

Secret Societies/Gang Activity

The Board has determined that the presence of gangs, secret societies and their activities can cause a substantial disruption of or material interferences with school and school activities. No secret society of any kind, including a fraternity or sorority, will be permitted in any public school. The Board may order the suspension or expulsion of any student who belongs to a secret society or gang.

“Gang” means a group that identifies itself through the use of a name, unique appearance or language, including hand signs, the claiming of geographical territory or the espousing of a distinctive belief system that frequently results in criminal activity. By this policy, the Board acts to prohibit existence of gangs and gang activities.

No student on or about district property or at any district activity:

1. Shall wear, possess, use, distribute, display or sell any clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign or other things which are evidence of membership or affiliation in any gang;
2. Shall commit any act or omission, or use any speech, either verbal or nonverbal (gestures, handshakes, etc.) showing membership or affiliation in a gang;
3. Shall use any speech or commit any act or omission in furtherance of the interests of any gang or gang activity, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Soliciting others for membership in any gangs;
 - b. Requesting any person to pay protection or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person;
 - c. Committing any other illegal act or other violation of school district policies;
 - d. Inciting other students to act with physical violence upon any other person.

After consulting with parents, teachers, students, local community and state agencies, the district will develop a comprehensive program that addresses gang involvement and related violent activities. The comprehensive program will be coordinated with the district’s drug and alcohol health education plan.

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 drug 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

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 Education of School District No. 228, 676 F. Supp. 820 (N.D. Ill. 1987).

Neuhaus v. Federico, 12 Or App 314, 319, 505 P.2d 939 (1973).

Burkitt, et al v. School District No. 1, 195 Or. 471, 246 P.2d 566 (1952).

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