

Riverside County Office of Education
Board Policy 1313 Civility

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

SUBJECT: Civility

The County Board of Education recognizes the impact that civility has on the effective operation of the County Office of Education (COE), including its role in creating a safe and positive school climate and enabling a focus on student well-being, learning, and achievement. The County Board believes that each person should be treated with dignity and respect in their interactions within the school community.

(cf. 0415 - Equity)

The County Board understands that the First Amendment provides strong protection for speech. However, the County Board expects that all speech and expression will comport with norms of civil behavior on COE grounds, in COE facilities, during COE activities or events, and in the use of COE electronic/digital systems and platforms.

(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

Civil behavior is polite, courteous, and reasonable behavior which is respectful to others and includes integrity, honesty, acceptance, timeliness, dependability, observance of laws and rules, and effective communication.

The County Board shall model civil behavior as an example of behavior that is expected throughout the COE. Practices that promote civil behavior include actively listening, giving full attention to the speaker, and refraining from interruptions; welcoming and encouraging participation, input, and feedback through community engagement; promptly responding to concerns; and embracing varying and diverse viewpoints. Such practices may be incorporated into governance standards adopted by the County Board.

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

Students, staff, parents/guardians, and community members should be educated in the recognition, development, and demonstration of civil behavior. Concepts of civil behavior and other related concepts may be incorporated in the curriculum, provided in staff development activities, and/or communicated by this policy to the school community.

Students, staff, parents/guardians, and community members shall not communicate or behave in a manner that causes disruption or hinders or threatens the orderly conduct of COE operations, the educational program, or any other COE program or activity.

Behavior by students or staff that is discriminatory, harassing, or intimidating, including sexual harassment, bullying, and/or hate violence or behavior that is in any other way unlawful, is prohibited.

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

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(cf. 5145.71 - Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures)
(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Educational equity

32210 Willful disturbance of public school or meeting 32211

Threatened disruption or interference with classes 32212

Classroom interruptions

32280-32289.5 School safety plans

44050 Employee code of conduct; interaction with students

44807 Teachers' duty concerning conduct of students 44810

Willful interference with classroom conduct

44811 Disruption of classwork or extracurricular activities

48900-48926 Suspension and expulsion, especially:

48907 Exercise of free expression; rules and regulations

48950 Speech and other communication

49330-49335 Injurious objects CIVIL

CODE

51.7 Freedom from violence or intimidation

GOVERNMENT CODE

54954.3 Opportunity for public to address legislative body; regulations 54957.9

Disorderly conduct of general public during meeting; clearing of room PENAL

CODE

243.5 Assault or battery on school property

415.5 Disturbance of peace of school

422.55 Definition of hate crime

422.6 Civil rights; crimes

626-626.11 School crimes

627-627.10 Access to school premises

653b Loitering about schools or public places

653.2 Electronic communication devices; threats to safety

CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

Article 1, Section 2 Freedom of speech and expression

Article 1, Section 28 Right to safe schools

U.S. CONSTITUTION

Amendment 1, Freedom of speech and expression

COURT DECISIONS

City of San Jose v. Garbett (2010) 190 Cal.App.4th 526

Norse v. City of Santa Cruz (9th Cir. 2010) 629 F.3d 966

Baca v. Moreno Valley Unified School District (1996) 936 F.Supp. 719

Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier (1988) 484 U.S. 260

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Professional Governance Standards for County Boards, 2019

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

California's Social and Emotional Learning: Guiding Principles, 2018

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Social and Emotional Learning in California: A Guide to Resources, October 2018

COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING PUBLICATIONS

California Professional Standards for Education Leaders (CPSEL), February 2014

NATIONAL POLICY BOARD FOR EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION

Professional Standards for Educational Leaders, October 2015

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

California Office of the Attorney General: <http://oag.ca.gov>

Center for Safe and Responsible Internet Use: <http://www.ewa.org/organization/center-safe-and-responsible-internet-use>

Commission on Teacher Credentialing: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov>

National Council for the Social Studies Connected: <http://connected.socialstudies.org>

National Policy Board for Educational Administration: <http://www.npbea.org> National

School Safety Center: <http://www.schoolsafety.us>

U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov>

U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission: <http://www.eeoc.gov>