Education Law Updates

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Laws continue to adjust and adapt to the changing landscape of California schools and the needs of staff and students. What is impacting you and your programs? How can you ensure that you are compliant with the law and doing the right thing for your students, staff and community?
In May of 2019, Assembly Bill 272 passed providing local school boards the right to create policies that limit if not outright ban cell phone use.

Why?

What does this mean for teachers?

Text - AB-272 Pupils: use of smartphones.
SB 972: Identification Cards and Suicide Prevention

Signed by Governor Newsom in Fall of 2018, this bill requires in addition to suicide prevention policies that are mandated under the California Suicide Prevention Act of 2000, that the National Suicide Prevention Hotline, 1-800-273-8255, is printed on ID cards IF your school issues said ID cards.

Who checks your work? If you haven’t done this, you need to ASAP.

Text - SB-972 Pupil and student health: identification cards: suicide prevention hotline telephone numbers.
Beginning October 2020, the National Domestic Violence Hotline (1-800-799-7233) or local hotline must be printed on ID cards for students in 7-12 grade charter and public schools.

Why? “...According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC, 23 percent of women in the United States experience intimate partner violence before they turn 18. Young women between 16 and 24 have the highest rate of abuse by a partner, compared to all other age groups. Nearly one in nine teen girls experience physical abuse from a dating partner. For 11 million female victims of rape, the attack occurred before they were 18. This is also true for about 1.5 million male victims...” (Doctor's Notes: Teen Dating Violence is Widespread, but Underreported By ChrisAnna Mink • Mar 7, 2019).
What this means:

- Changes in expulsion recommendations: 48900K
- Existing law and K-3; additional grades 4-5 and 6-8 requirements...

Common misconceptions:

“Discipline is not HAPPENING!”
“Our schools will become a chaotic mess!”
“What happened to ‘punishment!’”

3 things to know about California school suspension ban bill

Ban on ‘willful defiance’ suspensions expanded in California schools
No later than July 2021, requires the state to develop the supports needed for districts to utilize in training staff regarding supports for LGBTQ youth.

“...64 percent of such middle and high school students surveyed by the California Department of Education last year reported being bullied. Nearly half had seriously considered suicide...LGBTQ students are at a much higher risk for depression, drug and alcohol abuse and skipping class, according to a report from the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children’s Health, which relied on data from the state.” (Sacramento Bee, February 13, 2019).

Full text of the bill:
Text - AB-493 Teachers: lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning pupil resources and training.
Other key legal updates from 2018-2019:

AB 1974: Student Fee Collection

AB 2800: Heat Illness

AB 1248: Graduation Regalia

SB 179 and AB 1266: Gender Recognition Act

August 2019 presentation link: Education Law Updates August 2019
How can you, as a Teacher, Activity Director or Administrator stay informed?

- Reach out to your Student Services, Risk Management, HR, and Special Education Departments
- Explore your County office of Education for trainings
- NETWORK with outside agencies!
Questions? Let’s talk!

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