

VISITORS/OUTSIDERS

The Santa Cruz County Board of Education (Board) believes that it is important for parents/guardians and community members to take an active interest in the issues affecting district schools and students. Therefore, the Board encourages interested parents/guardians and community members to visit the schools and participate in the educational program.

To ensure the safety of students and staff and minimize interruption of the instructional program, the Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures that facilitate visits during regular business days.

Any person who is not a student or staff member shall register immediately upon entering the Santa Cruz County Office of Education (Santa Cruz COE) or other administrative offices

Any person who enters areas outside of the common areas where public business is conducted at non-school facilities, including the Santa Cruz COE or other administrative offices, and who commits any act likely to interfere with the peaceful conduct of business and activities at that facility may be asked to leave that facility by the County Superintendent of Schools or designee. Refusal or failure to leave when asked or return to the facility without following posted requirements may constitute a misdemeanor and subject the individual to a fine and/or imprisonment. (Penal Code 626.7.)

Additionally, refusal to leave areas of non-school facilities, including but not limited to the Santa Cruz COE or other administrative offices that are not open to the general public may constitute a trespass and be referred to law enforcement officials at the discretion of the County Superintendent or designee. (Penal Code 626(o).)

The County Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for determining what areas constitute common areas and areas not open to the general public.

The Board encourages all individuals to assist in maintaining a safe and secure school environment by behaving in an orderly manner while on school grounds and by utilizing the Santa Cruz COE's complaint processes if they have concerns with any program or employee. In accordance with Penal Code 626.7, the Superintendent or designee may request that any individual who is causing a disruption, including exhibiting volatile, hostile, aggressive, or offensive behavior, immediately leave school grounds.

Presence of Sex Offenders on Campus

Any person who is required to register as a sex offender pursuant to Penal Code 290, including a parent/guardian of a district student, shall request written permission from the principal before entering the school campus or grounds. As necessary, the principal shall consult with local law

enforcement authorities before allowing the presence of any such person at school or other school activity. The principal also shall report to the Superintendent or designee anytime he/she gives such written permission.

The principal shall indicate on the written permission the date(s) and times for which permission has been granted. (Penal Code 626.81).