**COURT COMMUNITY SCHOOL AND ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS – Cal SAFE
(California School-Age Family Education)**

Married, pregnant and parenting students in Mendocino County Office of Education (MCOE) programs shall have the same educational opportunities as all students. The County Board of Education is committed to providing a comprehensive, continuous, community-linked program for expectant and parenting students and their children that reflects the cultural and linguistic diversity of the community.

For school-related purposes, married students under the age of 18 are emancipated minors and have all the rights and privileges of a student who is 18, even if the marriage has been dissolved.

The County Board of Education recognizes the right of parenting students to be allowed access to their children while their children are in the agency's care.

The County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools believe that pregnancy and parenting should not be a barrier to education or a reason for dropping out of school. Rather than ending the teenager's need for education, pregnancy and parenting increase the need to cope with adult responsibilities and to prepare for an economically self-sufficient future.

The County Board of Education encourages districts to provide similar programs for such students, and will offer assistance to school districts in their efforts to establish Cal-SAFE for school-age families.

Legal Reference:
        EDUCATION CODE
        54740-54749.5 California School-Age Families Education Program (Cal-SAFE)
        2551.3 Determination of state aid for pregnant minors program
        48410(c) Persons exempted from continuation classes
        49558 Confidentiality of applications and records
        49559 Reimbursement rates; qualification of pregnant or lactating students for programs
        CODE OF REGULATIONS:
        TITLE 5
        TITLE 22
        11820 et seq. Pregnant minors program
        CIVIL CODE
        62 Description of emancipated minor
        63 Considered over age of majority for certain purposes

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