

## **Secret Societies/Gang Activity**

The Board of Education desires to keep district schools and students free from the threats or harmful influence of any groups or gangs which advocate drug use, violence or disruptive behavior. The principal or designee shall maintain continual, visible supervision of school premises, school vehicles and school-related activities to deter gang intimidation of students and confrontations between members of different gangs.

The superintendent or designee shall establish open lines of communication with local law enforcement authorities so as to share information and provide mutual support in this effort.

The superintendent or designee shall provide inservice training to help staff members identify gangs and gang symbols, recognize early manifestations of disruptive activities and respond appropriately to gang behavior. Staff members shall be informed about conflict management techniques and alerted to intervention measures and community resources which may help students.

### **Gang symbols**

The Board prohibits the presence on school premises, in school vehicles and at school-related activities of any apparel, jewelry, accessory, notebook or manner of grooming which by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark or any other attribute denotes membership in gangs which advocate drug use, violence or disruptive behavior. This policy shall be applied at the principal's discretion after consultation with the superintendent or designee as the need for it arises at individual school sites.

### **Prevention education**

The Board realizes that many students become involved in gangs without understanding the consequences of gang membership. Early intervention is a key component of efforts to break the cycle of gang membership. Therefore gang violence prevention education in the schools shall start with students in third grade.

Adopted: 10/24/91

Reviewed by Board of Education: 01/16/14

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. 22-1-120 (8)

C.R.S. 22-32-109.1 (2)(a)(I)(F) *(policy required as part of safe schools plan)*

CROSS REFS.: IHACA\*, Law-Related Education

JICA, Student Dress Code