

**MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION**

The Governing Board recognizes that America has always been a multicultural society composed of diverse peoples who came here, willingly or not, from all parts of the globe. Public schools are the most commonly shared experience for most Americans, and it is the job of the schools to preserve and perpetuate our common pluralistic culture and to accurately portray the contributions and perspectives of all ethnic groups to the total development of California's and the United States' common culture.

Students must learn to respect and work cooperatively with persons of all backgrounds, recognizing that we all have equal claim to the American culture which we have collectively created and which we share. Instruction should help students realize the value of individual differences as well as the human dignity and worth common to all people. Education that emphasizes what we have in common can weld the country together and provide the basis for understanding, trust, and effective communication.

*(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)*

*(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)*

*(cf. 6141.2 - Recognition of Religious Beliefs and customs)*

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

44560 Inservice preparation in ethnic backgrounds

60040 Portrayal of cultural and racial diversity

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

3935 Multicultural education