

**CONDUCT**

The Board of Trustees believes that all students have the right to be educated in a positive learning environment free from disruptions. To maintain such an environment, students, parents/guardians, staff and the Board all must understand and fulfill their responsibilities related to student conduct.

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Board believes that it is important for students to understand that they have a choice to make regarding their actions and that appropriate conduct benefits both themselves and others. Students are encouraged to freely express their individuality as long as this expression does not infringe upon the rights of others or interfere with the instructional program. Behavior is considered appropriate when students are diligent in study, neat and clean, careful with school property, respectful towards their teachers, and courteous to other students, staff and volunteers. Students are expected to be punctual and regular in attendance and to remain on school premises in accordance with school rules. They are further expected to refrain from profane, vulgar or abusive language.

Students shall receive regular instruction in district and school rules and regulations related to conduct. Students who violate these rules and regulations may be subject to discipline, suspension, exclusion, expulsion or transfer to alternative programs.

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

**PARENT/GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITIES**

Parents/guardians are expected to comply with laws governing the conduct and education of their student's and to cooperate with school authorities regarding their student's behavior.

California law holds parents/guardians liable for any willful student misconduct which results in the death or injury of any student or persons employed by or volunteering for the district. Parents/guardians are also liable for any defacement, injury or loss of property belonging to the district or to a school employee.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that parents/guardians are annually informed of their liability for death, personal injury or district property damage resulting from willful student misconduct.

Parents/guardians shall also be informed that the district will not be responsible for damage caused by any student to any item of personal property which another student brings to school.

**DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Board is responsible for prescribing behavioral and disciplinary guidelines for students. The Board shall give certificated staff all reasonable support with respect to student conduct and discipline.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures necessary to enforce the Board's conduct and discipline policies and shall notify parents/guardians of the availability of these policies and procedures at the beginning of each school year.

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.

The school principal shall establish and enforce school rules that conform with district procedures and that foster safety and good citizenship. He/she shall ensure that students are informed of these rules when they enroll and at the beginning of each school year.

Teachers shall establish and enforce classroom rules that facilitate safety and effective learning. They shall cooperate with other certificated staff in enforcing general school rules and helping students to understand the benefits of choosing behaviors that show respect for other people and property.

Prohibited student conduct includes, but is not limited to:

1. Conduct that endangers students, staff, or others
2. Conduct that disrupts the orderly classroom or school environment
3. Discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying based on actual or perceived characteristics of disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes.
4. Harassment or bullying of students or staff, including, but not limited to, cyberbullying, intimidation, hazing or initiation activity, extortion, or any other verbal, written, or physical conduct that causes or threatens to cause violence, bodily harm, or substantial disruption, in accordance with the section entitled "Bullying/Cyberbullying" below:

Cyberbullying includes the transmission of communications, posting of harassing messages, direct threats, 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 breaking into another person's electronic account and assuming that person's identity in order to damage that person's reputation.
5. Damage to or theft of property belonging to students, staff, or the district
6. Possession or use of a laser pointer, unless used for a valid instructional or other school-related purpose, including employment (Penal Code 417.27)
7. Use of profane, vulgar, or abusive language
8. Plagiarism or dishonesty on school work or tests
9. Inappropriate attire
10. Tardiness or unexcused absence from school
11. Failure to remain on school premises in accordance with school rules

**12. Possession, use, or being under the influence of tobacco, alcohol, or other prohibited drugs**

Students may possess or use on school campus 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, provided that such devices do not disrupt the educational program or school activity and are not used for illegal or unethical activities such as cheating on assignments or tests.

If a disruption occurs or a student uses any mobile communications device for improper activities, a school employee shall direct the student to turn off the device and/or shall confiscate it. If the school employee finds it necessary to confiscate the device, he/she shall return it at the end of the class period or school day.

In accordance with BP/AR 5145.12 - Search and Seizure, a school official may search a student's mobile communications device, including, but not limited to, reviewing messages or viewing pictures.

Students shall not use mobile communications devices, even in hands-free mode, while driving on school grounds or to and from a school-related activity.

A student who violates this policy may be prohibited from possessing a mobile communications device at school or school-related events and/or may be subject to further discipline in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation.

**BULLYING/CYBERBULLYING**

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

Discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying based on actual or perceived characteristics of disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes is prohibited.

This policy applies to all acts related to school activity or school attendance occurring within a school under the jurisdiction of the superintendent of the school district.

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.

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, students, and community members also may be provided with similar information.

If school personnel witness an act of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying, he or she shall take immediate steps to intervene when safe to do so.

Students may submit a verbal or written complaint of conduct they consider to be bullying to a teacher or administrator. Complaints of bullying shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with site-level grievance procedures specified in AR 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment.

Should the complainant disagree with the resolution of the complaint of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying made pursuant to the procedures specified in AR 5145.7 – Sexual Harassment, the complainant may appeal the decision, in writing, to the Assistant Superintendent/Human Resources, or in writing to the Superintendent if the Assistant Superintendent/Human Resources has already evaluated and resolved the complaint to his or her satisfaction.

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.

Students shall be encouraged to save and print any messages sent to them that they feel constitute cyberbullying and to notify a teacher, the principal, or other employee so that the matter may be investigated.

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 or school attendance, shall be subject to discipline in accordance with district policies and regulations. 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**

### **CALIFORNIA EDUCATION CODE**

35181	Governing board policy on responsibilities of students
35291	Rules
200-262.4	Prohibition of discrimination
32261	Bullying
35291-35291.5	Rules
44807	Duty concerning conduct of students
48900-48925	Suspension or expulsion
48908	Duties of pupils
48980-48981	Notification of parent or guardian
51512	Prohibition against electronic listening or recording device in classroom without permission

### **PENAL CODE**

288.2	Harmful matter with intent to seduce
313	Harmful matter
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
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**CIVIL CODE**

1714.1	Liability of parents and guardians for willful misconduct of minor
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**CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5**

300-307	Duties of pupils
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**UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42**

2000h-2 et seq. Title IX, 1972 Education Act Amendments