

Santa Barbara Unified School District

Administrative Regulation

AR 5136

Students

GANGS

Prevention and Intervention Measures

In order to discourage the influence of gangs, school staff shall take the following measures:

1. Any student displaying behavior, gestures, apparel (as specified in the Santa Barbara Unified School District's Dress Code Policy, Exhibit 5144,) or paraphernalia indicative of gang affiliation shall be referred to the principal or designee.
 - a. The student's parent/guardian shall be contacted and may be asked to meet with school staff.
 - b. The student may be sent home to change clothes if necessary.

(cf. 5132 - Dress and Grooming)

2. Staff members (i.e., school administrators, campus safety assistants, the pupil's counselor and teachers) shall be provided with the names of known gang members.
3. Students who seek help in rejecting gang associations may be referred to the school's gang intervention specialists and/or community-based gang suppression and prevention organizations.

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)

4. Any gang graffiti on school premises shall be removed, washed down or painted over as soon as discovered.
 - a. Daily checks for graffiti shall be made throughout the campus.
 - b. Graffiti shall be photographed before it is removed. These photographs shall be shared with local law enforcement authorities and used in future disciplinary or criminal action against the offenders.

(cf. 3515 - Campus Security)

(cf. 5131.5 - Vandalism, Theft and Graffiti)

5. Classroom and after-school programs at each school shall be designed to develop a comprehensive understanding of the nature of youth violence including an understanding of those factors that build resiliency and potentially protect youth from engaging in violence and risk factors that contribute to engaging in violent behavior, enhance individual self-esteem, provide positive reinforcement for acceptable behavior, and foster interest in a variety of constructive activities. These programs shall also:
 - a. Explain the dangers of gang membership
 - b. Provide counseling for at-risk students
 - c. Teach students those behaviors or characteristics that affect a pupil's risk of, or resistance to potentially engaging in violent behavior.

- d. Include lessons or role-playing workshops in gang avoidance skills and nonviolent conflict resolution, including communication skills, anger management, ethnic/cultural tolerance, and mediation skills
- e. Provide opportunities for career technical education
- f. Provide positive interaction with local law enforcement staff

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

Gang prevention lessons may be taught jointly by teachers, law enforcement staff, and/or representatives from community organizations.

- 6. Staff shall actively promote participation in authorized student activities and organizations which can provide students companionship, safety, and a sense of purpose and belonging, including:
 - a. Positive sports and cultural activities and affiliations with the local community

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

- b. Structured, goal-oriented community service projects, such as service learning and community service

(cf. 6142.4 - Service Learning/Community Service Classes)

Community Outreach

Gang prevention programs or counseling offered for parents/guardians shall address the following topics:

- 1. The dangers of gang membership
- 2. The behaviors or characteristics that affect a pupil's risk of, or resistance to potentially engaging in violent behavior.
- 3. Warning signs which may indicate that children are at risk of becoming involved with gangs
- 4. The nature of local gang apparel and graffiti
- 5. Effective parenting techniques
- 6. Conflict resolution techniques

Staff will regularly seek feedback and input from parents/guardians who attend district sponsored gang prevention classes or counseling programs to make informed decisions about district gang prevention and intervention programs.

Community programs shall address:

- 1. The scope and nature of local gang problems
- 2. Strategies by which each segment of the community may alleviate gang problems

Regulation: SANTA BARBARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Adopted: February 10, 2009 Santa Barbara, California