

**Policy 1313: Civility**

**Status:** DRAFT

**Original Adopted Date:** Pending

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

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

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 Board and district staff shall model civil behavior as an example of behavior that is expected throughout the district. 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 stakeholder engagement; promptly responding to concerns; and embracing varying and diverse viewpoints. Such practices may be incorporated into governance standards adopted by the Board or Superintendent and/or professional standards or codes of conduct for employees as specified in district policies and regulations.

Students, staff, parents/guardians, and community members should be educated in the recognition, development, and demonstration of civil behavior. The Superintendent or designee may incorporate related concepts in the curriculum, provide staff development activities, and/or communicate this policy to the school community.

Students, staff, parents/guardians, and community members shall not communicate or behave in a manner that causes disruption; hinders the orderly conduct of district operations, the educational program, or any other district program or activity; or creates an unsafe learning or working environment. The Superintendent or designee may respond to disruptive, violent, or threatening behavior in accordance with law and as specified in BP/AR 3515.2 - Disruptions.

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 and is subject to discipline in accordance with law and as specified in district policy and regulations.

**Policy Reference Disclaimer:** These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

**State References**

**Description**

CA Constitution Article 1, Section 2	Freedom of speech and expression - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/vSxJBJa0Iq0CDQS0OaxOsQ==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/vSxJBJa0Iq0CDQS0OaxOsQ==</a>
CA Constitution Article 1, Section 28(c)	Right to Safe Schools - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/4uKslshNEFWJwiWPc9Z3j2hmaA==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/4uKslshNEFWJwiWPc9Z3j2hmaA==</a>
Civ. Code 51.7	Freedom from violence or intimidation - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/biK5w5xHjaslshApluscWXhrJ7ZQ==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/biK5w5xHjaslshApluscWXhrJ7ZQ==</a>
Ed. Code 200-264	Educational equity
Ed. Code 32210	Willful disturbance of public school or meeting
Ed. Code 32211	Threatened disruption or interference with classes
Ed. Code 32212	Classroom interruptions
Ed. Code 32280-32289.5	Comprehensive safety plan
Ed. Code 35181	Governing board authority to set policy on responsibilities of students
Ed. Code 35291-35291.5	Rules
Ed. Code 44050	Employee code of conduct; interaction with students

Ed. Code 44807	Teachers' duty concerning conduct of students
Ed. Code 44810	Willful interference with classroom conduct
Ed. Code 44811	Disruption of classwork or extracurricular activities
Ed. Code 48900-48926	Suspension and expulsion
Ed. Code 48907	Exercise of free expression; rules and regulations
Ed. Code 49330-49335	Injurious objects
Gov. Code 54954.3	Opportunity for public to address legislative body
Gov. Code 54957.9	Disorderly conduct of general public during meeting; clearing of room
Pen. Code 243.5	Assault or battery on school property
Pen. Code 415.5	Disturbance of peace of school
Pen. Code 422.55	Definition of hate crime
Pen. Code 422.6	Civil rights; crimes
Pen. Code 626-626.11	School crimes
Pen. Code 627-627.10	Access to school premises
Pen. Code 653.2	Electronic communication devices, threats to safety
Pen. Code 653b	Loitering about schools or public places

**Federal References**

U.S. Constitution

**Description**

Amendment 1, Freedom of speech and expression

**Management Resources References**

California Department of Education Publication  
California Department of Education Publication  
Commission on Teacher Credentialing Publication  
Court Decision  
Court Decision  
Court Decision  
Court Decision  
CSBA Publication  
CSBA Publication  
Nat'l Policy Board For Educational Administration  
Website  
Website  
Website  
Website  
Website  
Website

**Description**

California's Social and Emotional Learning: Guiding Principles, 2018  
Social and Emotional Learning in California: A Guide to Resources, 2018  
California Professional Standards for Educational Leaders, February 2014  
Baca v. Moreno Valley Unified School District, (1996) 936 F. Supp. 719  
Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, (1988) 108 S. Ct. 562  
City of San Jose v. William Garbett, (2010) 190 Cal. App. 4th 526  
Norse v. City of Santa Cruz, (9th Cir. 2010) 629 F3d 966  
Professional Governance Standards for School Boards  
Superintendent Governance Standards  
Professional Standards for Educational Leaders, October 2015  
National Policy Board for Educational Administration - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/GPslshkam3pWnYNsfBf6iWslshmq==>  
National School Safety Center - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/DT4ecTE5xOmkiuXpIMccKw==>  
Center for Safe and Responsible Internet Use - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/SYNvZCFDU9rOyHBP2bWINA==>  
California Office of the Attorney General - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/5qNslsh5DoKuytasYcv9khGiA==>  
National Council for the Social Studies - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/3cNbElvx93Aslshf4rsplusplusG6gA==>  
Commission on Teacher Credentialing - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/cxWNIqRUulsaq7efc7aH4Q==>

- Website CSBA - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/W3QxkK2FPsDsQBnMIENxGg==>
- Website California Department of Education - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/os2jq5DcA2RawmY2VZ5FZQ==>
- Website U.S. Department of Education - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/XcSsJimoslsh3XhJKy4tplus7wplusA==>
- Website U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/vWZpgy5hWTz73t9BVEDPpA==>