

**CONFLICT RESOLUTION POLICY**

The Tracy Unified School District believes that all students have a right to a safe and healthy school environment. Part of a healthy environment is the freedom to openly disagree. With this freedom comes the responsibility to discuss and resolve disagreements with respect for the rights and opinions of others.

To prevent conflict, each school within the Tracy Unified School District will incorporate conflict resolution education and problem solving techniques into the curriculum and campus programs. This is an important step in promoting respect and acceptance, developing new ways of communicating, understanding, and accepting differing values and cultures within the school community and helps ensure a safe and healthy learning environment.

The Tracy Unified School District will provide training to develop the knowledge, attitudes, and skills that students will need to choose alternatives to self-destructive, violent behavior and dissolve interpersonal and intergroup conflict. Tracy Unified School District will adopt a Student Code of Conduct to be followed by every student while on school grounds, when traveling to and from school or a school-sponsored activity, and during lunch period, whether on or off campus.

The Student Code of Conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

Students are to resolve their disputes without resorting to violence.

Students, especially those trained in conflict resolution and peer mediation, are encouraged to help fellow students resolve problems peaceably.

Students can rely on staff trained in conflict resolution and peer mediation strategies to intervene in any dispute likely to result in violence.

Students needing help in resolving a disagreement or students observing conflict may contact an adult or peer mediators (listing will be posted in the school office and all English classes).

Students involved in a dispute will be referred to a conflict resolution or peer mediation session with trained adult or peer mediators. Staff and mediators will keep the discussions confidential.

Conflict resolution procedures shall not supersede the authority of staff to act to prevent violence, ensure campus safety, maintain order, and discipline students.