

## **5145.9 Hate - Motivated Behavior**

The Governing Board is committed to providing a safe learning environment that protects students from discrimination, harassment, intimidation, bullying, and other behavior motivated by a person's hostility towards another person's real or perceived ethnicity, national origin, immigrant status, sex, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief, age, disability, or any other physical or cultural characteristic. The Superintendent or designee shall design strategies to promote harmonious relationships among students, prevent incidents of hate-motivated behavior to the extent possible, and address such incidents if they occur.

Any student who feels that he/she is a victim of hate-motivated behavior shall immediately contact the principal or designee. If the student believes that the situation has not been remedied by the principal or designee, he/she may file a complaint in accordance with district complaint procedures.

Any staff member who is notified that hate-motivated behavior has occurred, observes such behavior, or otherwise becomes aware of an incident shall immediately contact the compliance officer responsible for coordinating the district's response to complaints and complying with state and federal civil rights laws. As appropriate, the staff member shall also contact law enforcement.

Any complaint of hate-motivated behavior shall be investigated and, if determined to be discriminatory, shall be resolved in accordance with law and the district's uniform complaint procedures specified in AR 1312.3-Uniform Complaint Procedures or other applicable procedure. If, during the investigation, it is determined that a complaint is about nondiscriminatory behavior, the principal or designee shall inform the complainant and shall take all necessary actions to resolve the complaint.

In addition, the district may provide counseling and appropriate sensitivity training and diversity education for students exhibiting hate-motivated behavior. The district shall also provide counseling, guidance and support, as necessary, to those students who are the victims of hate-motivated behavior.

The district shall provide age-appropriate instruction to help promote understanding of and respect for human rights.

Employees who engage in hate-motivated behavior shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal. Rules prohibiting hate-motivated behavior and procedures for reporting a hate-motivated incident shall be provided to students, staff, and parents/guardians.

This policy shall be posted in a prominent location on the district's website in a manner that is readily and easily accessible to parents/guardians and students. (Education Code 234.6)

**Board Approved:**

April 21, 2022

June 20, 2018

Effective Date: October 7, 2004