

Students

Conduct

The Board of Trustees believes that all students have the right to be educated in a positive learning environment free from disruptions. On school grounds and at school activities, students shall be expected to exhibit appropriate conduct that does not infringe upon the rights of others or interfere with the school program.

Behavior is considered appropriate when students are diligent in study, careful with school property, courteous, and respectful towards their teachers, other staff, students and volunteers.

The Board of Trustees expects all students within the schools, as well as personnel serving the District, to comply with state and federal laws, local school Board Policies, and Administrative Rules and Regulations which establish the codes of conduct for students, including the responsibilities and duties of students, employees, and parents/guardians to maintain good order and discipline within the District.

(cf. 5131.1 - Bus Conduct)

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

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 and shall receive regular instruction regarding these rules. In addition, parents/guardians and students may be provided information about early warning signs of harassing/intimidating behaviors as well as prevention and intervention strategies.

This policy applies to all acts related to school activity of school attendance occurring within a school under the jurisdiction of the Superintendent of the District, and applies to all of the District's students.

(Education Code Section 234.1)

Prohibited student conduct includes but is not limited to:

1. Behavior that endangers staff and/or students

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 5131.7 - Weapons and Dangerous Instruments)

(cf. 5136 - Gangs) (cf. 5142 - Safety)

Students

Conduct (continued)

2. Behavior that disrupts the orderly classroom or school environment

(cf. 5131.4 - Campus Disturbances)

3. Harassment of students or staff, including bullying, intimidation, hazing, or any other verbal, written or physical conduct that causes or threatens to cause bodily harm or emotional suffering

“Bullying” means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, and including one or more acts committed by a student or group of students as defined in Education Code Section 48900.2, 48900.3, or 48900.4, directed toward one or more students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

- a) Placing a reasonable student or students in fear of harm to that student’s or those students’ person or property.
- b) Causing a reasonable student to experience a substantially detrimental effect on his or her physical or mental health.
- c) Causing a reasonable student to experience substantial interference with his or her academic performance.
- d) Causing a reasonable student to experience substantial interference with his or her ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)

(Education Code Section 48900(r))

(Education Code Section 234.1)

4. Damage to or theft of property belonging to the district, staff or students

(cf. 3515.4 - Recovery for Property Loss or Damage)

(cf. 5131.5 - Vandalism, Theft and Graffiti)

Students

Conduct (continued)

5. Possession or use of laser pointers, unless used for a valid instructional or other school-related purpose, including employment (Penal Code 417.27)

Prior to bringing a laser pointer on school premises, students shall first obtain permission from the principal or designee. The principal or designee shall determine whether the requested use of the laser pointer is for a valid instructional or other school-related purpose

6. Profane, vulgar or abusive language

(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)

7. Plagiarism or dishonesty in school work or on tests

(cf. 5131.9 - Academic Honesty)

(cf. 6162.54 - Test Integrity/Test Preparation)

(cf. 6162.6 - Use of Copyrighted Materials)

(cf. 6163.4 - Student Use of Technology)

8. Inappropriate dress

(cf. 5132 - Dress and Grooming)

9. Tardiness and unexcused absence from school

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

(cf. 5113.1 - Truancy)

10. Failure to remain on school premises in accordance with school rules

(cf. 5112.5 - Open/Closed Campus)

Possession of Cellular Phones and Other Electronic Signaling Devices

Except for prior consent for health reasons, possessions or use of electronic signaling devices, including but not limited to pagers, beepers and cellular/digital telephones are prohibited at the K-6 schools. These devices are allowed at the intermediate school but must be in the "off" position within the intermediate school gates.

Students

Conduct (continued)

No student shall be prohibited from possessing or using an electronic signaling device that is determined by a licensed physician or surgeon to be essential for the student's health and the use of which is limited to health-related purposes. (Education Code 48901.5)

Enforcement of Standards

Employees are expected to provide appropriate supervision to enforce standards of conduct and, if they observe or become aware of a violation of these standards, to immediately intervene or call for assistance. If an employee believes a matter has not been resolved, he/she shall refer the matter to his/her supervisor or administrator for further investigation.

Students who violate district or school rules and regulations may be subject to discipline, including but not limited to suspension, expulsion or transfer to alternative programs in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation. In addition, when the conduct involves intimidation, harassment, or other endangerment of a student or employee, the Superintendent or designee shall provide appropriate assistance as necessary for the victim and the offender or make appropriate referrals for such assistance.

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)

(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)

(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)

(cf. 5138 - Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

(cf. 6182 - Opportunity School/Class/Program)

(cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)

(cf. 6185 - Community Day School)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35181 Governing board policy on responsibilities of students

35291-35291.5 Rules

44807 Duty concerning conduct of students

Students

Conduct (continued)

48900-48925 Suspension or expulsion

48908 Duties of students

CIVIL CODE

1714.1 Liability of parents and guardians for willful misconduct of minor

PENAL CODE

417.25-417.27 Laser scope

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

300-307 Duties of pupils

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

2000h-2000h6 Title IX, 1972 Education Act Amendments

Policy Adopted: November 5, 2007

Policy Revised: June 18, 2012