

**Policy 1313 Civility**

**Status: ADOPTED**

**Original Adopted Date:** 02/2014

**Last Revised Date:** 05/15/2024 (Pending Approval)

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 Board understands that the First Amendment provides strong protection for speech. However, the Board expects that all speech and expression will comport with norms of 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 polite, courteous, and reasonable behavior which is respectful to others and includes integrity, honesty, acceptance, timeliness, dependability, observance of laws and rules, and effective communication.

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 embracing 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.

02/14  
04/10/19

**Policy Reference Disclaimer:**

These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

**State**

CA Constitution Article 1, Section 2  
CA Constitution Article 1, Section 28  
Civ. Code 51.7  
Ed. Code 200-262.4  
Ed. Code 32210  
Ed. Code 32211  
Ed. Code 32212  
Ed. Code 32280-32289.5  
Ed. Code 35181

**Description**

[Freedom of speech and expression](#)  
[Right to Safe Schools](#)  
[Freedom from violence or intimidation](#)  
[Educational equity](#)  
[Willful disturbance of public school or meeting](#)  
[Threatened disruption or interference with classes](#)  
[Classroom interruptions](#)  
[School safety plans](#)  
[Governing board authority to set policy on responsibilities of students](#)  
[School discipline rules](#)  
[Employee code of conduct; interaction with students](#)  
[Teachers' duty concerning conduct of students](#)  
[Willful interference with classroom conduct](#)  
[Disruption of classwork or extracurricular activities](#)  
[Suspension and expulsion](#)  
[Exercise of free expression; time, place and manner rules and regulations](#)  
[Speech and other communication](#)  
[Injurious objects](#)  
[Opportunity for public to address legislative body](#)  
[Disorderly conduct of general public during meeting; clearing of room](#)  
[Assault or battery on school property](#)  
[Disturbance of peace of school](#)  
[Definition of hate crime](#)  
[Crimes; harassment](#)  
[Weapons on school grounds and other school crimes](#)  
[Access to school premises](#)  
[Electronic communication devices; threats to safety](#)  
[Loitering about schools or public places](#)

Ed. Code 35291-35291.5  
Ed. Code 44050  
Ed. Code 44807  
Ed. Code 44810  
Ed. Code 44811  
Ed. Code 48900-48926  
Ed. Code 48907  
  
Ed. Code 48950  
Ed. Code 49330-49335  
Gov. Code 54954.3  
Gov. Code 54957.9

Pen. Code 243.5  
Pen. Code 415.5  
Pen. Code 422.55  
Pen. Code 422.6  
Pen. Code 626-626.11  
Pen. Code 627-627.10  
Pen. Code 653.2  
Pen. Code 653b