

**Students
Conduct**

The Governing 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
2. Conduct that disrupts the orderly classroom or school environment
3. Harassment of students or staff, such as bullying, including cyberbullying, intimidation, hazing or initiation activity, ridicule, extortion, or any other verbal, written, or physical conduct that causes or threatens to cause bodily harm or emotional suffering, in accordance with the section entitled "Bullying/Cyberbullying" below:

"Cyberbullying" includes the transmission of communications, posting of harassing messages, direct threats, social cruelty, 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 or friendships.

4. Damage to or theft of property belonging to students, staff, or the district
5. Possession or use of a laser pointer, 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 drug in violation of school rules

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, or denial of participation in extracurricular or co-curricular activities in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation. The Superintendent or designee shall notify local law enforcement as appropriate.

Possession/Use of Cellular Phones and Other Mobile Communications Devices

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. (Education Code 48901.2)

Except with prior consent students shall not use on school campuses, personal electronic signaling devices including, but not limited to, pagers, cellular/digital telephones for voice usage, digital imaging, or text messaging or other mobile communications devices such as digital media players, personal digital assistants (PDAs), compact disc players, portable game consoles, cameras, digital scanners, and laptop computers. An exception to this would be during a school declared emergency in which case, cell phones may be used by permission only.

If a disruption occurs or a student uses any mobile communications device for improper activities, a school employee shall confiscate the device. If the school employee finds it necessary to confiscate the device, he/she shall return it to the student, or parent or guardian of the student.

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/Cyber Bullying

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, in the classroom or other educational settings, that promotes communication, social skills, and assertiveness skills and educates students about appropriate online behavior and strategies to prevent and respond to bullying and cyber bullying. This instruction may involve parents/guardians, staff, and community members.

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 and may also request that their name be kept in confidence. The

Superintendent or designee may establish other processes for students to submit anonymous reports of bullying. Complaints of bullying or harassment shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with site-level grievance procedures specified in AR 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment.

Beginning with the 2012/2013 School Year, the District will provide mandatory Internet Safety and CyberBullying Prevention training for staff and students. All students who intend to use the District technology must sign the Acceptable Use Policy for Students' Technology Resources.

When a student is suspected of or reported to be using electronic or digital communications to engage in cyber bullying 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 constitute cyber bullying and to notify a teacher, the principal, or other employee so that the matter may be investigated.

Any student who engages in cyber bullying using district-owned equipment, on school premises, or off-campus in a manner that impacts a school activity or school attendance, shall 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 of 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 use of 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

[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

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

Management Resources:

Students Conduct

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Cyberbullying: Policy Considerations for Boards, Policy Brief, July 2007

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Bullying at School, 2003

NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS

Digital Discipline: Off-Campus Student Conduct, the First Amendment and Web Sites, School Law in Review, 2001

NATIONAL SCHOOL SAFETY CENTER PUBLICATIONS

Set Straight on Bullies, 1989

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Preventing Bullying: A Manual for Schools and Communities, 1998

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>California Coalition for Children's Internet Safety: <http://www.cybersafety.ca.gov>California Department of Education, Safe Schools Office: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss>Center for Safe and Responsible Internet Use: <http://csriu.org> and <http://cyberbully.org>National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.org>National School Safety Center: <http://www.schoolsafety.us>NetSmartz: <http://www.netsmartz.org>U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov>