

Students

Board Policy No. 5131.2

Policy Adopted: November 16, 2023

BULLYING

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~~This policy shall apply to all acts constituting bullying related to school activity or to school attendance occurring within a district school, to acts which occur off campus or outside of school-related or school-sponsored activities but which may have an impact or create a hostile environment at school, and to all acts of the Governing Board and the Superintendent in enacting policies and procedures that govern the district.~~

~~The Board recognizes the harmful effects of bullying on student well-being, student learning, and school attendance and desires to provide a welcoming, safe, and supportive school environment that protect protects students from physical, mental, and emotional harm. District employees shall establish student safety as a high priority and shall not tolerate bullying of any student.~~ No individual or group shall, through physical, written, verbal, visual, or other means, harass, sexually harass, threaten, intimidate, cyberbully, cause bodily injury to, or commit hate violence against any student or school personnel, or retaliate against them for filing a complaint or participating in the complaint resolution process.

~~(cf. 5131—Conduct)~~

~~(cf. 5145.3—Nondiscrimination/Harassment)~~

~~(cf. 5145.7—Sexual Harassment)~~

~~Cyberbullying includes the creation or transmission of harassing communications, direct threats, or other harmful texts, sounds, or images on the internet, social media, or other 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. [1]~~

The Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies for addressing bullying in district schools with the involvement of students, parents/guardians, and staff.

~~Such strategies shall be~~ As appropriate, the Superintendent or designee may also collaborate with social services, mental health services, law enforcement, courts, and other agencies and community organizations in the development and implementation of effective strategies to promote safety in schools and the community.

Such strategies shall be incorporated into the comprehensive safety plan and, to the extent possible, into the local control and accountability plan and other applicable district and school plans.

~~(cf. 6020—Parent Involvement)~~

~~As appropriate, the Superintendent or designee may collaborate with law~~

~~enforcement, courts, social services, mental health services, other agencies, and community organizations in the development and implementation of joint strategies to promote safety in schools and the community. [1]~~

Investigation and Resolution of Complaints

Any complaint of bullying shall be investigated and, if determined to be discriminatory, resolved in accordance with law and the district's uniform complaint procedures specified in ~~AR~~Administrative Regulation 1312.3.

If, during the investigation, it is determined that a complaint is about nondiscriminatory bullying, the principal or designee shall inform the complainant and shall take all necessary actions to resolve the complaint.

If the Superintendent or designee believes it is in the best interest of a student who has been the victim of an act of bullying, as defined in Education Code 48900, the Superintendent or designee shall advise the student's parents/guardians that the student may transfer to another school. If the parents/guardians of a student who has been the victim of an act of bullying requests a transfer for the student pursuant to Education Code 46600, the Superintendent or designee shall allow the transfer in accordance with law and district policy on intradistrict or interdistrict transfer, as applicable.

Discipline

District families are encouraged to model respectful behavior, contribute to a safe and supportive learning environment, and monitor potential causes of bullying.

Any employee who permits or engages in bullying or retaliation related to bullying shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

~~(cf. 5144—Discipline)~~

~~(cf. 5144.1—Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)~~

~~(cf. 5144.2—Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))~~

~~(cf. 4218—Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)~~
