 60041	Ecological systems and their protection
Ed. Code 8700-8707	Environmental education
Ed. Code 8720-8723	Conservation education service
Ed. Code 8760-8773	Outdoor science, conservation, and forestry
Pub. Res. Code 71300-71305	Statewide environmental education

**Description****Management Resources References**

Website	AASA The School Superintendents Association - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/MOaF8AO8cslshSlfGc13QQoEQ==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/MOaF8AO8cslshSlfGc13QQoEQ==</a>
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**Description****Cross References**

1400	Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies And The Schools - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/2slshOddASNPrgaSFRbxqwJpQ==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/2slshOddASNPrgaSFRbxqwJpQ==</a>
3260	Fees And Charges - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/LYhT3OZxHslshMDQjHn4dCFxg==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/LYhT3OZxHslshMDQjHn4dCFxg==</a>
3260	Fees And Charges - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/6i7KdVdtfNbCtbiUmj9VvA==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/6i7KdVdtfNbCtbiUmj9VvA==</a>
3510	Green School Operations - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/BVOShEplusl7hViDx1O9kNEplusw==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/BVOShEplusl7hViDx1O9kNEplusw==</a>
3511	Energy And Water Management - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/nFXNxQty2yIQhJTUB1Tyvw==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/nFXNxQty2yIQhJTUB1Tyvw==</a>
3511	Energy And Water Management - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/x03Xm9BJzCj0ruxoHATY8A==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/x03Xm9BJzCj0ruxoHATY8A==</a>
3511.1	Integrated Waste Management - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/QP57LKaslshDUOGdzsQUOM16A==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/QP57LKaslshDUOGdzsQUOM16A==</a>
3511.1	Integrated Waste Management - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/uPIplusWcGVslshn1ooUbcplus4X4Lw==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/uPIplusWcGVslshn1ooUbcplus4X4Lw==</a>
3514	Environmental Safety - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/OFpu5kcU3rlxvos9Yytu2A==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/OFpu5kcU3rlxvos9Yytu2A==</a>
3514	Environmental Safety - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/8B0m9oSLxY988ehCNH9QCA==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/8B0m9oSLxY988ehCNH9QCA==</a>
4131	Staff Development - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/mplusfJtQCJn0ArH43NKz32QQ==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/mplusfJtQCJn0ArH43NKz32QQ==</a>
5030	Student Wellness - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/EzplusOxXTGDB5CLngFawpLeA==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/EzplusOxXTGDB5CLngFawpLeA==</a>
6000	Concepts And Roles - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/RpluslWXjsz5zvnPt07iBrMslshw==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/RpluslWXjsz5zvnPt07iBrMslshw==</a>
6011	Academic Standards - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/QCc9avwo9EpaA8zkP8tgaw==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/QCc9avwo9EpaA8zkP8tgaw==</a>
6141	Curriculum Development And Evaluation - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/IFe1lLa9sLGfQ8gVmjtBA==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/IFe1lLa9sLGfQ8gVmjtBA==</a>
6141	Curriculum Development And Evaluation - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/JocTKZgtA4DUcGmpMQuKmA==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/JocTKZgtA4DUcGmpMQuKmA==</a>

**Description**

- 6142.3 Civic Education -  
<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/tQ5YndNLHBKV5tIAXVslshGyw==>
- 6142.4 Service Learning/Community Service Classes -  
<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/uvqTGcCpDYJr3S5VFBenLQ==>
- 6142.8 Comprehensive Health Education -  
<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/Fxzfr7ncsUmly1Bp3FM3KA==>
- 6142.8 Comprehensive Health Education -  
<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/MI295bVYUYZO2gOy5KViWQ==>
- 6142.93 Science Instruction -  
<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/DXgdeVu8DbpY4gpAKslshqFkQ==>
- 6143 Courses Of Study -  
<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/KadpLGwvjO42StQA9s281w==>
- 6143 Courses Of Study -  
<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/GkRe0t2P2slshnUoqyIERGo3A==>
- 6153 School-Sponsored Trips -  
<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/ULDbdC38OplusDanplusDYW9ZH1Q==>
- 6153 School-Sponsored Trips -  
<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/k3EVxnsLSKyxenVuoNho0g==>