

Unauthorized Release Of Confidential Privileged Information

The Governing Board, administration and staff shall maintain the confidentiality of all confidential records until such time as laws, state regulations and/or bylaws of this district permit disclosure. Information and records pertaining to closed sessions, negotiations and student records are not subject to public disclosure under Government Code 6252-6260.

Any employee who willfully releases confidential/privileged information about students, staff, or any topic properly confined to a closed session shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from district service. Confidential information includes any information relating to the Board's employer-employee strategies on matters in negotiation or matters to be placed in negotiation.

Any employee who willingly and for monetary gain uses or discloses confidential/privileged information as defined in Government Code 1098 is guilty of a misdemeanor. (Government Code 1098)

The district shall not take disciplinary action against any employee for disclosing confidential information acquired in a closed session, nor shall the disclosure be considered a violation of the law or Board policy, when the employee is: (Government Code 54963)

1. Making a confidential inquiry or complaint to a district attorney or grand jury concerning a perceived violation of law, including disclosing facts necessary to establish the illegality or potential illegality of a Board action that has been the subject of deliberation during a closed session

(cf. 4119.1/4219.1/4319.1 - Civil and Legal Rights)

2. Expressing an opinion concerning the propriety or legality of Board action in closed session, including disclosure of the nature and extent of the illegal or potentially illegal action

3. Disclosing information that is not confidential

Any action by an employee which inadvertently or carelessly results in release of confidential/privileged information shall be recorded, and the record shall be placed in the employee's personnel file. Depending on the circumstances, the Superintendent or designee may deny the employee further access to any privileged information and shall take any steps necessary to prevent any further unauthorized release of such information.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records; Confidentiality)

(cf. 9321 - Closed Sessions)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35010 Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules

35146 Closed sessions

35160 Authority of governing boards

44031 Personnel file contents and inspection

44932 Grounds for dismissal of permanent employees

44933 Other grounds for dismissal

45113 Rules and regulations for classified service

49060-49079 Pupil records

GOVERNMENT CODE

1098 Public officials and employees: confidential information

6250-6270 Inspection of public records

54950-54963 Brown Act

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232g Family Education Rights and Privacy Act

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

Policy FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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