

Gang-Related Behaviors and Activities

The Board believes that the presence of gangs or gang-related behaviors creates the potential for substantial disruption at school or school-sponsored events and is harmful to the educational process. For the purpose of this policy, “gang” is defined as a group of two or more that identifies itself through the use of a name, unique appearance or language (including hand signs), or the claiming of geographical territory, and includes the espousing of a distinctive belief system that frequently results in a disruption of the educational process up to and including criminal activity. Therefore, it is the policy of this district that such behavior in the school environment is prohibited.

Any student found behaving in a manner that represents gang influence, affiliation, behavior, or activity will be subject to disciplinary action within the guidelines of district policy up to and including suspension or expulsion. Nothing contained in this policy shall modify any other board policy, administrative rule, or school building rule that addresses student conduct, whether or not related to gang-related activity.

School administrators and staff shall educate students and parents regarding gang-related behaviors and activities and encourage students to report such observations to an administrator or other staff member. The district shall protect the confidentiality of students making such reports to the extent allowed by law.

A staff member who observes suspected or actual gang-related behaviors or activities shall report such observations to an administrator.

Administrators shall document all gang-related behaviors. If a student exhibits a pattern of behavior based on the district Gang-Related Behaviors and Activities guidelines, administrators will conference with the student and the parent(s) to address the behaviors and plan strategies to eliminate the issues of concern.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 336.109](#)

[ORS 339.240 - 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).

Cross Reference(s):

KGB - Public Conduct on District Property