

Secret Societies/Gang Activity

Membership in gangs, secret fraternities or sororities, or in other clubs not sponsored by established agencies or organizations, is prohibited in the public charter school.

Gangs which initiate, advocate or promote activities which threaten the safety or well being of persons or property on public charter school grounds or which disrupt the public charter 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 are forbidden.

Incidents involving initiations, hazing, harassment, menacing, bullying, intimidation and/or related activities of such group affiliations 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.

END OF POLICY

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).