

Secret Societies/Gang Activity

The goal of the Board of Education is to protect our students from intimidation, threats, or harmful influences of negative gangs in District schools. For purposes of this policy, "negative gang" is defined as: any group, secret society, organization or association that advocates drug use, violence, ethnic intimidation, dangerous, disruptive, disrespectful, or illegal behavior.

The principal or his/her designee shall maintain supervision of school premises to deter intimidation of students and confrontations between members of different gangs.

The Superintendent shall establish open lines of communication with local law enforcement agencies so as to share information and provide mutual support in this effort within appropriate legal guidelines.

The Superintendent shall provide in-service training to help staff members identify negative gangs and gang symbols, recognize early manifestations of disruptive activities, and respond appropriately. Staff members shall be informed about conflict management techniques and alerted to intervention measures and community resources which may help students.

This policy shall be applied by the principal or his/her designee as the need for it arises at individual school sites. The Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent will be informed immediately each time it is implemented.

Gang Symbols

The Board finds that gang symbols can jeopardize the wearer's safety and the safety of other students and staff. These symbols are inherently disruptive to the educational process, and therefore disallowed under Dress Code Policy JICA.

Prohibited gang symbols include, but are not limited to: insignia, apparel, jewelry, accessory, notebook or other school supply, or manner of grooming which by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark or any other attribute denotes membership in negative gangs.

A student appearing in school with the above symbols and demonstrating negative gang behavior will be informed of this policy. The student's parents/guardians will be notified. After compliance with the policy, the student will be scheduled for a follow-up counseling session. This will consist of either an in-school, community-based or private counseling session. A student failing to comply may be suspended or expelled. The student and his/her parents/guardians must attend a readmittance conference with the school administrators prior to returning to school.

The Board further prohibits any physical demonstration of negative gang membership such as through the use of hand gestures, graffiti, printed materials, etc.

LEGAL REF.: C.R.S. 22-1-120 (8)
C.R.S. 22-32-109.1 (2)(a)(VI) (*policy required as part of safe schools plan*)

CROSS REF.: JIC, Student Conduct
JICA, Student Dress Code