Students

AR 5136(a)

GANGS

Prevention and Intervention Measures

In order to discourage the influence of gangs, school staff shall take the following measures:

1. Any student displaying behavior, gestures, apparel or paraphernalia indicative of gang affiliation shall be referred to the principal or designee.
   a. The student's parent/guardian shall be contacted and may be asked to meet with school staff.
   b. The student may be sent home to change clothes if necessary.

(cf. 5132 - Dress and Grooming)

2. Staff members shall be provided with the names of known gang members.

3. Students who seek help in rejecting gang associations may be referred to community-based gang suppression and prevention organizations.

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)

4. Any gang graffiti on school premises shall be removed, washed down or painted over after school police have been notified and allowed to investigate.
   a. Daily checks for graffiti shall be made throughout the campus.
   b. Graffiti shall be photographed before it is removed. These photographs shall be shared with school police and used in future disciplinary or criminal action against the offenders.

(cf. 3515 - Campus Security)
(cf. 5131.5 - Vandalism and Graffiti)

5. Classroom and after-school programs at each school shall be designed to enhance individual self-esteem, provide positive reinforcement for acceptable behavior, and foster interest in a variety of constructive activities. These programs may include:
   a. An explanation of the dangers of gang membership
   b. Counseling for targeted at-risk students
c. Lessons or role-playing workshops in gang avoidance skills and nonviolent conflict resolution, including communication skills, anger management, ethnic/cultural tolerance, and mediation skills

d. Assignment of individual gang members to cooperative learning groups in which they may work toward common goals with students who are not members of their gang

e. School-to-career instruction

f. Positive interaction with local law enforcement staff

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

6. Staff shall actively promote membership in authorized student organizations which can provide students companionship, safety, a sense of purpose and belonging, including:

a. Positive sports and cultural activities and affiliations with the local community

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)
(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

b. Structured, goal-oriented community service projects

(cf. 6142.4 - Service Learning/Community Service Classes)

Community Outreach

Gang prevention classes or counseling may be offered for parents/guardians, which may include the following topics:

1. The dangers of gang membership

2. Warning signs which may indicate that children are at risk of becoming involved with gangs

3. The nature of local gang apparel and graffiti

4. Effective parenting techniques

5. Conflict resolution techniques