Liberty Union High School District

Administrative Regulation

Classification:	Students	Policy No.	**AR 5136**
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		Effective	4/1/96
Subject:	Gangs	Revised	

In accordance with Governing Board policy, individual schools that have a gang presence may, in their safety plans, include school wide dress codes which prohibit the presence of gang-related apparel at school or school activities. School wide dress codes shall define "gang-related apparel" and shall limit this definition to apparel that reasonably could be determined to threaten the health and safety of the school environment if it were worn or displayed on a school campus.

Because gang-related symbols are constantly changing, definitions of gang-related apparel shall be reviewed at least once each semester and updated whenever related information is received.

Staff will use the following techniques and procedures to discourage the influence of gangs:

1. Upon a first offense, when a student causes, attempts to cause or threatens to cause physical injury to another student as a part of any group or gang activity, the following shall result:

    a. Parent/guardian contact
    b. A five (5) day suspension and possible recommendation for expulsion.

2. Upon second offense, when a student causes, attempts to cause or threatens to cause physical injury to another student as a part of any group or gang activity, the following shall result:

    a. Parent/guardian contact
    b. A five (5) day suspension
    c. Recommendation for an expulsion for a minimum period of the balance of the semester in which the violation occurred plus on additional semester.
    d. Refer to BP and AR 5114.1 Suspension and Expulsion.
    e. A recommendation for an extension of the suspension to the expulsion hearing date.

3. Upon a first offense, when a student causes, attempts to cause, or threatens to cause physical injury to classified or certificated staff member as part of any group or gang activity, the following shall result:

    a. Parent/guardian contact.
    b. A five (5) day suspension
    c. Recommendation for an expulsion for a minimum period of the balance of the semester in which the violation occurred plus on additional semester.
    d. Refer to BP and Ar 5114.1 Suspension and Expulsion.
    e. Contact with law enforcement agency.

4. Upon a first offense, when a student wards or carries any apparel, jewelry, accessory, notebook, or makes gestures that symbolize gang membership, the following shall result:

    a. Referral to the principal or designee
    b. Student sent home to change clothes or provided with alternative clothing.
    c. Confiscation of gang related jewelry, accessory, notebook, etc.
    d. Parent/guardian contact.

5. A second offense will result in the following:

   a. Parent/guardian conference.
   b. One to five day suspension.

6. A third offense will result in the following:

   a. Parent/guardian contact
   b. A minimum five day suspension
   c. Contact with law enforcement agency.

7. A fourth and subsequent offenses will result in the following:

   a. Parent/guardian contact.
   b. A minimum five day suspension and recommendation for expulsion.
   c. Contact with law enforcement agency.

8. Any gang graffiti on school premises shall be removed, washed down or painted over as soon as discovered.

   a. Daily checks for graffiti shall be made throughout the campus, including restroom walls and doors.

   b. Graffiti shall be photographed before it is removed. These photographs will be shared with local law enforcement authorities and used in future disciplinary or criminal action against the offenders.

9. Classroom and after-school programs at each school shall be designed to enhance individual self-esteem, provide positive reinforcement for acceptable behavior, and foster interest in a variety of positive activities.

10. Staff shall actively promote membership in authorized student organizations which can provide students companionship, safety, and a sense of purpose and belonging.

11. Each school within the District shall develop an action plan that includes, but is not limited to the following.

    a. Inservice for all staff on signs and symptoms of gang activity.
    b. Techniques and procedures to discourage the influence of gangs.
    c. campus safety and supervision.
    d. Gang prevention education
    e. Outreach program for students identified as gang-orientated students as well as actual members of existing gangs.
    f. parent support program.

Gang Prevention Education

1. Explain the dangers of gang membership

2. Include lessons or role-playing workshops in nonviolent conflict resolution and gang avoidance skills.

3. Promote constructive activities available in the community.

4. Involve students in structured, goal-oriented community service projects.

5. Encourage positive school behavior.

Gang prevention lessons may be taught jointly by teachers and law enforcement staff.

Community Outreach

Gang prevention classes or counseling offered for parent/guardians shall address the following topics:

1. The dangers of local gang apparel and graffiti

3. Ways to deal effectively with one's children

4. Warning signs which may indicate that children are at risk of becoming involved with gangs.

5. Resources available for them for further assistance.

Community programs offered for staff, parents/guardians, churches, officials, business leaders and the media shall address:

1. The scope and nature of local gang problems

2. Ways that each segment of the community can help to alleviate these problems.

Intervention Measures

Staff shall make every effort to assimilate gang-oriented students into the academic, extra-curricular and social mainstream and into work experience programs. To this end:

1. Staff members shall be provided with updated information regarding gang/group activities which advocate drug use, violence, or disruptive behavior.

2. Classroom teachers shall refer individual gang-oriented students for individual and/or group counseling.

3. Students who seek help in rejecting gang associations may be referred to community-based gang suppression and prevention organizations.