

Sabbaticals

[Suggestion: Insert on AR before "Service on Education Boards and committees"]

Academic Sabbatical Leave

Certificated employees who have at least seven years continuous years of [full time?] employment in the Pacific Elementary School District, and a record of outstanding performance as determined by [the Superintendent's recommendation? Performance evaluations?], may submit a proposal for the Superintendent's [ultimately the Board must approve this unless this is being delegated, in which case the policy should note the delegation. So, we should add "the Board" in addition to "the Superintendent," or change this to "the Board" or note the delegation of this authority to you within this section] consideration for an unpaid, sabbatical leave for one academic year for the purpose of undertaking a significant professional development project. The proposal must be submitted by January 15th of the academic year preceding the proposed start date. The proposal shall include:

- A written request for unpaid leave for a sabbatical, pursuant to this administrative regulation.
- A description of proposed professional development program.
- A reporting schedule for development activities, including a final report to be submitted to the Superintendent prior to resuming teaching duties at the end of the leave.

[DO YOU MIND THAT THERE IS NO ENFORCEMENT MECHANISM FOR WHETHER THE EMPLOYEE CARRIES OUT THEIR PROJECT?]

[DO YOU WANT TO INCLUDE A DEADLINE TO ACCEPT OR REJECT THE PROPOSAL? Such as, "The Superintendent [or the Board – depending on whether this authority is delegated to the Superintendent] at his or her sole discretion may choose to grant or deny the proposal for any lawful reason. This decision shall be made by [DATE]. Failure to notify the employee of the approval of the leave request for sabbatical result in an automatic rejection of the request."]

In addition, the employee must notify the Superintendent by January 15th during the sabbatical term of his or her intent to return to work for the following year by [INSERT NOTIFICATION PROCESS]. Failure to notify may result in dismissal for any grounds permitted by the Education Code, including persistent violation of or refusal to obey the school laws of the state or reasonable regulations prescribed for the government of the public schools by the state board or by the governing board of the school district employing him or her. [ALTERNATIVELY: After the year of sabbatical, the employee will be reinstated to his or her position, unless a supervening employment action has occurred, such as a for-cause dismissal or a layoff, or unless another arrangement is agreed upon by the employee and the Superintendent.]

Pacific SD

Administrative Regulation

Personal Leaves

AR 4161.2
Personnel

Personal leaves granted to district employees shall be used as permitted in this administrative regulation, other Board-approved policy or district regulation.

For the purpose of any personal leave offered pursuant to state law, a registered domestic partner shall have the same rights, protections, and benefits as a spouse and protections provided to a spouse's child shall also apply to a child of a registered domestic partner. (Family Code 297.5)

Whenever possible, employees shall request personal leaves in advance and prepare suitable instructions, including lesson plans as applicable, for a substitute employee.

(cf. 4121 - Temporary/Substitute Personnel)

Bereavement

Employees are entitled to a leave of up to three days, or five days if out-of-state travel is required, upon the death of any member of the employee's immediate family. No deduction shall be made from the employee's salary, nor shall such leave be deducted from any other leave to which the employee is entitled. (Education Code 44985, 45194)

(cf. 4161/4261/4361 - Leaves)

Members of the immediate family include: (Education Code 44985, 45194)

1. The mother, father, grandmother, grandfather, or grandchild of the employee or of the employee's spouse
2. The employee's spouse, son, son-in-law, daughter, daughter-in-law, brother, or sister
3. Any relative living in the employee's immediate household

At the employee's request, bereavement leave may be extended under personal necessity leave provisions as provided in the section "Personal Necessity" below. (Education Code 44981, 45207)

Personal Necessity

Employees may use a maximum of seven days of their accrued personal illness/injury

leave (sick leave) during each school year for reasons of personal necessity. (Education Code 44981, 45207)

(cf. 4161.1/4361.1 - Personal Illness/Injury Leave)

(cf. 4261.1 - Personal Illness/Injury Leave)

Acceptable reasons for the use of personal necessity leave include:

1. Death of a member of the employee's immediate family when the number of days of absence exceeds the limits set by bereavement leave provisions (Education Code 44981, 45207)
2. An accident involving the employee or his/her property or the person or property of a member of the employee's immediate family (Education Code 44981, 45207)
3. Illness, preventive care, or other need of a member of the employee's family, as defined in Labor Code 245.5 (Education Code 44981; Labor Code 246.5)

(cf. 4161.8/4261.8/4361.8 - Family Care and Medical Leave)

4. A classified employee's appearance in any court or before any administrative tribunal as a litigant, party, or witness under subpoena or other order (Education Code 45207)
5. Fire, flood, or other immediate danger to the home of the employee
6. Personal business of a serious nature, which the employee cannot disregard

Leave for personal necessity may be allowed for other reasons at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee. However, personal necessity leave shall not be granted for purposes of personal convenience, for the extension of a holiday or vacation, or for matters, which can be taken care of outside of working hours. The Superintendent or designee shall have final discretion as to whether or not a request reflects personal necessity.

Advance permission shall not be required of an employee in any case involving the death of a member of the employee's immediate family, an accident involving the employee's person or property or the person or property of a member of his/her immediate family, or the illness, preventive care, or other need of a member of the employee's family. (Education Code 44981, 45207)

For any leave that is planned, or where the need for leave is foreseeable, an employee shall notify the Superintendent or designee in advance. In all other circumstances, the employee shall notify the Superintendent or designee of the need for the leave as soon as practicable.

After any absence due to personal necessity, the employee shall verify the absence by

submitting a completed and signed district absence form to his/her immediate supervisor.

Legal Duties

An employee may take time off work in order to: (Labor Code 230)

1. Serve on an inquest jury or trial jury
2. Comply with a subpoena or other court order to appear as a witness

Notices, summons, and subpoenas for court appearances shall be submitted to the district office when requesting leave.

A classified employee called for jury duty shall be granted leave with pay up to the amount of the difference between his/her regular earnings and any amount received for jury fees. (Education Code 44037)

A certificated employee who is called for jury duty also shall be granted leave with pay up to the difference between his/her regular earnings and any jury fees he/she received.

An employee shall be granted leave with pay to appear in court as a witness other than a litigant or to respond to an official order from another governmental jurisdiction for reasons not brought about through the connivance or misconduct of the employee. Such an employee shall receive the difference between his/her regular earnings and any witness fees he/she received.

Leaves for Crime Victims

An employee may be absent from work in order to attend judicial proceedings related to a crime when he/she is a victim, or an immediate family member, registered domestic partner, or child of a registered domestic partner of a victim, of any of the following crimes: (Labor Code 230.2)

1. A violent felony as defined in Penal Code 667.5(c)
2. A serious felony as defined in Penal Code 1192.7(c)
3. A felony provision of law proscribing theft or embezzlement

For these purposes, the employee may use vacation, personal leave, personal illness/injury leave, unpaid leave, or compensatory time off that is otherwise available to the employee. (Labor Code 230.2)

Prior to taking time off, an employee shall give his/her supervisor a copy of the notice of each scheduled proceeding that is provided by the responsible agency, unless advance notice is not feasible. When advance notice is not feasible or an unscheduled absence

occurs, the employee shall, within a reasonable time after the absence, provide documentation evidencing the judicial proceeding from the court or government agency setting the hearing, the district attorney or prosecuting attorney's office, or the victim/witness office that is advocating on behalf of the victim. (Labor Code 230.2)

The district shall keep confidential any records pertaining to the employee's absence from work by reason of this leave. (Labor Code 230.2)

Leaves for Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking

An employee who is a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking as defined by law may use vacation, sick leave, personal leave, or compensatory time off that is otherwise available to him/her under the terms of his/her employment to attend to the following activities: (Labor Code 230, 230.1, 246.5)

1. Obtain or attempt to obtain any relief, including, but not limited to, a temporary restraining order, restraining order, or other injunctive relief to help ensure the health, safety, or welfare of the employee or his/her child
2. Seek medical attention for injuries caused by domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking
3. Obtain services from a domestic violence shelter, program, or rape crisis center as a result of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking
4. Obtain psychological counseling related to an experience of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking
5. Participate in safety planning and take other actions to increase safety from future domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, including temporary or permanent relocation

Prior to taking time off, an employee shall give reasonable notice to his/her supervisor, unless advance notice is not feasible. When an unscheduled absence occurs, the employee shall provide, within a reasonable period of time, certification of the absence in the form of any of the following: (Labor Code 230, 230.1)

1. A police report indicating that the employee was a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking
2. A court order protecting or separating the employee from the perpetrator of an act of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or other evidence from the court or prosecuting attorney that the employee has appeared in court
3. Documentation from a domestic violence or sexual assault counselor as defined in Evidence Code 1037.1 or 1035.2, licensed medical professional or health care provider,

or counselor that the employee was undergoing treatment for physical or mental injuries or abuse resulting in victimization from an act of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking

The district shall maintain the confidentiality of such an employee to the extent authorized by law. (Labor Code 230, 230.1)

Personal Leave for Child-Related Activities

Any employee who is a parent/guardian of one or more children of an age to attend any of grades K-12 or a program offered by a licensed child care provider may use up to 40 hours of personal leave, vacation, or compensatory time off each school year in order to: (Labor Code 230.8)

1. Find, enroll, or reenroll his/her child in a school or with a licensed child care provider or to participate in activities of the school or child care provider, provided the employee gives reasonable advance notice of the absence. Time off for this purpose shall not exceed eight hours in any calendar month.
2. Address a school or child care emergency, provided the employee gives notice. An emergency exists when the child cannot remain in school or with a child care provider due to one of the following circumstances:
 - a. A request by the school or child care provider that the child be picked up
 - b. An attendance policy, excluding planned holidays, that prohibits the child from attending or requires that the child be picked up from the school or child care provider
 - c. Behavioral or discipline problems
 - d. Closure or unexpected unavailability of the school or child care provider, excluding planned holidays
 - e. A natural disaster, including, but not limited to, fire, earthquake, or flood

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)

For purposes of this leave, parent/guardian includes a parent, guardian, stepparent, foster parent, grandparent, or person who stands in loco parentis to a child. (Labor Code 230.8)

In lieu of using vacation, personal leave, or compensatory time off, eligible employees may take unpaid leave for this purpose.

If two or more parent/guardian of a child are employed at the same work site, this leave shall be allowed for the parent/guardian who first gives notice to the district. Simultaneous absence by another parent/guardian of the child may be granted by the

Superintendent or designee. (Labor Code 230.8)

Upon request by the Superintendent or designee, the employee shall provide documentation from the school or licensed child care provider that he/she engaged in permitted child-related activities on a specific date and at a particular time. (Labor Code 230.8)

Service on Education Boards and Committees

Upon request, a certificated employee shall be granted up to 20 school days of paid leave per school year for service performed within the state on any education board, commission, committee, or group authorized by Education Code 44987.3 provided that all of the following conditions are met: (Education Code 44987.3)

1. The service is performed within the state.
2. The board, commission, organization, or group informs the district in writing of the service.
3. The board, commission, organization, or group agrees, prior to the service, to reimburse the district, upon the district's request, for compensation paid to the employee's substitute and for actual related administrative costs.

Religious Leave

The Superintendent or designee may grant an employee up to three days of leave per year for religious purposes, provided that the leave is requested in advance and that it does not cause additional district expenditures, the neglect of assigned duties, or any other unreasonable hardship on the district.

The Superintendent or designee shall deduct the cost of hiring a substitute, when required, from the wages of the employee who takes religious leave.

No employee shall be discriminated against for using this leave or any additional days of unpaid leave granted for religious observances at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee.

Spouse on Leave from Military Deployment

An employee who works an average of 20 hours or more per week and whose spouse is a member of the United States Armed Forces, National Guard, or reserves may take up to 10 days of unpaid leave during a period that his/her spouse is on leave from deployment during a military conflict, as defined in Military and Veterans Code 395.10. (Military and Veterans Code 395.10)

Within two business days of receiving official notice that his/her spouse will be on leave

from deployment, the employee shall provide the Superintendent or designee with notice of his/her intention to take the leave. The employee shall submit written documentation certifying that his/her spouse will be on leave from deployment during the time that the leave is requested. (Military and Veterans Code 395.10)

Leave for Emergency Duty

An employee may take time off to perform emergency duty as a volunteer firefighter, a reserve peace officer, or emergency rescue personnel. (Labor Code 230.3)

Any employee who performs duty as a volunteer firefighter, reserve peace officer, or emergency rescue personnel shall be permitted to take temporary leaves of absence, not to exceed an aggregate total of 14 days per calendar year, for the purpose of engaging in fire, law enforcement, or emergency rescue training. (Labor Code 230.4)

Civil Air Patrol Leave

An employee may take up to 10 days of unpaid leave per calendar year, beyond any leave otherwise available to him/her, to respond to an emergency operational mission of the California Civil Air Patrol, provided that the employee has been employed by the district for at least a 90-day period immediately preceding the leave. Such leaves shall not exceed three days for a single mission, unless an extension is granted by the governmental entity authorizing the mission and is approved by the Superintendent or designee. (Labor Code 1501, 1503)

The employee shall give the district as much advance notice as possible of the intended dates of the leave. The Superintendent or designee may require certification from the proper Civil Air Patrol authority to verify the eligibility of the employee for the leave and may deny the leave if the employee fails to provide the required certification. (Labor Code 1503)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 44036-44037 Leaves of absence for judicial and official appearances
- 44963 Power to grant leaves of absence (certificated)
- 44981 Leave of absence for personal necessity (certificated)
- 44985 Leave of absence due to death in immediate family (certificated)
- 44987 Service as officer of employee organization (certificated)
- 44987.3 Leave of absence to serve on certain boards, commissions, etc.
- 45190 Leaves of absence and vacations (classified)
- 45194 Bereavement leave of absence (classified)
- 45198 Effect of provisions authorizing leaves of absence
- 45207 Personal necessity (classified)
- 45210 Service as officer of employee organization (classified)
- 45240-45320 Merit system, classified employees

EVIDENCE CODE

- 1035.2 Sex assault counselor; definition
- 1037.1 Domestic violence counselor; definition

FAMILY CODE

297-297.5 Registered domestic partner rights, protections, and benefits

GOVERNMENT CODE

3543.1 Release time for representatives of employee organizations

12945.1-12945.2 California Family Rights Act

LABOR CODE

230-230.2 Leave for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, or specified felonies

230.3 Leave for emergency personnel

230.4 Leave for volunteer firefighters

230.8 Leave to visit child's school

233 Illness of child, parent, spouse, domestic partner or domestic partner's child

234 Absence control policy

246.5 Paid sick days, purposes for use

1500-1507 Civil Air Patrol leave

MILITARY AND VETERANS CODE

395.10 Leave when spouse on leave from military deployment

PENAL CODE

667.5 Violent felony, defined

1192.7 Serious felony, defined

CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

Article 1, Section 8 Religious discrimination

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

2601-2654 Family and Medical Leave Act

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

2000d-2000d-7 Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964

COURT DECISIONS

Rankin v. Commission on Professional Competence, (1988) 24 Cal.3d 167

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS BOARD DECISIONS

Berkeley Council of Classified Employees v. Berkeley Unified School District, (2008) PERB Decision No. 1954

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

California Federation of Teachers: <http://www.cft.org>

California School Employees Association: <http://www.csea.com>

California Teachers Association: <http://www.cta.org>

Public Employment Relations Board: <http://www.perb.ca.gov>

Regulation PACIFIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: October 15, 2009 Davenport, California

revised: January 25, 2017 Davenport, California

Cal. Educ. Code § 44966

The governing board of any school district may grant any employee of the district employed in a position requiring certification qualifications, a leave of absence for not to exceed one year for the purpose of permitting study or travel by the employee which will benefit the schools and pupils of the district. The governing board may provide that the leave of absence be taken in separate six-month periods or separate quarters rather than for a continuous one-year period, provided that the leave of absence for both of the separate six-month periods or any or all quarters shall be commenced and completed within a three-year period. Any period of service by the individual intervening between the two separate six-month periods or separate quarters of the leave of absence shall comprise a part of the service required for a subsequent leave of absence.

Cal. Educ. Code § 44967

No leave of absence shall be granted to any employee under Section 44966 who has not rendered service to the district for at least seven consecutive years preceding the granting of the leave, and not more than one such leave of absence shall be granted in each seven-year period. The governing board granting the leave of absence may, subject to the rules and regulations of the State Board of Education, prescribe the standards of service which shall entitle the employee to the leave of absence. No absence from the service of the district under a leave of absence, other than a leave of absence granted pursuant to Section 44966, granted by the governing board of the district shall be deemed a break in the continuity of service required by this section, and the period of such absence shall not be included as service in computing the seven consecutive years of service required by this section. Service under a national recognized fellowship or foundation approved by the State Board of Education, for a period of not more than one year, for research, teaching or lecturing shall not be deemed a break in continuity of service, and the period of such absence shall be included in computing the seven consecutive years of service required by this section.

Cal. Educ. Code § 44968

Every employee granted a leave of absence pursuant to Section 44966 may be required to perform such services during the leave as the governing board of the district and the employee may agree upon in writing, and the employee shall receive such compensation during the period of the leave as the governing board and the employee may agree upon in writing, which compensation shall be not less than the difference between the salary of the employee on leave and the salary of a substitute employee in the position which the employee held prior to the granting of the leave. However, in lieu of such difference, the board may pay one-half of the salary of the employee on leave or any additional amount up to and including the full salary of the employee on leave.

Cal. Educ. Code § 44968.5

An employee granted a leave of absence pursuant to Section 44966 or 44967 may agree in writing with the governing board of the school district not to receive compensation during the period of the leave.

Cal. Educ. Code § 44969

Every employee, as a condition to being granted a leave of absence pursuant to Section 44966, shall agree in writing to render a period of service in the employ of the governing board of the district following his return from the leave of absence which is equal to twice the period of the leave. Compensation granted by the governing board to the employee on leave for less than one year may be paid during the first year of service rendered in the employ of the governing board following the return of the employee from the leave of absence or, in the event that the leave is for a period of one year, such compensation may be paid in two equal annual installments during the first two years of such service following the return of the employee. The compensation shall be paid the employee while on the leave of absence in the same manner as if the employee were teaching in the district, upon the furnishing by the employee of a suitable bond indemnifying the governing board of the district against loss in the event that the employee fails to render the agreed upon period of service in the employ of the governing board following the return of the employee from the leave of absence. The bond shall be exonerated in event the failure of the employee to return and render the agreed upon period of service is caused by the death or physical or mental disability of the employee. If the governing board finds and by resolution declares that the interests of the district will be protected by the written agreement of the employee to return to the service of the district and render the agreed upon period of service therein following his return from the leave, the governing board in its discretion may waive the furnishing of the bond and pay the employee on leave in the same manner as though a bond is furnished.

Cal. Educ. Code § 44970

If the employee does not serve for the entire period of service agreed upon under Section 44969, the amount of compensation paid for the leave of absence shall be reduced by an amount which bears the same proportion to the total compensation as the amount of time which was not served bears to the total amount of time agreed upon. If the employee furnished an indemnity bond, upon default, the proceeds of the bond shall be divided between the employee and the school district in the same proportion as the actual amount of time served bears to the amount of time agreed upon.