

ANTI-GANG POLICY

A “gang” as defined in this policy and under O.R.C. §2923.41 means any ongoing formal or informal group of three or more persons which has a common name or one or more common identifying signs, symbols, or colors, which has as one of its primary activities the commission of one or more criminal acts, and whose members individually or collectively engage in or have engaged in a pattern of gang activity. The term “pattern of gang activity” means the commission, the attempt to commit, conspiracy to commit, the intimidation of others to commit, or the solicitation of, two or more criminal acts, provided the criminal acts were committed on separate dates or by two or more persons who are members of, or belong to, the same criminal gang.

Additionally, determination as to what constitutes gang paraphernalia and gang symbols will be made based upon current definitions of gang paraphernalia and gang symbols established by local law enforcement.

1. No student on or about school property or at any school sponsored activity shall wear, possess, use, distribute, display, or sell any clothing, medallions, or other jewelry, insignia, emblem, badge, patch, symbol, sign tattoo (whether permanent or temporary), scar or mark, hair style, or other elements which identify a gang or which are evidence of membership or affiliation in any gang or which otherwise disrupts the academic process.
2. No student on or about school property or at any school sponsored activity shall engage in conduct or use any speech, whether verbal or non-verbal (i.e., gestures, hand signals, handshakes, etc.) showing membership or affiliation in a gang when such conduct or speech is intended to cause disruption, or when one knows or has reason to believe that such conduct or speech arouses fear, alarm, resentment, anger, hostility, or violence.
3. No student, on or about school property or at any school sponsored activity, shall use any speech or commit any act or omission which is disruptive, intimidating, or threatening, including but not limited to, the following gang-related activities:
 - a. Soliciting membership in, or affiliation with, any gang.
 - b. Soliciting any person to pay for “protection” or threatening any person, explicitly or implicitly, with any other illegal or prohibited act.
 - c. Painting, writing, tattooing or otherwise inscribing gang-related graffiti, messages, symbols, or signs, on school property or on the property of others during school sponsored activities.
 - d. Engaging in violence, extortion, or any illegal act or other violation of school policy.
 - e. Soliciting any person to engage in physical violence against any student or school employee or visitor (whether during a school sponsored activity or on the way to or from a school sponsored activity) or inciting others to act with physical violence.

- f. Copying or distributing any gang-related material on school property or at school sponsored activities.
 - g. Marching, congregating, massing together with the intent to disrupt or intimidate, or when one has reason to believe that such conduct will arouse fear, alarm, resentment, anger, hostility, or violence. Such meetings or congregations are contrary to the purpose of the educational institution and will be considered trespassing. Such offense will be prosecuted.
4. Any student who is in violation of this policy shall be suspended and/or recommended for expulsion from school.
 5. The parents and students will be held liable for damages and repair costs to buildings and school property which result from the actions of the student who was involved in gang activity.
 6. Students will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law for any criminal conduct, including, but not limited to, trespassing, vandalism, or assault in violation of this section. Depending on the seriousness of the violation under this paragraph, the intervention program may be used to suspend any part of a school suspension and/or expulsion ordered by the Administration.

LEGAL REFS: O.R.C. §2923.41

Updated: March 18, 2019
Adopted: June 19, 2017