



# SPA

**Contra Costa School of  
Performing Arts**

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**Policy Number: 17.11292022**

**Policy Type: Governing Board Policy**

**Policy Name: Health Examination and Immunizations**

## Health Examinations

### Health Examination Certificates or Waivers

Upon enrollment, the School will verify that the student's file contains a certificate of the health examinations required under Health & Safety Code section 124040, or a waiver from those requirements.

### Health Examinations by the School

The Governing Board recognizes that periodic health examinations of students may lead to the detection and treatment of conditions that impact learning. Health examinations also may help in determining whether special adaptations of the School's program are necessary. The School shall conduct health examinations of students as needed to ensure proper care of the students.

**[Vision Appraisals:** Upon first enrollment in the School if it is the student's first entry in a California school, and in grade 8, the School shall appraise the student's vision. The school need not appraise a student's vision in the year immediately following the student's first enrollment or entry if the student's first enrollment or entry occurs in grade 7. The appraisal shall include tests for visual acuity, including near vision and color vision, although the color vision shall be appraised once and only on male students, the results of which shall be entered in the health records and need not begin until the student is in first grade. Classroom teachers are responsible for continuous and regular observation of the student's eyes, appearance, behavior visual performance, and perception that might indicate vision difficulties. Where a student's school performance begins to give evidence that the existence of the problem might be caused by a visual difficulty, a visual evaluation shall be done in consultation with the school nurse.

A student's vision may be appraised by using an eye chart or any other scientifically validated photoscreening test. Photoscreening tests shall be performed, under an agreement with, or the supervision of, an optometrist or ophthalmologist, by the school

nurse or a trained individual who meets requirements established by the CDE.

The vision evaluation may be waived by the parents/guardians if they present a certificate from a physician and surgeon, a physician assistant, or an optometrist setting out the results of a determination of the child's vision, including visual acuity and color vision. Parents/guardians may also avoid the testing and observation if they file with the School Director a statement in writing that they adhere to the faith or teachings of any well-recognized religious sect, denomination, or organization and in accordance with its creed, tenets or principles depend for healing upon prayer in the practice of their religion.

A parent/guardian may file annually with the School's Director a statement in writing, signed by the parent/guardian, stating that he/she will not consent to a physical examination of his/her child. The student will thereafter be exempt from physical examinations, but if there is good reason to believe that the student is suffering from a recognized contagious or infectious disease, the student will be sent home and not be permitted to return to school until the School Director is satisfied that any contagious or infectious disease does not exist.

**Scoliosis Screening:** Every female student in grade 7 and every male student in grade 8 shall be screened for the condition known as scoliosis. The screening shall be in accordance with standards established by the State Department of Education. The screening shall take place during the regular school day and any staff time devoted to these activities shall be redirected from other ongoing activities not related to the student's health care. If a student is suspected of having scoliosis, the School will notify the parents. The notice will include an explanation of scoliosis, the significance of treating it at an early age, and the public services available, after diagnosis, for treatment.

The Director, or designee, shall ensure that staff employed to examine students are fully qualified to do so and exercise proper care of each student and that examination results are kept confidential. Records related to these examinations shall be available only in accordance with law.

The School Director may make reports to the Governing Board regarding the number of students found to have physical problems and the effort made to correct them from time to time. The reports shall in no way reveal the identity of students.

The School will provide for the testing of hearing of each student enrolled in the school in kindergarten or first grade and again in second, fifth, eighth, tenth or eleventh and first entry into the California public school system. The School may request a waiver for the hearing screening test for tenth and/or eleventh grade pupils once each school year. The waiver request will include the dates of the school year for which the waiver is requested and an alternative testing plan that will ensure that each pupil at risk of hearing loss will

receive testing services.

Pupils at risk of hearing loss are: those exposed to loud noises, including loud music, pupils that have been referred for testing by a parent or teacher, repeat tests for those pupils for whom there was a previously documented problem, pupils who have not had a hearing test for three years; and any student who has enrolled for the first time in the School.

Each student enrolled in a special education program, other than those pupils enrolled for a hearing problem, shall be given a hearing test when enrolled in the program and every third year thereafter. Hearing tests may be given more frequently as needed, based on the individual education program team's evaluation of each individual student.

The School will provide parents/guardians of children who fail the hearing tests with a written notification of the test results and recommend that a medical and audiological evaluation be obtained under certain circumstances identified in regulation.

Dates and results of all screening hearing testing shall be recorded on each pupil's health record. The School will prepare an annual report of the school hearing testing program using Annual Report of Hearing Testing forms, PM 100, provided by the State Department of Health Services.

The School shall endeavor to follow the equipment standards, test environments, and testing procedures identified in Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations, section 2951.

### Immunizations

To protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases, the Governing Board desires to cooperate with state and local health agencies to require immunization of all students against preventable diseases.

**Admission:** Students shall not be unconditionally admitted to the School unless prior to his/her first admission to the School, he/she presents an immunization record which shows at least the month and year of each immunization the student has received, in accordance with law. Students may be conditionally admitted in accordance with the regulations promulgated by the Department of Health Services. If a student conditionally admitted fails to fulfill the conditions of admission, the School will prohibit the student from further attendance until that student has been fully immunized as required by law.

The School shall not unconditionally admit or advance any pupil to the 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade levels unless the pupil has been fully immunized against pertussis (whooping cough), including all pertussis boosters appropriate for the pupil's age.

Immunization records shall be part of the mandatory permanent pupil record and shall be kept in accordance with the School's record-keeping policy.

If the School discovers that an admitted student has not received all required immunizations, the School will notify his/her parent/guardian. If, within 10 school days of the notice, the child does not provide documentation of having received all required immunizations, the School shall exclude the student from attendance.

**Exemptions from Requirements:** Students who, prior to January 1, 2016, submitted a letter or affidavit on file at any public or private elementary or secondary school stating beliefs opposed to immunization, shall be allowed to unconditionally enroll in the School.

Additionally, a student will be exempted from the immunization requirements, to the extent indicated in the written statement, if his/her parent or guardian files with the School a written statement by a licensed physician or surgeon to the effect that the physical condition of the student is such, or medical circumstances relating to the student are such, that immunization is not considered safe. The statement should include the specific nature and probable duration of the medical condition or circumstances, including, but not limited to, family medical history, for which the physician or surgeon does not recommend immunization. However, whenever there is good cause to believe that the person has been exposed to a communicable disease for which immunization is required, that student may be temporarily excluded from the School until the local health officer is satisfied that the person is no longer at risk of developing the disease.

Beginning January 1, 2020, a child who has a medical exemption issued before January 1, 2020 shall be allowed continued enrollment in the School until the child enrolls in the next grade span. On or after July 1, 2021, the School shall not unconditionally admit or readmit a student or admit or advance any pupil to 7<sup>th</sup> grade level, unless the pupil has been immunized in accordance with Health & Safety Code section 120335 or the parent or guardian files a medical exemption form that complies with Health & Safety Code section 120372.

Beginning January 1, 2021, the form that is compliant with Health & Safety Code section 120372 shall be the only documentation of a medical exemption that the School may accept.

If California's Department of Health Services (the "Department") revokes a student's medical exemption, the student has 30 days to commence the immunization schedule required for attendance at the School. During this 30-day period, the student may continue in attendance at the School. Alternatively, the parent/guardian may appeal the revocation through the Department's appeal process. The student will continue in attendance during the pendency of the appeal and will not be required to otherwise comply with immunization requirements unless and until the revocation is upheld on appeal.

The School will file a written report on the immunization status of new entrants to the

School with the Department of Health Services as required by law.