

## **5131 Conduct**

The Governing Board believes that all students have the right to be educated in a 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, going to or coming from school, at school activities, or using district transportation.

Behavior is considered appropriate when students are diligent in study, careful with school property, courteous, respectful toward their teachers, other staff, students, volunteers, and members of the public on school trips/activities.

### **Students**

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that each school develops standards of conduct and discipline consistent with Board 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.
4. Willful defiance of staff's authority.
5. Damage to or theft of property belonging to students, staff, or the district.

The district shall not be responsible for students' personal belongings that are brought on campus or to a school activity and are lost, stolen, or damaged.

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 substances.
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 in an unauthorized manner in violation of district policy.
10. Plagiarism or dishonesty on school work or tests.
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.

## **5131 Conduct (continued)**

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 employee 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.

### **Possession/Use of Cellular Phones and Other Mobile Communications Devices**

The Board does not encourage student possession or use of electronic signaling devices on the school campus, nor does it assume liability of such devices that are damaged, lost or stolen. The use of electronic signaling devices, such as cell phones, smart watches or other mobile communication devices, including cellular camera phones, by students is prohibited on school premises, at all school sponsored activities, on buses, and at any time while students are under the supervision and control of district employees.

An exception to this policy is the use of electronic signaling devices essential for the student's health as determined by a licensed physician or surgeon, and the use of such device under those circumstances is limited to those purposes related to the student's health as determined by such licensed physician or surgeon. For a student to be authorized to carry an electronic signaling device for this purpose, the parent/guardian must submit a Request to Use Electronic Signaling Device for Medical Purposes form signed by a licensed physician or surgeon, indicating the type of device that is essential to the student's health and stating when and under what circumstances the student should use the device while on school premises, at school sponsored activities, or at any time while under the supervision or control of district employees. The device must remain in silent mode during instructional time and during school activities. Use of the device during instructional time is prohibited except as specifically directed in writing by the physician. The district reserves the right to confirm medical need with the physician. Such devices must not disrupt the educational program or school activity and may not be used for any activities not related to the student's health.

### **Cameras and Photography**

The use of cameras, camera phones, and other devices that can take photographs or video recordings are prohibited on school premises except with the written permission of a teacher or administrator for use in connection with an instructional or school-sponsored activity. Items used in violation of this policy will be confiscated and may be subject to search by an administrator, including, but not limited to, viewing pictures stored on the device or attached to text messages or email sent to or from the device.

## **5131 Conduct (continued)**

Taking photographs on school grounds or during school activities is prohibited except with the written permission of a teacher or administrator. Photographs taken without the knowledge and consent of each person being photographed are prohibited.

Photography and video or audio recording in classrooms is prohibited without the prior consent of the teacher and the principal of the school, which may be given to promote an educational purpose. (Education Code 51512)

**Board Approved:**

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