

Students

Positive School Climate

The Board of Education desires to enhance student learning by providing an orderly, caring, and nurturing educational and welcoming social environment in which all students can feel safe and take pride in their school and their achievements. The school environment should be characterized by positive interpersonal relationships among students and between students and staff. The Board of Education values the rich assets and diversity of our students, families, staff and the greater community.

In accordance with Board Policy 0450 Comprehensive Safety Plan, The Board of Education recognizes that students and staff have the right to a safe and secure campus where they are free from physical and psychological harm. The Board is fully committed to maximizing school safety and to creating a positive learning environment that includes strategies for violence prevention and high expectations for student conduct, responsible behavior, and respect for others.

All staff are expected to serve as role models for students by demonstrating positive, professional attitudes and respect toward each student and other staff members. Teachers shall use effective classroom management techniques based on clear expectations for student behavior.

Staff shall consistently enforce Board policies and regulations which establish rules for appropriate student conduct, including prohibitions against bullying, cyberbullying, harassment of students, hazing, other violence or threats of violence against students and staff, and drug, alcohol, and tobacco use.

In accordance with Board Policy 5145.3 Nondiscrimination/Harassment, the Board of Education desires to provide a welcoming, safe, and supportive school environment that allows all students equal access and opportunities in the District's academic, extracurricular, and other educational support programs, services, and activities. The Board prohibits, at any District school or school activity, unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying of any student, targeted at any student by anyone, based on the student's actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, ethnicity, disability status, medical condition, religion, age, marital or parental status, pregnancy, sex, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender, (including gender identity, gender expression, gender transition, transgender status, and nonconformity with sex stereotypes); the perception of one or more of such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

The District's curriculum shall include age-appropriate character education which includes, but is not limited to, the principles of equality, human dignity, mutual respect, fairness, honesty, and citizenship. Teachers are encouraged to employ cooperative learning strategies that foster positive interactions in the classroom among students from diverse backgrounds.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop other strategies to enhance students' feelings of connectedness with the schools, such as campus beautification projects, graffiti removal, development of extracurricular activities and after-school programs, pairing of adult mentors with

individual students, recognition of student achievement, and encouragement of strong family and community involvement in the schools.

Students shall have opportunities to voice their concerns about school policies and practices and to share responsibility for solving problems that affect their school. The schools shall promote nonviolent conflict resolution techniques in order to encourage attitudes and behaviors that foster harmonious relations. As part of this effort, students shall be taught the skills necessary to reduce violence, including communication skills, anger management, bias reduction, and mediation skills.

In accordance with Board Policy 5145.13 Response to Immigration Enforcement and Government Code 8310.3, Resources and data collected by the district shall not be used, directly or by others, to compile a list, registry, or database of individuals based on national origin, immigration status, religion, or other category of individual characteristics protected against unlawful discrimination.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination

32280-32289 School safety plans

32295.5 Teen court programs

35181 Governing board policy on responsibilities of students

35291-35291.5 Rules

44807 Teachers' duty concerning conduct of students

48900-48925 Suspension and expulsion

48985 Notices to parents in language other than English

49020-49023 Athletic programs

49060-49079 Student records

51204.5 Social sciences instruction; contributions of specified groups

51500 Prohibited instruction or activity

51501 Nondiscriminatory subject matter

GOVERNMENT CODE

8310.3 California Religious Freedom Act

ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Orange, California

Adopted: (4-94 6-07 5-09) 10-25