

Students - Activities

Conduct

The Board of Education believes that all students have the right to be educated in a safe and positive learning environment free from disruptions. Students shall be expected to exhibit appropriate conduct that does not infringe upon the rights of others or interfere with the school program while on school grounds, in a Distance Learning platform or virtual classroom setting (i.e., Google Classroom, Google Hangouts, Google Meets, Zoom, etc.), going to or coming from school, at school activities, or using District transportation.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that each school site develops standards of conduct and discipline consistent with District policies and administrative regulations. Students and parents/guardians shall be notified of District and school rules related to conduct.

Prohibited student conduct includes but is not limited to:

1. Conduct that endangers students, staff, or others, including, but not limited to, physical violence, possession of a firearm or other weapon, and terrorist threats.
2. Discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students or staff, including sexual harassment, hate-motivated behavior, cyberbullying, hazing or initiation activity, extortion, or any other verbal, written, or physical conduct that causes or threatens to cause violence, bodily harm, or substantial disruption to the school program.
3. Conduct that disrupts the orderly classroom or school environment – physical or virtual.
4. Willful defiance of staff's authority.
5. Damage to or theft of property belonging to the District, staff, or students.
6. Obscene acts or use of profane, vulgar, or abusive language.
7. Possession, use, or being under the influence of tobacco, alcohol, or other prohibited drugs.
8. Possession or use of a laser pointer, unless for a valid instructional or other school-related purpose with prior permission of the principal or designee. (Penal Code 417.27)
9. Use of a cell phone, smart watch, pager, or other mobile communication device during instructional time or in an unauthorized manner in violation of District policy.
10. Plagiarism or dishonesty on school work or tests.

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11. Wearing of any attire that violates District or school dress codes, including gang-related apparel.
12. Tardiness or unexcused absence from school.
13. Failure to remain on school premises in accordance with school rules.

Employees are expected to enforce standards of conduct and, when they observe or receive a report of a violation of these standards, to appropriately intervene or seek assistance. As necessary, the employee shall refer the matter to a supervisor or the principal or designee.

When a school official suspects that a search of a student or student's belongings will turn up evidence of the student's violation of the law or school rules, such a search shall be conducted in accordance with BP/AR 5145.12 - Search and Seizure.

When a student uses any prohibited device, or uses a permitted device in an unauthorized manner, a District employee may confiscate the device. The employee shall store the device securely until it is returned to the student or turned over to the principal or designee, as appropriate.

Students who violate District or school rules and regulations may be subject to discipline including, but not limited to, suspension, expulsion, transfer to alternative programs, referral to a student success team or counseling services, or denial of participation in extracurricular or co-curricular activities or other privileges in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation. The Superintendent or designee shall notify local law enforcement as appropriate.

Students also may be subject to discipline, in accordance with law, Board policy, or administrative regulation, for any off-campus conduct during non-school hours which poses a threat or danger to the safety of students, staff, or District property, or substantially disrupts school activities.

Any violation involving possession or usage of tobacco or nicotine products shall result in: confiscation of tobacco products; notification of caregivers; the offer of information to the student about available tobacco education and/or cessation programs that are free or low-cost (e.g., through Medicaid or community partners), including nationally recognized *tobacco cessation programs*; facilitation of the enrollment of the student in an evidence-based tobacco cessation program if the student expresses an interest in quitting; and additional intervention as follows:

At the first violation involving possession or usage of tobacco products the following will occur:

- A *collaborative conversation* shall take place between the student and a designated staff member) to discuss:

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- What factors led to the violation, including information on student's tobacco product usage, possible triggers for use and knowledge of physical, social and emotional harm caused by tobacco.
- The policy's purpose, which is to protect students from the impacts of long-term commercial tobacco product use.
- A verbal agreement on next steps between student and designated staff member.
- The student will be enrolled in an evidence-based tobacco education program as an alternative to suspension.
- The District shall designate a staff member to monitor the progress of the student found in violation of the policy.

Legal Reference: Education Code, Sections 200-262.4; 32280-32289; 35181; 35291-35291.5; 44807; 48900-48925; 51512
Civil Code, Section 1714.1
Code of Regulations, Title 5, Sections 300-307
Penal Code, Sections 288.2; 313; 417.25-417.27; 647; 653.2
Vehicle Code, Sections 23123-23124
Code of Regulations, Title 5, Sections 300-307
United States Code, Title 42, Section 20 USC 1681-1688 Title IX, 1972
Court Decisions:
J.C. v. Beverly Hills Unified School District (2010) 711 F.Supp.2d 1094
LaVine v. Blaine School District (2001, 9th Cir.) 257 F.3d 981
Emmett v. Kent School District No. 415 (2000) 92 F.Supp. 1088
Bethel School District No. 403 v. Fraser (1986) 478 U.S. 675
New Jersey v. T.L.O. (1985) 469 U.S. 325
Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District (1969) 393 U.S. 503

Policy Adopted: 11/04/1956

Policy Amended: 06/16/1959; 06/05/1985; 05/21/1996; 01/14/2003; 03/04/2003; 11/16/2010; 11/20/2012; 09/15/2015; 12/17/2019; 11/02/2020; 11/16/2021