

## **Secret Societies/Gang Activity**

It is the policy of the district that membership in secret fraternities or sororities, or in other clubs not sponsored by established agencies or organizations, or gangs is prohibited.

Gangs which initiate, advocate or promote activities which threaten the safety or well-being of persons or property on district grounds, at school activities or which disrupt the school environment are harmful to the educational process. The use of hand signals, graffiti or the presence of any apparel, jewelry, accessory or manner of grooming which by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark, symbol or any other attribute which indicates or implies membership or affiliation with such a group, presents a clear and present danger to the school environment and educational objectives of the community and are forbidden.

Incidents involving initiations, hazing, harassment, menacing, bullying, intimidation and/or related activities of such group affiliation which are likely to cause bodily danger, physical harm or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to students are prohibited.

Any student wearing, carrying or displaying gang paraphernalia or exhibiting behavior or gestures which symbolize gang membership, or causing and/or participating in activities which intimidate or affect the attendance of another student will be subject to disciplinary action including suspension and expulsion.

The superintendent may provide in-service training in gang behavior and characteristics to facilitate staff identification of students at-risk and promote membership in authorized school groups and activities as an alternative.

### **Gang Prevention and Intervention Program**

The district will develop a plan to include:

1. An assessment of the nature and extent of gang involvement, violent activities and drug abuse by students in the district;
2. An assessment of the impact of the gang involvement, violent activities and drug abuse on attendance and educational achievement by students of the district;
3. A summary of the extent and type of needs to reduce gang involvement, violent activities and drug abuse by the students which shall minimally include:
  - a. Strategies to reduce gang activities, violent activities and drug abuse;
  - b. Methods to communicate conflict resolution skills for staff and students;

- c. Strategies to keep staff, students, parents and the public informed about the district's comprehensive gang prevention and intervention policy and related activities.

END OF POLICY

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**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 336.109](#)

[ORS 339.240](#) to -339.280

[ORS 339.885](#)

[ORS 659.850](#)

[OAR 581-021-0050](#) to -0075

Olesen v. Board of Educ. of Sch. Dist., 676 F. Supp. 820 (N.D. Ill. 1987).

Neuhaus v. Federico, 12 Or. App. 314 (1973).

Burkitt v. Sch. Dist. No. 1, 195 Or. 471 (1952).

Tinker v. Des Moines Community Sch. District, 393 U.S. 503 (1969).