

AWARDS FOR ACHIEVEMENT

The Santa Cruz County Board of Education (Board) encourages excellence as a goal for all students and wishes to publicly recognize students for exemplary achievement in academic, athletic, extracurricular, or community service activities.

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)
(cf. 5127 - Graduation Ceremonies and Activities)
(cf. 6142.4 - Service Learning/Community Service Classes)

District/School Awards

Student awards may include verbal recognition, a letter, a certificate, a Board resolution, public ceremony, trophy, gift, plaque, or cash gift.

The Superintendent or designee may develop criteria for the selection of student award recipients.

Golden State Seal Merit Diploma

At graduation from high school, special recognition may be awarded to those students whose academic achievements in core curriculum areas have been outstanding.

The Superintendent or designee may identify high school students who have demonstrated mastery of the high school curriculum qualifying them for the Golden State Seal Merit Diploma. (Education Code 51454)

(cf. 6162.51 - State Academic Achievement Tests)

Biliteracy Award

The district may present the State Seal of Biliteracy to each graduating high school student who has attained a high level of proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing in one or more languages in addition to English. (Education Code 51460-51464)

(cf. 6142.2 - World/Foreign Language Instruction)
(cf. 6174 - Education for English Learners)

In order to affirm the value of bilingualism and encourage students' enrollment in world language programs, the Superintendent or designee may present awards at appropriate grade levels to recognize the pursuit and/or attainment of grade-level proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English.

Scholarship and Loan Fund

The Board may establish and maintain a scholarship and loan fund which may be used to provide interest-free loans for educational advancement, scholarship, or grants-in-aid to bona fide organizations, students, or graduates of district schools. (Education Code 35310, 35315)

(cf. 1260 - Educational Foundation)
(cf. 3290 - Gifts, Grants and Bequests)

The district's scholarship and loan fund shall be administered by a district committee composed of Board members, the Superintendent, and such other community, staff, administrative, and/or student representatives as determined by the Board. (Education Code 35310)

The Board shall select its own representatives to the committee. Staff, community, and/or student representatives shall be selected by the Superintendent. Members of this committee shall serve two-year terms.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)
(cf. 9140 - Board Representatives)

The committee may accept gifts, donations, and bequests made for the purposes of the fund and may prescribe conditions or restrictions on these gifts and bequests. If the donor imposes any conditions, the committee shall review the conditions and make a recommendation to the Board as to the compatibility of such conditions with the intent and purpose of the fund. The Board may prohibit the committee from accepting any donation under conditions it finds incompatible with the fund's intents and purposes. (Education Code 35313)

The Superintendent or designee shall report to the Board at least annually regarding the status and activity of the fund. (Education Code 35319)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
220 Nondiscrimination
35160 Authority of governing boards
35310-35319 Scholarship and loan funds
44015 Awards to employees and students
51243-51245 Credit for private school foreign language instruction
51450-51455 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma
51460-51464 State Seal of Biliteracy
52164.1 Assessment of English language skills of English learners
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
876 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma
1632 Credit for private school foreign language instruction
11510-11516 Assessment of English language development

Management Resources:

WEB SITES
CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>
California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>