

## **Students**

### **STUDENT DISTURBANCES**

The Governing Board recognizes that all school staff must be prepared to cope with campus disturbances and to minimize the risks they entail. Staff should be especially sensitive to conditions that foster racial conflict, student protests, or gang intimidation and confrontations. Staff who believe that a disturbance is imminent, or who see a disturbance occurring, shall immediately contact the principal or designee who will implement the appropriate level of the school crisis response plan.

*(cf. 4131 – Staff Development)*

*(cf. 5136 – Gangs)*

*(cf. 5145.2 – Freedom of Speech/Expression)*

*(cf. 5145.9 – Hate-Motivated Behavior)*

The Superintendent or designee shall establish at each school an Emergency Response Plan as part of each site's comprehensive safe school plan for curbing disruptions which create disorder and may lead to riots, violence or vandalism at school or school-sponsored events.

The Superintendent or designee shall consult with law enforcement authorities to plan for police support during school disruptions. Each school's Emergency Response Plan shall address the role of law enforcement. When a disturbance directly threatens students or staff, the Superintendent or designee has the authority to call in law enforcement personnel for assistance and may dismiss school.

Students who participate in disturbances may be subject to disciplinary action.

*(cf. 3515 - Campus Security)*

*(cf. 5136 - Gangs)*

*(cf. 5144 - Discipline)*

*Legal Reference: (see next page)*

**Students**

**STUDENT DISTURBANCES (continued)**

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

*32210 Willful disturbance of public school or meeting*

*32211 Threatened disruption or interference with classes*

*35294-35294.5 School safety plans*

*38000-38005 Security departments*

*44810 Willful interference with classroom conduct*

*44811 Disruption of classwork or extracurricular activities*

*48907 Student exercise of free expression*

PENAL CODE

*403-420 Crimes against the public peace, especially:*

*415 Fighting; noise; offensive words*

*415.5 Disturbance of peace of school*

*416 Assembly to disturb peace; refusal to disperse*

*626-626.10 Crimes on school grounds*

*627-627.7 Access to school premises*

Policy  
adopted: February 23, 1999  
Revision: July 10, 2007

**VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Visalia, California

## **Students**

### **STUDENT DISTURBANCES**

#### **Prohibited Activities**

A student involved or attempting to be involved in any of the following prohibited activities shall be subject to discipline:

1. Disturbing the peace, including, but not limited to, causing or attempting to cause a riot, burning or destroying property, fighting, challenging another to fight, or using offensive words likely to provoke a fight

*(cf. 3515 - Campus Security)*

2. Disrupting school operations, including, but not limited to, exercising free expression which is obscene, libelous, or slanderous or so incites students as to create a clear and present danger of the commission of unlawful acts on school premises or the violation of lawful school regulations, or substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school (Education Code 48907)

*(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)*

Other examples of activities that may be considered disrupting school operations include, but are not limited to:

- a. Organizing or participating in unauthorized assemblies on school premises
- b. Participating in sit-ins or stand-ins which deny students or employees normal access to school premises
- c. Interfering with or unauthorized use of the district's computer system

*(cf. 6163.4 - Student Use of Technology)*

3. Refusing to disperse, including, but not limited to, assembling for the purpose of causing a disruption and refusing to disperse upon the direction of school personnel
4. Boycotting school, including, but not limited to, participating in any protest that involves nonattendance where attendance is required at school, class, or at a school activity

**Students**

**STUDENT DISTURBANCES (continued)**

Any student who participates in a boycott shall be given an unexcused absence and may be classified as truant, regardless of any parent/guardian approval of the absence.

*(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)*

*(cf. 5113.1 - Truancy)*

*(cf. 5144 - Discipline)*

*(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)*

**Extension of Class Period and/or Dismissal of School**

During any disturbance in which additional students might become involved while changing classes, the principal or designee may notify all staff that any class currently in session will be extended until further notice. Upon receiving this notification, staff shall ensure that all students in their charge remain in one location under their supervision and shall ask all students who are in the halls to return to their classes immediately.

The principal may also request that the Superintendent dismiss school in accordance with the school disturbance response plan.

*(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)*

*(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)*