

Students

CONDUCT (continued)

cameras, digital scanners, and laptop computers provided that such devices do not disrupt the educational program or school activity and are not used for illegal or unethical activities such as cheating on assignments or tests.

Students are required to turn in all electronic signaling devices during all testing and if required by classroom rules.

If a disruption occurs or a student uses any mobile communications device for improper activities, a school employee shall direct the student to turn off the device and/or shall confiscate it. If the school employee finds it necessary to confiscate the device, he/she shall return it at the end of the class period or school day.

In accordance with BP/AR 5145.12 – Search and seizure, a school official may search a student’s mobile communications device, including, but not limited to, reviewing messages or viewing pictures. (cf. 5145.12 – Search and Seizure)

Students shall not use mobile communications devices, even in hands-free mode, while driving on school grounds or to and from a school-related activity.

A student who violates this policy may be prohibited from possessing a mobile communications device at school or school-related events and/or may be subject to further discipline in accordance with County Board policy and administrative regulation.

Bullying/Cyberbullying

The County Board desires to prevent bullying by establishing a positive, collaborative school climate and clear rules for student conduct.

Cyberbullying includes the transmission of communications, posting or harassing messages, direct threats, or other harmful texts, sounds, or images on the internet, social networking sites, or other digital technologies using a telephone, computer, or any wireless communication device. Cyberbullying also includes breaking into another person’s electronic account and assuming that person’s identity in order to damage that person’s reputation. (cf. 5145.3 – Freedom of Assembly, 5145.7 – Sexual Harassment)

The County Office of Education may provide students with instruction, in the classroom or other educational settings, that promotes communication, social skills, and assertiveness skills and educates students about appropriate online behavior and strategies to prevent and respond to bullying and cyberbullying. (cf. 1220 – Citizen Advisory Committees, 5300 – Student Use of Technology)

Students**CONDUCT** (continued)

School staff shall receive related professional development, including information about early warning signs of harassing/intimidating behaviors and effective prevention and intervention strategies. Parents/guardians, students, and community members also may be provided with similar information. (cf. 4131 – Staff Development, 4331 – professional growth programs)

Students may submit a verbal or written complaint of conduct they consider to be bullying to a teacher or administrator. Complaints of bullying shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with site-level grievance procedures specified in AR 5145.7 – Sexual Harassment.

When a student is suspected or reported to be using electronic or digital communications to engage in cyberbullying against other students or staff, or to threaten County Office of Education property, the investigation shall include documentation of the activity, identification of the source, and specific facts or circumstances that explain the impact or potential impact on school activity, school attendance, or the targeted student's educational performance.

Students shall be encouraged to save and print any messages sent to them that they feel constitute cyberbullying and to notify a teacher, the principal or other employee so that the matter may be investigated.

Any student who engages in cyberbullying on school premises, or off campus in a manner that causes or is likely to cause a substantial disruption of a school activity or school attendance, shall be subject to discipline in accordance with County Board policies and regulations. If the student is using a social networking site or service that has terms of use that prohibit posting of harmful material, the County Superintendent of School or designee also may file a complaint with the Internet site or service to have the material removed.

*Legal Reference:*EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4	<i>Prohibition of discrimination</i>
32262	<i>Bullying</i>
35181	<i>Governing board policy on responsibilities of students</i>
35291-35291.5	<i>Rules</i>
44807	<i>Duty concerning conduct of students</i>
48900-48925	<i>Suspension or expulsion, especially:</i>
48908	<i>Duties of students</i>
51512	<i>Prohibition against electronic listening or recording device in classroom without permission</i>

CIVIL CODE

1714.1	<i>Liability of parents and guardians for willful misconduct of minor</i>
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