



MINORS ON CAMPUS

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Agenda

1. Background - Admission of Minors, Dual Enrollment
2. Health & Safety Considerations, Including Related Confidentiality
3. Additional Confidentiality Considerations
4. Instructional & Curriculum Issues
5. Discipline and Minors
6. Title IX and Minors
7. Vendors and External Organizations; Policies and Procedures

Background – What Is This?

- With an increasing presence of minors, including high school students, on CCD campuses, the HR Committee identified the need for clear written guidance and best practices.
- SWACC, LCW, and the HR Committee collaborated to ensure the guidance addresses the most common legal issues associated with having minors on campus.
- Not exhaustive! Guidance is intended to help with issue-spotting and to identify appropriate contacts when questions or situations arise.

Background – Admission of Minors and Dual Enrollment

- Minors are ON CAMPUS!
- Students are
 - Taking college courses at their high school campus;
 - Attending college campuses for courses; or
 - Attending high schools on college campuses.

Health & Safety Considerations



Health & Safety – Consent to Medical Care

Elena is a 13-year-old dual enrollment student attending classes on the community college campus. She visits the campus health center and asks to be tested and treated for a sexually transmitted disease. Elena specifically asks the nurse not to inform her parents.

May Elena consent to this care on her own?

YES

Health & Safety – Consent to Medical Care

Later that day, Elena's parent contacts the health center requesting details about Elena's visit and any treatment she received.

May the health center disclose this information to her parent?

NO

Health & Safety – Consent to Medical Care

Noah is a 16-year-old student enrolled through a CCAP program. After evening class, Noah reports to campus security that he was sexually assaulted off campus by another student. He is transported to a local hospital for examination and evidence collection.

Noah consents to the medical exam but does not want his parents notified, stating he is afraid of their reaction.

May Noah consent to this care on his own?

YES

Health & Safety – First Aid

Jasmine is a 14-year-old special part-time student attending a chemistry lab during the school day. She accidentally cuts her hand on broken glass and begins bleeding heavily.

Campus staff attempt to reach Jasmine's parent but cannot make contact. No written objection to medical treatment beyond first aid is on file. Staff provide immediate medical assistance and arrange transport to urgent care.

Later, Jasmine's parent complains that treatment was provided without consent.

Did the District have a right to provide this care without parental consent?

YES

Health & Safety – Confidentiality in Medical Records

Maya is a 16-year-old student attending classes on a community college campus. After an alleged sexual assault by another student, Maya seeks medical care at a campus clinic. She consents to the examination and evidence collection herself.

Maya later files a Title IX complaint with the community college. During the Title IX process, the Maya's parent also contacts the college, asking for copies of the medical records from the clinic to help "support the investigation."

May the District or clinic release the records to the parent without Maya's consent?

NO

Health & Safety – Confidentiality in Medical Records

College enrolls several minors through a dual enrollment program. The college operates as an open campus and does not conduct criminal background checks on students.

A parent of a 14-year-old dual enrollment student contacts the college after hearing rumors that a man with felony convictions may be enrolled in their child's class. The parent asks whether any students or other individuals in the classroom have criminal histories.

Is the District required to obtain this information for the parent?

NO

Health & Safety – Who is a Mandated Reporter?

Luis is a 16-year-old dual enrollment student enrolled in a psychology course taught by Professor Kim. During office hours, Luis tells Professor Kim that a family friend has been sexually abusing him for several months. Luis begs Professor Kim not to tell anyone, saying he is afraid of what will happen if his parents find out.

Professor Kim is unsure what to do and wants to respect Luis's wishes.

Is Professor Kim a mandated reporter?

YES

Health & Safety – Is there a Duty to Report?

Professor Stevens teaches a course that enrolls both adult students and high school dual enrollment students. The District does not routinely notify faculty when minors are enrolled.

During office hours, Jordan, a student in Professor Stevens' class, becomes visibly upset while discussing a paper topic. Jordan tells Professor Stevens that his parent's partner has been hurting Jordan at home, but Jordan is scared to tell his high school teachers. Jordan does not specify dates, details, or injuries.

Does Professor Stevens have a reasonable suspicion of child abuse requiring a report?

MAYBE

Does Professor Stevens have a duty to investigate before reporting?

NO

Confidentiality



Counseling Confidentiality

Sabitha is a 15-year-old dual enrollment student who schedules a counseling appointment at the college after struggling academically and emotionally. During the session, Sabitha tells the counselor that they are experiencing severe anxiety related to family conflict at home and feeling overwhelmed by balancing high school and college coursework.

Sabitha asks the counselor not to share this information with anyone, including their parents. A week later, Sabitha's parent contacts the counseling office and ask what was discussed during the session, stating that they "have a right to know because Sabitha is a minor."

May the counselor disclose the information to the parent?

NO

FERPA – Confidentiality Exceptions

Rina is a 16-year-old student enrolled at the College. Her mom contacts the District and requests a copy of her transcript with last semester's grades.

Can Rina's mom inspect Rina's educational records at the District without Rina's consent?

LIKELY

FERPA – Confidentiality Exceptions

17-year-old student Alex is enrolled in a dual-enrollment program at Redwood Valley Community College. He is found responsible for possessing alcohol in violation of the college's student conduct code. Alex does not consent to the release of disciplinary records. Alex's parent contacts the college and asks whether Alex has been involved in any alcohol- or drug-related misconduct. At the time of the request, Alex is under 18 and under 21.

May Redwood Valley Community College disclose the disciplinary violation to the parent under FERPA?

YES

Instructional & Curriculum Issues



Curriculum Issues – Course Content

A college offers a sociology course focused on sexuality and culture. A 14-year-old student enrolls as a non-CCAP special part-time student. During the first week of class, the instructor facilitates a discussion that includes topics the parent later describes as too mature for a minor.

The parent contacts the District requesting that the instructor limit or censor classroom discussions when minors are present, and questions why the District allowed a student of that age to enroll in the course.

Must the instructor alter course discussions because a minor is enrolled?

NO

Should the District restrict minors from certain courses prospectively?

MAYBE

Curriculum Issues – CCAP Course Content

A community college district enters a CCAP partnership with Valley Unified School District to expand dual enrollment opportunities.

As part of the partnership, the college proposes offering a pretransfer-level English course taught by community college faculty on a Valley Unified campus. The course is intended to support students who are struggling academically and to help prepare them for college-level English after graduation.

A District faculty member raises concerns that the course is inconsistent with normal curriculum standards and should be taught at a college level.

Is the faculty member correct?

NO

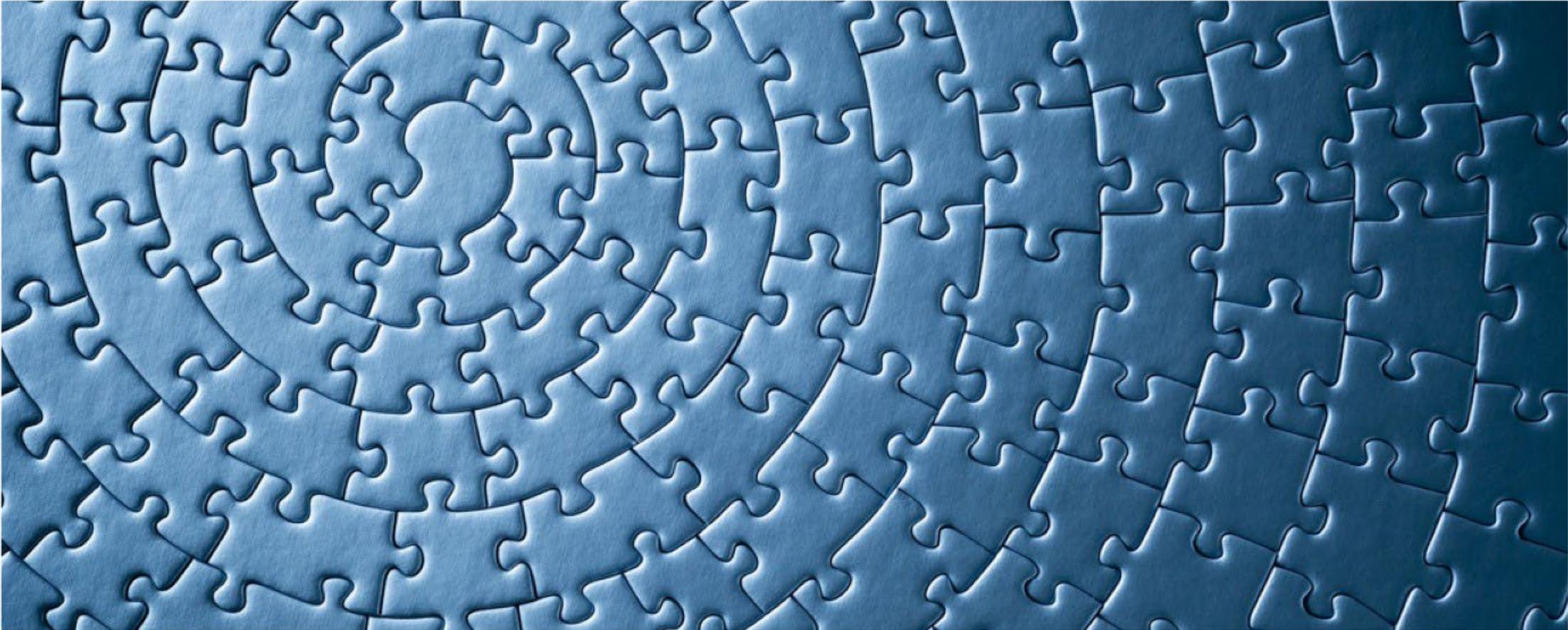
Field Trips/Off-Campus Activities Issues

A community college geology course includes a three-day overnight field trip to an excavation site off-campus. Several students are minors. The District arranged transportation, lodging, and a faculty-led itinerary. During free time in the evening at the lodging site, a 16-year-old student wanders away from the group and is injured after falling on uneven terrain nearby. The student's parents sue the District, alleging the District was negligent because at the time of the injury, no employee was supervising the student.

Is the District liable?

LIKELY NO

Student Discipline



Discipline and Minors

Jane is a 17-year-old student enrolled in a college engineering course. Over several class sessions, Jane shouts profanities at classmates, refuses to follow the instructor's directions, and, during one class, slams a running drill press onto a lab table and tells another student, "You better watch yourself."

The instructor removes Jane from class for the remainder of the day and the next class session. The incident is referred to the college administration. After review, the college president's designee imposes a short-term suspension and refers the matter to the governing board to consider longer-term discipline due to threats, disruption, and potential danger to others.

Before the board meeting, the district provides written notice to Jane and her parents by certified mail that the board intends to consider discipline in closed session. Jane submits a written request that the matter be heard in open session.

Can the District conduct the disciplinary hearing in closed session?

NO

Title IX



Title IX and Minors

Aaliyah is a 16-year-old student enrolled in a CCAP dual enrollment program at a community college. Aaliyah tells her parent that another college student touched her without her consent after class and has been sending her sexually explicit messages. Aaliyah is upset and says she does not want the college involved because she does not want to go through an investigation or hearing.

Aaliyah's parent is worried about her safety and submits a written complaint to the college's Title IX Coordinator asking the college to look into what happened. The college begins its Title IX process and completes an investigation. After the investigation is finished, the college schedules a live hearing, as required by its Title IX procedures.

When Aaliyah's parent learns about the hearing, they object. They argue that the college should not have started the process in the first place because Aaliyah did not want to file a complaint and that, in any event, Aaliyah should not have to participate in a hearing because she is a minor.

Can the Title IX investigation go forward even though Aaliyah does not want to? Is a live hearing required?

YES and YES

Vendors and External Organizations; Policies and Procedures



Vendors and External Organizations

- Civic Center Act allows facility use when district activities are not disrupted
 - Nonprofits may use facilities for free or at direct-cost rates
 - Other organizations may be charged direct costs plus maintenance or fair rental value
 - Organizations may host minors (e.g., camps) on district property
- Written facilities use agreements should define permitted uses, responsibilities, insurance and fees
 - Liability insurance: mandatory minimum \$1M, higher limits recommended
 - Consider requiring sexual abuse/molestation coverage
 - Consider including supervision ratios, background check compliance and other safety requirements

Policies and Procedures

- Policies to address minor-student considerations

Policy Area	BP/AP Numbers	Relevance for Minors
Nondiscrimination & Title IX	BP/AP 3410; BP/AP 3433	Protections and grievance rights to minor students; reporting and notice obligations.
Safety & Emergency Response	BP/AP 3500; BP/AP 3505; AP 3516	Campus safety, emergency planning and sex offender information; may require minor-specific communication practices.
Child Protection	BP/AP 3518	Mandated child abuse reporting obligations.
Admissions & Enrollment	BP 5010; AP 5010; AP 5011	Procedures for admissions, including dual enrollment and special admit requirements.
Student Services & Records	BP/AP 5015; BP/AP 5110; BP/AP 5200	Residency, counseling and student health; parental rights and confidentiality.
Volunteers & External Personnel	AP 7500	Governance of volunteers who may interact with minors; screening and supervision expectations

Orientation Checklist

- Appendix A has a sample orientation checklist
- Benefits to communicate understanding with minor parents BEFORE issues occur on a variety of topics
- Should be customized to your district's policies, procedures, practices

Key Takeaways

- Minors on campus create legal, safety and instructional considerations across multiple areas
- Districts must align policies, procedures and practices with legal obligations
- Clear communication with faculty, staff, parents and partner school districts is essential
 - Orientation, checklists and written agreements help set expectations and reduce risk
- Consistent training supports compliance and safe learning environments

Thank You for Being
Part of Our Story!



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