

**CLASSIFICATION:** Students

**ADOPTED:** 10/11/95

**REVISED:** 7/26/96

**SUBJECT:** Student Conduct

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The County Superintendent of Schools believes that all students in schools and programs operated by the County Superintendent of Schools have the right to a safe public education in a positive environment free from disruptions which may interfere with educational activities. In order to create and maintain an atmosphere conducive to teaching and learning, the County Superintendent of Schools believes it is incumbent upon parents, students, teachers, and the administration to be cognizant of their responsibilities related to student conduct.

#### STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Proper student conduct shall be a concern of all personnel including the County Superintendent of Schools, program administrators, teachers, pupils, parents, and classified employees. Each pupil will be expected to develop individual responsibility for his/her conduct in accordance with accepted San Diego County Office of Education standards.

Students are expected to conform with the regulations of the school and/or program and obey all directions of the teachers and others in authority as well as the rules and regulations consistent with the laws of the state of California and established in the Education Code, and California Code of Regulations, Title 5, relating to areas of discipline, exclusion, exemption, and transportation.

#### NOTIFICATION OF BEHAVIOR CODE

The designated program administrator of each school shall take steps to ensure that all rules pertaining to the discipline of pupils are communicated to students at the beginning of each school year or to transfer students at the time of their enrollment in schools and programs operated by the County Superintendent of Schools.

#### PARENT/GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITIES

Parents/guardians are expected to comply with laws governing the conduct and education of their children and to cooperate with employees of the County Superintendent of Schools regarding their children's behavior.

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SUBSTANCE ABUSE

The County Superintendent of Schools recognizes that the use of drugs, including alcoholic beverages, narcotics and hallucinogenic agents, is detrimental to physical and mental health and may be symptomatic of underlying personal or academic problems. Students involved in the possession, sale and/or use of behavior-affecting substances as stated above shall be subject to disciplinary procedures.

It is the intent of the County Superintendent of Schools that instructional programs of the San Diego County Office of Education take positive action through education, counseling, parental involvement, medical referral, and police referral in the handling of incidents in the schools and programs involving the possession, sale and/or use of behavior-affecting substances and drug paraphernalia as defined in the Education Code. These substances shall include, but shall not be limited to, marijuana, LSD, glue, cocaine, PCP, alcohol, and barbiturates.

The County Superintendent of Schools prohibits smoking or use of tobacco or nicotine products by students while on San Diego County Office of Education sites or while attending sponsored activities under the supervision and control of County Superintendent of Schools employees.

Dangerous and narcotic drugs for which a student has a prescription prescribed by a physician and carries the drugs onto school property for ingestion must be in the original containers and kept in the nurse or program administrator's office, whichever provides greater security.

WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS

It is the intent of the County Superintendent of Schools that necessary steps shall be taken to keep dangerous weapons out of the schools and programs operated by the County Superintendent of Schools. No individual may bring or possess any firearm upon the grounds of any school or other educational facility operated by the County Superintendent of Schools. In addition, no individual shall bring or possess any illegal dirk, dagger, knife or other dangerous or injurious object upon the premises as provided in Education Code

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section 48900. The County Superintendent of Schools recognizes that students age 16 or older may legally possess tear gas or tear gas weapons such as pepper spray for the purpose of self-defense. However, to prevent potential misuse that may harm students or staff, students are prohibited from carrying such items on campus or at school activities. Infringements shall be dealt with according to the laws of the State of California. This administrative regulation is superseded by the policies and procedures of school district(s), community college(s), training institution(s), Probation Department, or Social Services agencies having jurisdiction over the student.

#### ZERO TOLERANCE

The County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools strongly support that all students have a right to a safe and secure learning environment. The County Board of Education has adopted a Zero Tolerance Resolution stating its position regarding students who:

- Use or possess weapons.
- Use or possess drugs.
- Use or possess alcohol.
- Engage in repeated fights.
- Engage in acts of violence.

See Exhibit 1, County Board of Education, Zero Tolerance Resolution, adopted July 19, 1995.

Legal Reference: Civil Code  
1714.1  
Education Code  
11998 et seq., 44810, 48900, 48904, 48904.3, 48909, 48909, 48915, 48915.5  
Government Code  
53069.5  
Penal Code  
12403.8  
California Code of Regulations, Title 5  
305

RESOLUTION  
ZERO TOLERANCE

WHEREAS, all students have a right to a safe and secure learning environment; and

WHEREAS, the overwhelming number of well-behaved students suffer when classrooms are disrupted by misbehaving students; and

WHEREAS, teacher effectiveness is diminished when teachers are forced to concentrate on discipline rather than instruction; and

WHEREAS, off-campus violence raises concerns about the safety of students in San Diego County's public schools:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the San Diego County Board of Education encourages local Boards of Education to consider the following actions:

ADOPT a zero tolerance policy for weapons possession, where students who bring weapons to school will face expulsion; and

ADOPT a zero tolerance policy for students who repeatedly instigate fights that will result in expulsion; and

ADOPT a zero tolerance policy for drug and alcohol use and/or possession on campus that will lead to expulsion; and

DEVELOP or review school and districtwide discipline and safety plans, including a strong emphasis on prevention and intervention; and

DEVELOP a plan to communicate to parents and students that local schools will enforce strong disciplinary action.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the San Diego County Board of Education pledges to:

SUPPORT school district expulsion orders when local boards provide due process and meet procedural requirements; and

PROVIDE alternative educational programs for students expelled from local schools in order to provide opportunities that offer a second chance for learning.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 19th day of July, 1995, at the regular meeting of the San Diego County Board of Education.

*Thomas A. Davies*

Thomas Davies  
President, San Diego County Board of Education

*Barbara S. Carpenter*

Barbara Carpenter, Vice President

*Joe Rindone*

Joe Rindone, Member

*Jim Kelly*

Jim Kelly, Member

*Bill R. Hampton*

Bill Hampton, Member