The Governing Board recognizes that the presence of gangs creates an atmosphere of intimidation in the school communities of the district. The immediate consequences of gang activity and the secondary effects disrupt and hinder the education mission of the schools and their activities.

**Gang Activity Prohibited**

Students are prohibited from engaging in gang activity on or near school grounds, on school buses, at or near a school bus stop or school-sponsored activity, or while traveling to or from school.

Students are prohibited from engaging in any gang activity, regardless of where the activity occurs or the means by which the activity is conducted, if the gang activity has a substantially detrimental impact on school activities or on district students or employees in relation to school attendance, school operations, or the school environment.

Gang activity includes any of the following:

1. Possessing, distributing, displaying, or selling any clothing, hairstyle, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign, or other thing that is evidence of membership or affiliation with any gang.

2. Committing any act or using any form of communication, either verbal or nonverbal, to show membership or affiliation with a gang.

3. Committing any act to further the interests of any gang, including:
   (a) soliciting, hazing, and initiating others for membership in any gang;
   (b) requesting any person to pay for protection;
   (c) harassing, bullying, intimidating, or committing any other act that causes or threatens to cause physical or mental harm to students or employees; or
   (d) committing any other illegal act or other violation of school policy that substantially disrupts the operations of the district or its schools, or the right of a student to attend school to participate in a school-sponsored activity.

Any student who violates this policy or who knowingly assists or causes another to violate this policy is subject to disciplinary action.

**Gang Membership**

For the purposes of this policy, “gang” means a group of two or more persons who form an allegiance to each other for a common purpose and engage, either individually or collectively, in antisocial and/or
criminal behavior. The district may base its determination that a student is a member of, or affiliated with, a gang on any of the following indicators:

- Gang-related dress and/or grooming, including the display of gang-related colors, jewelry, accessories, tattoos, and body piercings.
- Gang-related communication, including display of gang-related hand signals and gestures; drawing gang-related graffiti/symbols/emblems; posting or transmitting gang-related messages and photographs on the Internet; and possession or distribution of gang-related notes or other documents.
- Self-admission of gang membership or association with known gang members.

The district will consult with local law enforcement agencies to determine which gangs are present in the school communities and the manner in which the members of such gangs communicate their membership or affiliation with the gang.

The Superintendent may adopt administrative regulations to implement this policy.

Adopted: August 11, 1992
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April 10, 2007

LEGAL REF.: A.R.S. § 13-1202-1204
13-1502-1504
13-1602-1604
13-2911
15-341(A)(14)(15)(2)
15-507
15-842

CROSS REF.: JFC – Student Conduct and Discipline
JFCA – Student Dress and Grooming Standards
JFD – Student Harassment and Bullying
JGD – Student Suspension/Expulsion