

Policy

GANG PREVENTION

The Haworth Board of Education is committed to providing a safe environment for the district students that is free from the threats or harmful influence of any groups or gangs which exhibit drug use, violence or disruptive behavior. The superintendent or designee shall ensure that the appropriate steps are taken to deter gang intimidation of students and staff and confrontations between members of different gangs. He/she shall exchange information and establish mutually-supportive efforts with local law enforcement authorities.

The superintendent or designee shall provide training opportunities as needed which help staff to identify gangs and gang symbols, recognize early manifestations of disruptive activities, and respond appropriately to gang behavior. Staff shall be informed about conflict management techniques and alerted to intervention measures and community resources.

The board realizes that students become involved in gangs for many reasons, such as peer pressure, the need for a sense of belonging, and lack of refusal skills. Age appropriate educational opportunities and materials shall be available regarding gang violence prevention for all students in the district.

To further discourage the influence of gangs, the superintendent or designee shall ensure that school rules of conduct and any school dress code prohibiting gang-related apparel are enforced consistently. If a student exhibits signs of gang affiliation, the parent/guardian shall be informed:

The district prohibits:

- A. The wearing or display of gang apparel, accessories, symbols, insignias or signs on one's clothing or person;
- B. Recruiting other students for gang membership or activities;
- C. Tagging school property with gang graffiti such as gang names, slogans or insignias;
- D. Initiating other students into gangs;
- E. Threatening other students or inflicting bodily harm linked to gang activities.

Adopted: 11/2012

Key Words

Dress, Grooming, Attire

Cross References: *5131 Student Conduct and Discipline
*5142 Student Safety

*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.