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**AWARDS FOR ACHIEVEMENT**

The Governing Board encourages excellence as a goal for all students and wishes to publicly recognize students for exemplary achievement in academic, artistic, extracurricular, athletic, and community service activities.

No fee or other cost shall be charged to any student in relation to any requirements in qualifying for or receiving any district achievement awards.

**District/School Awards**

Student awards may include verbal recognition, a letter, a certificate, a Board resolution, public ceremony, trophy, gift, plaque, or monetary gift. The Board shall establish a budget for this purpose. (Education Code 44015)

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

**Golden State Seal Merit Diploma**

At graduation from high school, students whose academic achievements in core curriculum areas have been outstanding shall receive special recognition.

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

**State Seal of Biliteracy**

The district shall 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, as specified in the accompanying administrative regulation. (Education Code 51460-51464).

**District Awards for Biliteracy**

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. The Superintendent or designee may also present awards to English learners who are reclassified as fluent English proficient to recognize proficiency in both English and the student's native language.

## **State Seal of Civic Engagement**

The Superintendent or designee shall present the State Seal of Civic Engagement to each 11th or 12th grade student who demonstrates excellence in civics education and participation and has demonstrated an understanding of the U.S. Constitution, the California Constitution, and the democratic system of government. (Education Code 51470-51475)

All district students shall be afforded the opportunity to earn the State Seal of Civic Engagement, regardless of their background, communities, or experiences. No student shall be denied such opportunity based on academic ability, alternative school setting, or unique or unconventional expression of civic engagement.