

Certification of Part-time Coaches

Certification of part-time coaches in Mendocino County schools is important to the safety of our students and required by Education Code 5593. Based on a Grand Jury survey and responses received, the schools are in compliance.

Method of Investigation

The Grand Jury mailed requests to superintendents of the nine Mendocino County school districts that have high school athletic programs. The Grand Jury received and read copies of every certification record of each part-time coach employed for the academic year 2000-20001 and checked the information against the rosters received.

Background Information

Part-time coach certification requires that anyone so-employed will be qualified to instruct students. Furthermore, the certification also attests that the coaches have been tested to be free of tuberculosis and have no criminal record. The obvious benefits of this certification are beyond question.

Finally, Education Code 5593 requires certification. It is the law.

Findings

- 1. Schools have different formats for recording and reporting certification.**
- 2. Two previous Grand Juries have recommended a Countywide standardized form.**
- 3. The recommendation for a standardized form has not been implemented.**

Recommendation

**Every school district should adopt a Countywide standardized certification form.
(Findings 1 – 3)**

Comment

The Grand Jury is pleased to report that certification is the best this year than at any time during the three years of inquiry. The Grand Jury commends people who have worked to improve the procedure year after year.

Response Required

None