

Violent and Aggressive Behavior

The Board recognizes there are certain behaviors that, if tolerated, would compromise the learning environment to which the students and staff of the district are entitled. These behaviors, categorized as violent or aggressive, will not be tolerated.

Students exhibiting violent or aggressive behavior or warning signs of future violent or aggressive behavior shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action including suspension and/or expulsion in accordance with Board policy concerning student suspensions, expulsions and other disciplinary interventions. As appropriate and in accordance with applicable law and Board policy, students may also be referred to law enforcement authorities. At the district's discretion and when appropriate, the student may receive appropriate intervention designed to address the problem behavior. The district may also conduct a threat assessment of the student.

Students must immediately report questionable behavior or potentially violent situations to an administrator, counselor, or teacher.

A staff member who witnesses or receives a report of a student's act of violence and aggression must notify the building principal or designee as soon as possible.

An act of violence and aggression is any expression, direct or indirect, verbal or behavioral, of intent to inflict harm, injury or damage to persons or property. A threat of violence and aggression carries with it implied notions of risk of violence and a probability of harm or injury.

The following behaviors are defined as violent and aggressive:

1. Possession, threat with or use of a dangerous weapon — as described in the Board's weapons policy.
2. Physical assault — the act of striking or touching a person or that person's property with a part of the body or with any object with the intent of causing hurt or harm.
3. Verbal abuse — includes, but is not limited to, swearing, screaming, obscene gestures or threats directed, either orally (including by telephone) or in writing (including by text, social media, or other electronic means), at an individual, their family or a group.
4. Intimidation — an act intended to frighten or coerce someone into submission or obedience.
5. Extortion — the use of verbal or physical coercion in order to obtain financial or material gain from others.
6. Bullying — as described in the Board's policy on bullying prevention and education.

7. Gang activity — as described in the Board’s secret societies/gang activity policy.
8. Sexual harassment or other forms of harassment — as described in the Board’s sexual harassment policy and nondiscrimination policy.
9. Stalking — the persistent following, contacting, watching or any other such threatening actions that compromise the peace of mind or the personal safety of an individual.
10. Defiance — a serious act or instance of defying or opposing legitimate authority.
11. Discriminatory slurs — insulting, disparaging or derogatory comments made directly or by innuendo regarding a person’s race, color, ancestry, creed, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, religion, national origin, disability or need for special education services.
12. Vandalism — damaging or defacing property owned by or in the rightful possession of another.
13. Terrorism — a threat to commit violence communicated with the intent to terrorize or with reckless disregard for the risk of creating such terror or to cause serious public inconvenience, such as the evacuation of a building.

Adopted: 11/15/07

Revised: 08/11/11, 08/08/13, 10/08/20

LEGAL REF.: C.R.S. 22-32-109.1 (1)(b) (definition of bullying)
C.R.S. 22-32-110 (1)(k) (definition of racial or ethnic background includes hair texture, definition of protective hairstyle)
C.R.S. 24-34-301 (7) (definition of sexual orientation, which includes transgender)

CROSS REFS.: AC, Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity
JBB*, Sexual Harassment
JICDA, Code of Conduct
JICDE*, Bullying Prevention and Education
JICF, Secret Societies/Gang Activity
JICI, Weapons in School

NOTE: For purposes of this policy, these terms have the following meanings:

- “Race” includes hair texture, hair type, or a protective hairstyle that is commonly or historically associated with race. C.R.S. 22-32-110 (1)(k).
- “Protective Hairstyle” includes such hairstyles as braids, locs, twists, tight coils or curls, cornrows, bantu knots, afros, and head wraps. Id.
- “Sexual Orientation” means a person’s orientation toward heterosexuality, homosexuality, bisexuality, or transgender status or another person’s perception thereof. C.R.S. 2-4-401 (13.5).