

Students

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, while going to or coming from school, while at school activities, and while on District transportation.

Conduct is considered appropriate when students are diligent in study, careful with school property, courteous, and respectful toward their teachers, other staff, students and volunteers.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that each school site develops standards of conduct and discipline consistent with District 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 staff, students or others.
2. Conduct that disrupts the orderly classroom or school environment.
3. Harassment or bullying of students or staff, including, but not limited to, cyberbullying, intimidation, hazing, or initiation activity, ridicule, extortion, or any other verbal, written or physical conduct that causes or threatens to cause violence, bodily harm, or emotional suffering. (BP 5144.3)

Cyberbullying includes the transmission of communications, posting of harassing messages, direct threats, social cruelty, or other harmful texts, sounds, or images on the Internet, social networking sites, or other digital technologies using a telephone, computer, or any wireless communication device. Cyberbullying also includes assuming another person's identity, through an electronic or written means, in order to damage that person's reputation or friendships.

4. Damage to or theft of property belonging to the District, staff, students or parents.
5. Possession or use of laser pointers. If the student needs to use a laser pointer for a presentation, it will be provided by the school. (Penal Code 417.27)
6. Profane, vulgar or abusive language.

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7. Plagiarism or dishonesty in school work or on tests.
8. Inappropriate dress. (BP 5132)
9. Tardiness and unexcused absence from school.
10. Failure to remain on school premises in accordance with school rules.
11. Possession, use, or being under the influence of tobacco, alcohol, or other prohibited drugs.
12. Behavior as listed in the Suspension/Expulsion Policy 5144.1.

Employees are expected to provide appropriate supervision to enforce standards of conduct and to refer matters requiring further investigation to their supervisor or administrator.

Students who violate District or school rules and regulations may be subject to discipline including, but not limited to, suspension, voluntary or involuntary transfer to alternative programs, denial of the privilege of participation in extracurricular activities or expulsion in accordance with board policy and administrative regulation. The Superintendent or designee shall notify local law enforcement as appropriate.

Possession/Use of Cellular Phones and Other Mobile Communications Devices

Students also may be subject to discipline for any off-campus conduct during nonschool hours which poses a threat or danger to the safety of students, staff, or District property, substantially disrupts the educational program of the District or any other district in accordance with law, Board policy, or administrative regulation including, but not limited to, cyberbullying involving the use of District-owned property.

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 health-related purposes.

Students may possess personal electronic signaling devices including, but not limited to, pagers, and cellular/digital telephones, as well as other mobile communications devices including, but not limited to, digital media players, personal digital assistants (PDAs), compact disc players, portable game consoles, cameras, digital scanners, and laptop computers on school campus, provided that such devices do not disrupt the educational program or school activity, or violate school policy and are not used for illegal or unethical activities including, but not limited to, cheating on assignments or tests. These

CONDUCT (continued)Possession/Use of Cellular Phones and Other Mobile Communications Devices  
(continued)

devices must be turned off while on campus and at any other time when the student is under the direction of school staff and kept inside a purse, pocket or backpack during school hours except in designated areas. The school and District will not be responsible for loss, theft, damage or unauthorized or illegal usage.

If a disruption occurs, or a student uses any mobile communications device for illegal activities, the school employee shall direct the student to turn off the device and/or he/she may confiscate it. If the school employee finds it necessary to confiscate the device, he/she shall turn it in to the office as soon as possible.

In accordance with the Board's policy and administrative regulation on search and seizure, an administrator or designee may search a student's mobile communications device, if there is reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover evidence that the student is violating the law, Board policy, administrative regulation, or other rules of the District or school, including, but not limited to, reviewing messages or viewing pictures.

Bullying/Cyberbullying

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

The District may provide students with instruction, in the classroom or other educational settings, that promotes communication, social skills, and assertiveness skills and educates students about appropriate online behavior and strategies to prevent and respond to bullying and cyberbullying. This instruction may involve parents/guardians, staff, and community members.

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 staff member or administrator and may also request that their name be kept in confidence. The Superintendent or designee may establish other processes for students to submit anonymous reports of bullying.

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 specific facts or circumstances that explain the impact or potential impact on school activity, school attendance, or the targeted student's educational performance.

CONDUCT (continued)Bullying/Cyberbullying (continued)

Any student who engages in cyberbullying on school premises, or off-campus in a manner that causes or is likely to cause a substantial disruption of a school activity, school attendance, or the targeted student's educational performance, shall be subject to discipline in accordance with District policies and regulations and any current legislation. If the student is using a social networking site or service that has terms of use that prohibit posting of harmful material, the Superintendent or designee also may file a complaint with the Internet site or service to have the material removed.

Legal Reference: Education Code  
 200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination  
 32261 Bullying  
 35181 Governing board policy on responsibilities of students  
 35291-35291.5 Rules  
 44807 Duty concerning conduct of students  
 48900-48925 Suspension or expulsion  
 48908 Duties of students  
 51512 Prohibition use of electronic listening or recording device in classroom without permission  
Civil Code  
 1714.1 Liability of parents and guardians for willful misconduct of minor  
Penal Code  
 417.25-417.27 Laser scope  
 647 Use of camera or other instrument to invade person's privacy; misdemeanor  
 647.7 Use of camera or other instrument to invade person's privacy; punishment  
 653.2 Electronic communication devices, threats to safety  
Vehicle Code  
 23124 Use of cellular phones provisional license holders  
Code of Regulations, Title 5  
 300-307 Duties of pupils  
United States Code, Title 42  
 2000h-2000h6 Title IX, 1972 Education Act Amendments  
United States Code, Title 47  
 254 Universal service discounts (e-rate)  
Court Decisions  
 Emmett v. Kent School District No. 415, (2000) 92 F.Supp. 1088  
 Bethel School District No. 403 v. Fraser, (1986) 478 U.S. 675  
 Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District, (1969) 393 U.S. 503  
Management Resources:  
CSBA Publications

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Legal Reference: (continued)

Cyberbullying: Policy Considerations for Boards, Policy Brief,  
July 2007

California Department of Education Publications

Bullying at School, 2003

National School Boards Association Publications

Digital Discipline: Off-Campus Student Conduct, the First  
Amendment and Web Sites, School Law in Review, 2001

National School Safety Center Publications

Set Straight on Bullies, 1989

U.S. Department of Education Publications

Preventing Bullying: A Manual for Schools and Communities,  
1998

Web Sites:

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Coalition for Children's Internet Safety:

<http://www.cybersafety.ca.gov>

California Department of Education, Safe Schools Office:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss>

Center for Safe and Responsible Internet Use:

<http://csriu.org> and <http://cyberbully.org>

National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.org>

National School Safety Center: <http://www.schoolsafety.us>

NetSmartz: <http://www.netsmartz.org>

U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov>