

Community RelationsCivility

The Governing Board recognizes the impact that civility has on the effective operation of the district, including its role in creating a safe and positive school climate and enabling a focus on student well-being, learning, and achievement. The Board believes that each person should be treated with dignity and respect in their interactions within the school community.

The First Amendment provides robust protection of speech and expression, as set forth in Federal and California state court precedent. Consistent with that precedent, the Board expects that speech and expression will comport with norms of peaceful, non-violent, and civil behavior on district grounds, in district facilities, during district activities or events, and in the use of district electronic/digital systems and platforms. Civil behavior is that which comports with the rule of law, rules, and policies of the board, and is reasonable, appropriate, courteous, and respectful of others.

The Board and district staff shall model civil behavior as an example of behavior that is expected throughout the district. Practices that promote civil behavior include actively listening, giving full attention to the speaker, and refraining from interruptions; welcoming and encouraging participation, input, and feedback through stakeholder engagement; promptly responding to concerns; and allowing varying and diverse viewpoints. Such practices may be incorporated into governance standards adopted by the Board or Superintendent and/or professional standards or codes of conduct for employees as specified in district policies and regulations.

Students, staff, parents/guardians, and community members should be educated in the recognition, development, and demonstration of civil behavior. The Superintendent or designee may incorporate related concepts in the curriculum, provide staff development activities, and/or communicate this policy to the school community.

Students, staff, parents/guardians, and community members shall not communicate or behave in a manner that causes disruption; hinders the orderly conduct of district operations, the educational program, or any other district program or activity; or creates an unsafe learning or working environment. The Superintendent or designee may respond to disruptive, violent, or threatening behavior in accordance with law and as specified in BP/AR 3515.2 - Disruptions.

Behavior by students or staff that is discriminatory, harassing, or intimidating, including sexual harassment, bullying, and/or hate violence or behavior that is in any other way unlawful, is prohibited and is subject to discipline in accordance with law and as specified in district policy and regulations.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

Ed. Code 200-264	Educational equity
Ed. Code 32210	Willful disturbance of public school or meeting
Ed. Code 32211	Threatened disruption or interference with classes
Ed. Code 32212	Classroom interruptions
Ed. Code 32280-32289.5	School safety plans
Ed. Code 35181	Governing board authority to set policy on responsibilities of students
Ed. Code 35291-35291.5	Rules
Ed. Code 44050	Employee code of conduct; interaction with students
Ed. Code 44807	Teachers' duty concerning conduct of students
Ed. Code 44810	Willful interference with classroom conduct
Ed. Code 44811	Disruption of classwork or extracurricular activities
Ed. Code 48900-48926	Suspension and expulsion
Ed. Code 48907	Exercise of free expression; time, place and manner rules and regulations
Ed. Code 48950	Speech and other communication
Ed. Code 49330-49335	Injurious objects

GOVERNMENT CODE

Gov. Code 54954.3	Opportunity for public to address legislative body
Gov. Code 54957.9	Disorderly conduct of general public during meeting; clearing of room

PENAL CODE

Pen. Code 243.5	Assault or battery on school property
Pen. Code 415.5	Disturbance of peace of school
Pen. Code 422.55	Definition of hate crime
Pen. Code 422.6	Crimes, harassment
Pen. Code 626-626.11	School crimes
Pen. Code 627-627.10	Access to school premises
Pen. Code 653.2	Electronic communication devices, threats to safety
Pen. Code 653b	Loitering about schools or public places

CIVIL CODE

Civ. Code 51.7	Freedom from violence or intimidation
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CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

CA Constitution Article 1, Section 2	Freedom of speech and expression
CA Constitution Article 1, Section 28(c)	Right to Safe Schools

<u>U.S. CONSTITUTION</u>	Amendment 1, Freedom of speech and expression
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