

**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

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- 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

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**SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
San Diego, California