

# CSBA Sample

## Board Policy

### Hate-Motivated Behavior

BP 5145.9

#### Students

\*\*\*Note: The following optional policy is for use by districts in the implementation of a prevention strategy for hate-motivated incidents and should be modified to reflect district practice. Elements of this policy will also likely be integrated into existing school plans, such as school safety and staff development plans, as well as any policies developed by the district regarding school climate (see BP 5137 - Positive School Climate) and nondiscrimination (see BP 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities and BP 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment).\*\*\*

\*\*\*Note: In its publication entitled Hate-Motivated Behavior in Schools, the California Department of Education defines "hate-motivated behavior" as an act, or attempted act, motivated by hostility towards a victim's real or perceived ethnicity, national origin, immigrant status, sex, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief, age, disability, or any other physical or cultural characteristic. Some "hate-motivated behavior," including an assault, bomb threat, destruction of property, graffiti, and certain types of vandalism, may also be crimes under state or federal law.\*\*\*

In order to create a safe learning environment for all students, the Governing Board desires to protect the right of every student to be free from hate-motivated behavior and will promote harmonious relationships among students so as to enable them to gain a true understanding of the civil rights and social responsibilities of people in society. The district prohibits discriminatory behavior or statements that degrade an individual on the basis of his/her actual or perceived race, ethnicity, culture, heritage, gender, sex, sexual orientation, physical/mental attributes, or religious beliefs or practices.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 3515.4 - Recovery for Property Loss or Damage)

(cf. 5131.5 - Vandalism and Graffiti)

(cf. 5136 - Gangs)

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

(cf. 5141.52 - Suicide Prevention)

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

(cf. 5147 - Dropout Prevention)

(cf. 5149 - At-Risk Students)

\*\*\*Note: Local law enforcement agencies and human rights commissions have established countywide hate crimes networks aimed at responding to and preventing hate crimes. The

California Association of Human Relations Organizations conducts activities designed to protect human and civil rights through networks of collaborations that reduce community tension and build intergroup relationships.

The following optional paragraph should be revised to reflect district practice.

The Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with regional programs and community organizations to promote safe environments for youth. These efforts shall be focused on providing an efficient use of district and community resources.

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)

(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)

(cf. 1700 - Relations Between Private Industry and the Schools)

(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)

(cf. 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education)

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

The district shall provide age-appropriate instruction to help promote an understanding of and respect for human rights, diversity, and tolerance in a multicultural society and to provide strategies to manage conflicts constructively.

(cf. 5138 - Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation)

(cf. 6142.3 - Civic Education)

(cf. 6142.4 - Service Learning/Community Service Classes)

(cf. 6141.94 - History-Social Science Instruction)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that staff receive training on recognizing hate-motivated behavior and on strategies to help respond appropriately to such behavior.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

#### Grievance Procedures

\*\*\*Note: School-level grievance procedures for investigation of sexual harassment complaints are detailed in AR 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment. The following paragraph provides for the application of those procedures to the investigation of complaints regarding hate-motivated behavior. Districts that wish to use other procedures should modify the following paragraph accordingly.\*\*\*

Any student who believes he/she is a victim of hate-motivated behavior shall immediately contact the Coordinator for Nondiscrimination/Principal. Upon receiving such a complaint, the Coordinator/Principal shall immediately investigate the complaint in accordance with school-level complaint process/grievance procedures as described in AR 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment. A student who has been found to have demonstrated hate-motivated behavior shall be subject to discipline in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)  
(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)  
(cf. 5131- Conduct)  
(cf. 5144 - Discipline)  
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)  
(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))  
(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

Staff who receive notice of hate-motivated behavior or personally observe such behavior shall notify the Coordinator/Principal, Superintendent or designee, and/or law enforcement, as appropriate.

(cf. 3515.3 - District Police/Security Department)  
(cf. 4158/4258/4358 - Employee Security)

As necessary, the district shall provide counseling, guidance, and support to students who are victims of hate-motivated behavior and to students who exhibit such behavior.

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination

32282 School safety plans

48900.3 Suspension for hate violence

48900.4 Suspension or expulsion for threats or harassment

PENAL CODE

422.55 Definition of hate crime

422.6 Crimes, harassment

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4600-4687 Uniform Complaint Procedures

4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LEGAL ADVISORIES

California Student Safety and Violence Prevention – Laws and Regulations, April 2004

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS & NATIONAL

ASSOCIATION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

Protecting Students from Harassment and Hate Crime: A Guide for Schools, 1999

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PUBLICATIONS

Preventing Youth Hate Crimes: A Guide for Schools and Communities, 1997

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Association of Human Relations Organizations: <http://www.cahro.org>  
California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>  
National Youth Violence Prevention Resource Center: <http://www.safeyouth.org>  
U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>  
U.S. Department of Justice, Community Relations Service: <http://www.usdoj.gov/crs>

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