

GANG-RELATED BEHAVIORS AND DRESS

This policy has been adopted pursuant to the requirements of state law in recognition of the fact that gang activities at school impose a threat to the welfare and safety of students and others in the school community and cause substantial disruption to the educational process.

The term “gang” as used in this policy refers to all groups of three or more individuals with a common interest, bond, or activity characterized by criminal or delinquent conduct, engaged in either collectively or individually.

1. Any manner of grooming or apparel, including clothing, jewelry, hats, emblems, and badges which by virtue of color, arrangement, trademark, or other attribute is associated with or denotes membership in or affiliation with any gang will not be allowed in school buildings or on school grounds, at school-sanctioned activities and events, or while being transported in school approved vehicles. The prohibition on gang-related apparel shall be applied at the discretion of building level administrators, after consultation with the superintendent or designee, as the need arises at individual schools.
2. Gestures, signals, or graffiti which connote gang membership or activities are prohibited in school buildings and on school grounds, at school-sanctioned activities and events, and while being transported in school approved vehicles. This prohibition of gang-related gestures, signals, and graffiti shall be applied at the discretion of building level administrators, after consultation with the superintendent or designee, as the need arises at individual schools.
3. Gang graffiti on school premises shall be removed, washed down, or painted over as soon as discovered and photographed. The photographs shall be shared with local law enforcement authorities and used in future disciplinary or criminal actions against the offenders.
4. Any student wearing or carrying overt gang paraphernalia or making gestures that symbolize gang membership shall be referred to the principal or designee for disciplinary action.
5. Disciplinary action for violation of these standards will include notification of the violation; where applicable, the requirement that the apparel be changed before reentering class; and, at the discretion of the building level

administrator, a parental conference. More severe disciplinary consequences, including suspension or expulsion, shall result from repeated or serious violations.

6. The superintendent or designee shall establish open lines of communication with local law enforcement authorities so as to share information and provide mutual support in the enforcement of this policy and to further its purposes.
7. The superintendent or designee, acting in his/her discretion, may provide inservice training to help school personnel identify gang activities, recognize early manifestations of disruptive activities, and respond appropriately to gang behavior in the schools.
8. Subject to approval of the superintendent or designee, principals may establish additional, specific standards for their own schools. These standards will be published and made available to students and parents.

Adopted: October 5, 1993
Revised: October 15, 2002
Revised: June 3, 2003

LEGAL REF.:

C.R.S. 22-32-109.1(2)(a)(VI)

CROSS REFS.:

Jl/JIA, Student Rights and Responsibilities/Due Process Rights
JIC/JICDA, Student Conduct
JKD/JKE, Student Suspension, Expulsion, and Classroom Removal

Douglas County School District Re. 1, Castle Rock, Colorado