

STUDENT 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.

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.
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 which 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 drugs.
8. Possession or use of a laser pointer, unless for a valid instructional or other school-related purpose.

Prior to bringing a laser pointer on school premises for a valid instructional or school-related purpose, a student shall obtain permission from the principal or designee.

9. Use of a cellular/digital telephone, page, or other mobile communications device during instructional time.

Such devices shall be turned off in class, except when being used for a valid instructional or other school-related purpose as determined by the teacher or other district employee, and at any other time directed by a district employee. Any device with camera, video, or voice recording function shall not be used in any manner which infringes on the privacy rights of any other person.

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 purposes related to the student's health.

10. Plagiarism or dishonesty in school work or tests.
11. Inappropriate attire.
12. Tardiness or unexcused absence from school.
13. Failure to remain on school premises in accordance with school rules.

Employees are expected to provide appropriate supervision to enforce standards of conduct and, if they observe or receive a report 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.

When a school official suspects that a search of a student or his/her 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 any unethical or illegal activity, a district employee may confiscate the device. The employee shall store the item in a secure manner until an appropriate time.

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 extra-curricular 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, and 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.

Bullying/Cyberbullying

The Board desires to prevent bullying, including cyberbullying, by establishing a positive, collaborative school climate and clear rules for student conduct.

Cyberbullying includes the transmission of harassing communications, direct threats, social cruelty, or other harmful text, sounds, or images on the Internet, social media, or other digital technologies. Cyberbullying also includes breaking into another person's account and assuming that person's identity in order to damage that person's reputation or friendships.

The district may provide students instruction in the classroom or other school settings that promotes communication, social skills, and assertiveness skills and may involve parents/guardians, staff, and community members in the development of strategies to prevent and respond to bullying.

School staff shall receive related professional development, including information about early warning signs of harassing/intimidating behaviors and effective prevention and intervention strategies. Parents/guardians and students also may be provided with similar information.

Students may submit a verbal or written complaint of conduct they consider to be bullying to a teacher or administrator and may also request that their name be kept in confidence. The Superintendent or designee may establish other processes whereby students may submit anonymous reports of bullying. Complaints of bullying or harassment shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with site-level grievance procedures.

When a student is suspected of or reported to be using electronic or digital communications to engage in cyberbullying against other students or staff or to threaten district property, the investigation shall include documentation of the activity, identification of the source, and a determination of the impact or potential impact on school activity or school attendance. Students shall be encouraged to save and print any messages sent to them that they feel constitutes cyberbullying and to notify a teacher, principal, or other employee so that the matter may be investigated.

Cyberbullying conducted using district-owned equipment or on school premises, as well as off-campus cyberbullying that impacts school activity or school attendance, may be subject to discipline in accordance with district policies and regulations. If the student is using a social networking site or service that has terms of use that prohibit posting harmful material, the Superintendent or designee also may file a complaint with the Internet site or service to have the material removed.

Parent Liability Obligations for Damages Due to Willful Pupil Misconduct

California Education Code 48904 (a) (1) provides that the parent or guardian of a minor is liable for all damages caused by the willful misconduct of the minor that results in the injury or death of any pupil, school district employee or school volunteer. The parent is also liable for damages to real or personal property belonging to the school district, or personal property belonging to a school employee, resulting from the willful misconduct of a minor. The liability limit shall not exceed the current adjusted liability limit pursuant to Government Code Section 53069.5.

Violations and Disciplinary Actions

Students displaying unacceptable behavior at any time, including but not limited to:

1. While on school grounds
2. While going to or coming from school
3. During the lunch period
4. During, or while going to or coming from a school sponsored activity, will be accorded appropriate corrective action
5. Activities in non-school hours which poses a threat or danger to the safety of students, staff, or district property or disrupts the orderly delivery of the education program.
 - a. The violations for which pupils will receive appropriate disciplinary action are:
 - i. Violations against persons;

- ii. Violations against property;
 - iii. Violations against public decency and good morals;
 - iv. Violations against public health and safety;
 - v. Violations against traffic regulations; and
 - vi. Violations against school administrative procedures.
- b. The State of California clearly spells out the grounds for suspension and expulsion. Education Code 48900 lists specific types of behaviors as serious offenses warranting severe consequences.
- c. The corrective action for violations may take many forms. These corrective action options serve to bring about consistency of discipline in the district. The corrective action will depend upon the severity of the behavior and/or pupil's history.

Violations and Corrective Actions

The corrective action for violation may include some or all of the following:

1. Conference with the student, explaining the district's behavior policy and warning of possible consequences of repeated offenses
2. Contacting parents so that concerted action can be taken to mutually correct the unacceptable behavior of the student
3. Counseling
4. Assigning student detention
5. Restitution
6. Temporary confiscation of objects
7. Withholding grades, diploma or transcripts for students who owe money to the district because they willfully destroyed district property
8. Lowering a student's citizenship grade
9. Assigning special tasks which may be completed at a specific time, such as campus beautification
10. Suspension in or out of school

11. Notification to Monrovia Police Department, which could include citations that may require student and parent appearance in court, and financial and/or community service responsibility
12. Involuntary transfer to another school in the district
13. Expulsion
14. Combinations of actions

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