

Conduct

The Board believes that all students have the right to be educated in a positive learning environment free from disruptions. Students shall be expected to exhibit appropriate conduct that does not infringe upon the rights of others or interfere with the school program while on school grounds, while going to or coming from school, while at school activities, and while on district transportation.

Conduct is considered appropriate when students are diligent in study, careful with school property, courteous, and respectful toward their teachers, other staff, students, and volunteers.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that each school site develops standards of conduct and discipline consistent with district policies and administrative regulations. Students and parents/guardians shall be notified of district and school rules related to conduct.

Prohibited student conduct includes, but is not limited to:

1. Conduct that endangers students, staff, or others, including, but not limited to, physical violence, possession of a firearm or other weapon, and terrorist threats.
2. Conduct that disrupts the orderly classroom or school environment.
3. Harassment or bullying of students or staff, including, but not limited to, cyberbullying, intimidation, hazing or initiation activity, extortion, or any other verbal, written, or physical conduct that causes or threatens to cause violence, bodily harm, or substantial disruption, in accordance with the section entitled "Bullying/Cyberbullying" below.

Cyberbullying includes the transmission of communications, posting of harassing messages, direct threats, or other harmful texts, sounds, or images on the Internet, social networking sites, or other digital technologies using a telephone, computer, or any wireless communication device.

Cyberbullying also includes breaking into another person's electronic account and assuming that person's identity in order to damage that person's reputation.

4. Damage to or theft of property belonging to students, staff, or the district. The district shall not be responsible for students' personal belongings which are brought on campus or to a school activity and are lost, stolen, or damaged.
5. Possession or use of laser pointers on school premises, unless used for a valid instructional or other school-related purpose.

Prior to bringing a laser pointer on school premises, students shall first obtain permission from the principal or designee. The principal or designee shall determine whether the requested use of the laser pointer is for a valid instructional or other school-related purpose.

6. Use of profane, vulgar, or abusive language.

7. Plagiarism or dishonesty in school work or on tests.
8. Inappropriate attire.
9. Tardiness or unexcused absence from school.
10. Failure to remain on school premises in accordance with school rules.
11. Possession, use, or being under the influence of tobacco, alcohol, or other prohibited drugs.

Employees are expected to provide appropriate supervision to enforce standards of conduct and, if they observe or receive a report of a violation of these standards, to immediately intervene or call for assistance. If an employee believes a matter has not been resolved, he/she shall refer the matter to his/her supervisor or administrator for further investigation.

Students who violate district or school rules and regulations may be subject to discipline including, but not limited to, suspension, expulsion, transfer to alternative programs in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation, and contact with local law enforcement as appropriate.

Students also may be subject to discipline in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation for any off-campus conduct during non-school hours which poses a threat or danger to the safety of students, staff, or district property or disrupts the orderly delivery of the educational program.

Possession of Cellular Phones and Other Mobile Communications Devices

Students may possess electronic signaling devices, including but not limited to pagers, beepers, and cellular or digital telephones, provided that such devices are not used and do not disrupt the educational program or school activity. Electronic signaling devices shall be turned off while on campus, attending school-sponsored activities, or while under the supervision and control of school district employees. If such devices are used during school hours, the student will receive a referral and the device shall be confiscated and held in the office until the student's parent/guardian retrieves it. If the device rings or vibrates during school hours because the student forgot to turn it off, a Behavior Checkpoint will result.

No student shall be prohibited from possessing or using an electronic signaling device that is determined by a licensed physician or surgeon to be essential for the student's health and the use of which is limited to health related purposes.

In accordance with BP/AR 5145.12 - Search and Seizure, a school official may search a student's mobile communications device, including, but not limited to, reviewing messages or viewing pictures.

A student who violates this policy may be prohibited from possessing a mobile communications device at school or school-related events and/or may be subject to further discipline in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation.

Bullying/Cyberbullying

The Board desires to prevent bullying by establishing a positive, collaborative school climate and clear rules for student conduct.

The district may provide students instruction that promotes communication, social skills, and assertiveness skills and may involve parents/guardians, staff, and community members in the development of strategies to prevent and respond to bullying.

School staff shall receive related professional development, including information about early warning signs of harassing/intimidating behaviors and effective prevention and intervention strategies. Parents/guardians and students also may be provided with similar information.

Students may submit a verbal or written complaint of conduct they consider to be bullying to a teacher or administrator. Complaints of bullying shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with site-level grievance procedures specified in AR 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment.

When a student is suspected of or reported to be using electronic or digital communications to engage in cyberbullying against other students or staff or to threaten district property, the investigation shall include documentation of the activity, identification of the source, and a determination of the impact or potential impact on school activity or school attendance. Students shall be encouraged to save and print any messages sent to them that they feel constitutes cyberbullying and to notify a teacher, principal, or other employee so that the matter may be investigated.

Cyberbullying conducted using district-owned equipment or on school premises, as well as off-campus cyberbullying that impacts school activity or school attendance, may be subject to discipline in accordance with district policies and regulations. If the student is using a social networking site or service that has terms of use that prohibit posting harmful material, the Superintendent or designee also may file a complaint with the Internet site or service to have the material removed.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

[200-262.4](#) Prohibition of discrimination

[32261](#) Bullying

[35181](#) Governing board policy on responsibilities of students

[35291-35291.5](#) Rules

[44807](#) Duty concerning conduct of students

[48900-48925](#) Suspension or expulsion, especially:

[48908](#) Duties of students

[51512](#) Prohibition against electronic listening or recording device in classroom without permission

CIVIL CODE

[1714.1](#) Liability of parents and guardians for willful misconduct of minor

PENAL CODE

[288.2](#) Harmful matter with intent to seduce

[313](#) Harmful matter

[417.25-417.27](#) Laser scope

[647](#) Use of camera or other instrument to invade person's privacy; misdemeanor

[647.7](#) Use of camera or other instrument to invade person's privacy; punishment

[653.2](#) Electronic communication devices, threats to safety

VEHICLE CODE

[23124](#) Use of cellular phones provisional license holders

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

[300-307](#) Duties of pupils

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

[2000h](#)-2000h6 Title IX, 1972 Education Act Amendments

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 47

254 Universal service discounts (e-rate)

COURT DECISIONS

J.C. v. Beverly Hills Unified School District, (2010) 711 F.Supp.2d 1094

LaVine v. Blaine School District, (2000, 9th Cir.) 257 F.3d 981

Emmett v. Kent School District No. 415, (2000) 92 F.Supp. 1088

Bethel School District No. 403 v. Fraser, (1986) 478 U.S. 675

Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District, (1969) 393 U.S. 503

1st Reading:

2nd Reading:

Adopted: