

# Santa Barbara Unified School District

## Board Policy

**Students**

**BP 5131.2**

### **BULLYING**

The Governing Board recognizes the harmful effects of bullying on student well-being, student learning, and school attendance and desires to provide a safe school environment that protects students from physical and emotional harm. No individual or group shall, through physical, written, verbal, visual, or other means, harass, sexually harass, threaten, intimidate, cyberbully, cause bodily injury to, or commit hate violence against any student or school personnel, or retaliate against them for filing a complaint or participating in the complaint resolution process.

*(cf. 5131 - Conduct)*

*(cf. 5136 - Gangs)*

*(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)*

*(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)*

*(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)*

The Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies for addressing bullying in district schools with the involvement of students, parents/guardians, and staff. As appropriate, the Superintendent or designee may also collaborate with social services, mental health services, law enforcement, courts, and other agencies and community organizations in the development and implementation of effective strategies to promote safety in schools and the community.

*(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)*

*(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)*

*(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)*

Such strategies shall be incorporated into the comprehensive safety plan and, to the extent possible, into the local control and accountability plan and other applicable district and school plans.

*(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)*

*(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)*

*(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)*

Any complaint of bullying shall be investigated and, if determined to be discriminatory, resolved in accordance with law and the district's uniform complaint procedures specified in AR 1312.3. If, during the investigation, it is determined that a complaint is about nondiscriminatory bullying, the principal or designee shall inform the complainant and shall take all necessary actions to resolve the complaint.

*(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)*

If the Superintendent or designee believes it is in the best interest of a student who has been the victim of an act of bullying, as defined in Education Code 48900, the Superintendent or designee shall advise the student's parents/guardians that the student may transfer to another school. If the parents/guardians of a student who has been the victim of an act of bullying requests a transfer for the student pursuant to

Education Code 46600, the Superintendent or designee shall allow the transfer in accordance with law and district policy on intradistrict or interdistrict transfer, as applicable.

*(cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)*

*(cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)*

Any employee who permits or engages in bullying or retaliation related to bullying shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

*(cf. 4118 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)*

*(cf. 4119.21/4219.21/4319.21 - Professional Standards)*

*(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)*

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4      *Prohibition of discrimination*  
32282          *Comprehensive safety plan*  
32283.5        *Bullying; online training*  
35181          *Governing board policy on responsibilities of students*  
35291-35291.5 *Rules*  
46600          *Student transfers*  
48900-48925   *Suspension or expulsion*  
48985          *Translation of notices*  
52060-52077   *Local control and accountability plan*

PENAL CODE

422.55        *Definition of hate crime*  
647            *Use of camera or other instrument to invade person's privacy; misdemeanor*  
647.7         *Use of camera or other instrument to invade person's privacy; punishment*  
653.2         *Electronic communication devices, threats to safety*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4600-4670     *Uniform complaint procedures*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 47

254            *Universal service discounts (e-rate)*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28

35.107        *Nondiscrimination on basis of disability; complaints*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

104.7         *Designation of responsible employee for Section 504*

106.8         *Designation of responsible employee for Title IX*

110.25        *Notification of nondiscrimination on the basis of age*

COURT DECISIONS

*Wynar v. Douglas County School District, (2013) 728 F.3d 1062*

*J.C. v. Beverly Hills Unified School District, (2010) 711 F.Supp.2d 1094*

*Lavine v. Blaine School District, (2002) 279 F.3d 719*

*Management Resources:*

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*Final Guidance: AB 1266, Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students, Privacy, Programs, Activities & Facilities, Legal Guidance, March 2014*

*Providing a Safe, Nondiscriminatory School Environment for Transgender and Gender-Nonconforming Students, Policy Brief, February 2014*

*Addressing the Conditions of Children: Focus on Bullying, Governance Brief, December 2012*

*Safe Schools: Strategies for Governing Boards to Ensure Student Success, 2011*

*Cyberbullying: Policy Considerations for Boards, Policy Brief, rev. July 2010*

*Building Healthy Communities: A School Leaders Guide to Collaboration and Community Engagement, 2009*

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

*Bullying Module*

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

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

*Health Education Content Standards for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2008*

*Bullying at School, 2003*

CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

*Promoting a Safe and Secure Learning Environment for All: Guidance and Model Policies to Assist California K-12 Schools in Responding to Immigration Issues, April 2018*

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS

*Dear Colleague Letter: Responding to Bullying of Students with Disabilities, October 2014*

*Guidance to America's Schools: Bullying of Students with Disabilities, October 2014*

*Dear Colleague Letter: Guidance on Schools' Obligations to Protect Students from Student-on-Student Harassment on the Basis of Sex; Race, Color and National Origin; and Disability, October 26, 2010*

*Dear Colleague Letter: Harassment and Bullying, October 2010*

WEB SITES

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

California Department of Education, Safe Schools Office: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss>

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

Center on Great Teachers and Leaders: <http://gtlcenter.org>

Collaborative for Academic Social and Emotional Learning: <http://casel.org>

Common Sense Media: <http://www.commonsensemedia.org>

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

Partnership for Children and Youth: <http://www.partnerforchildren.org>

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

SANTA BARBARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Santa Barbara, California

October 13, 2015; July 24, 2018; March 17, 2020