



Information Alert for Parents of Special Education Students

CHANGES TO CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL EXIT EXAM (CAHSEE) REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Big News...

As of September 1, 2009 the California State legislature ruled that students with IEPs will no longer be required to pass the CAHSEE in order to obtain a high school diploma. Students will still need to meet all requirements for high school credits established by the district (including passing Algebra 1).

What Does This Mean For My Child?

June 2008 and June 2009 “leavers” (not yet 22 years old)

If your child exited school in 08 or 09, (has not yet turned 22) met all credit requirements, but did NOT pass one or more portions of CAHSEE, he or she may now be able to get a diploma. S/he will need to re-enroll in a public school program (vocational class, CAHSEE prep class, ROP or Adult Education, for example). The IEP will be revitalized and must indicate that he or she is “diploma bound.” Once the semester’s coursework is completed, an additional IEP meeting will be held as an “exit IEP.” A credit check will be done, and your child may be now eligible for a diploma!

Future School Leavers (June 2010 and beyond)

The legislature notes that this exemption stays in place until the State Board approves an alternate means of assessment. Since no one knows for sure when this may happen, it is important that all students continue to attempt to pass the CAHSEE each time it is administered. But at this time, the CAHSEE will not be required for 2010 school leavers.

What If My Child Passes The CAHSEE With Modifications?

The law continues to allow students with IEPs who take the CAHSEE using modifications, and achieve a passing score, to be eligible for a diploma. This is a local option, and the diploma may be granted by the school board.

For more information on this issue, go to the SELPA website at www.venturacountyselpa.com click on Information for Families/Information Alerts for Parents.