

Policy 5137: Positive School Climate**Status:** ADOPTED**Original Adopted Date:** 08/20/2008 | **Last Revised Date:** 03/12/2014

The West Contra Costa Unified School District Board of Education, hereinafter referred to as the Board, is committed to equal opportunity for all individuals in education within a safe school environment that allows all students equal access and opportunities to all of the District's programs and activities, including academic programs, educational supports, services, and enrichment activities.

The Board is committed to providing a safe educational environment and positive school climate to all students. In the West Contra Costa Unified School District, all students have the right to be educated in a positive and safe environment that is free from disruption.

Students shall be expected to exhibit appropriate conduct that does not infringe upon the rights of others or interfere with District programs while on school grounds, while going to or coming from school, while at school activities on or off school grounds, while on District transportation, or while otherwise in a District program or activity (Board Policy 5131 - Student Conduct).

All staff are expected to serve as role models for students by demonstrating positive, professional attitudes and respect toward each student and other staff members. Teachers shall use effective classroom management techniques based on clear expectations for student behavior. Staff shall consistently enforce Board policies and regulations which establish rules for appropriate student conduct (Board Policy 5131 - Student Conduct).

The District's curriculum shall include age-appropriate character education which includes, but is not limited to, the principles of equality, human dignity, mutual respect, fairness, honesty, and citizenship. Teachers are encouraged to employ cooperative learning strategies that foster positive interactions in the classroom among students from diverse backgrounds.

The Superintendent or designee may develop other strategies to enhance students' feelings of connectedness with the schools, such as campus beautification projects, development of extracurricular activities and after-school programs, pairing of adult mentors with individual students, recognition of student achievement, and encouragement of strong family and community involvement in the schools.

Students shall have opportunities to voice their concerns about school policies and practices and to share responsibility for solving problems that affect their school.

The schools shall promote nonviolent conflict resolution techniques to encourage attitudes and behaviors that foster harmonious relations. Students shall be taught the skills necessary to reduce violence, including, but not limited to, communication, anger management, bias reduction, and mediation skills.

All District staff shall receive professional development to sustain a positive school climate, including, but not limited to, classroom management, conflict resolution techniques, and communication with students, parents/guardians, and colleagues.

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References**Description**

CA Constitution Article 1, Section 28

Right to Safe Schools -
<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/4uKslshNFWJwiWPc9Z3j2hmaA==>

Ed. Code 233-233.8

Hate violence prevention -
<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/7XQnSFj4tzfplusRNdexF8Wag==>

Ed. Code 32280-32289.5

School safety plans -
<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/gz33QjVcfk6ufvjfPS84Kw==>

Ed. Code 32295.5

Teen court programs -
<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/Y0MAZ7Ebizw24cqjZXslshcFg==>

Ed. Code 35181

Governing board authority to set policy on responsibilities of students -
<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/aMhrosfuwlgvxetZOUpGwQ==>

Ed. Code 35291-35291.5	Rules - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/x70F3bNKbY1cKTjvdsIshoC4A==
Ed. Code 44807	Teachers' duty concerning conduct of students - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/01QplusZUrsIshvuVCSGiVFIm8hw==
Ed. Code 48900-48925	Suspension and expulsion - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/dt5KNUnSLpER0iplusCa0bRIQ==

Management Resources References

California Department of Education Publication	Creating Safe and Drug-Free Schools: An Action Guide, 1996
California Department of Education Publication	Bullying at School, 2003
CSBA Publication	Cyberbullying: Policy Considerations for Boards, Policy Brief, July 2010
U.S. Department of Education Publication	Preventing Bullying: A Manual for Schools and Communities, 1998
Website	CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/UdykszdmPETuDsIshXk6R5akQ==
Website	California Department of Education, Learning Support - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/qmmqslshbZsaNEYjbqlwTgYmQ==
Website	National School Safety Center - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/DT4ecTE5xOmkiuXpIMccKw==
Website	U.S. Department of Education, Office of Safe and Healthy Students - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/F0ZA2t2fGjJtWb49UuDxaPA==
Website	CSBA - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/W3QxkK2FPsDsQBnMIENxGg==

Cross References

0415	Equity - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/i43w754rYf8plvtvflJ4Q==
0450	Comprehensive Safety Plan - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/3sEgordpNAd9pitTHk0IIA==
0460	Local Control And Accountability Plan - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/aNEmlN07KZCzJwYAsNijAA==
1312.3	Uniform Complaint Procedures - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/jTXa27ru6jYMNEnhEslshd46A==
1312.3	Uniform Complaint Procedures - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/sAne3rlX9rujnAiEpaeCYA==
3515	Campus Security - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/TaI5K8plusxUI0cK3yR39C6sg==
3515	Campus Security - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/C4sbrTEbnqntnePbzJxlxA==
4131	Staff Development - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/BWkeN4McHiPJshe7LmjMEg==
4219.21	Professional Standards - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/N7WDSUsIshMSslshiWDtjRvnABvQ==
4231	Staff Development - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/wGPBPx9gl7eBfzF0yOdX7A==
4319.21	Professional Standards - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/q3BODXEqNMIVyh72120fGQ==
4331	Staff Development - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/xsmtm0shCslshTTcVYM8pT1tg==
5000	Concepts And Roles - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/tEgLVQZR9t1vbkPm3xw9Xw==

5030	Student Wellness - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/yZBNhTn9zdWmM0st9XKBwA==
5126	Awards For Achievement - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/oZplusLNS94o1NUleVW92AwQw==
5131	Conduct - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/7hteKnTueOT1nW4gVUjCjQ==
5131.1	Bus Conduct - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/WoRdokvqyeK5D5ZagyfruQ==
5131.2	Bullying - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/XpluspMTmZwxl379NWXVZavCw==
5131.2	Bullying - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/gF7CM9GY0HNQslshVUYQslshuqFw==
5131.6	Alcohol And Other Drugs - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/oSmzbPoHDTcZyZnVm5DplusGA==
5131.7	Weapons And Dangerous Instruments - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/eYS6ektqHQslshl8sT2oA3hsA==
5131.9	Academic Honesty - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/eGua4FGZVljevoqv5UJDplusA==
5136	Gangs - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/lAml9jLYjxpGcg20f4nlqA==
5138	Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/HJoEtYhdB6TXnNnvUwxl3g==
5141.52	Suicide Prevention - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/FCRBgg2YtjQxe1XWqmqMMw==
5141.52	Suicide Prevention - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/X8dYplus3y0KOM9ynCaH0OvNQ==
5142	Safety - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/C1CAplus3nMnlf0LiCKVqplusA5w==
5144	Discipline - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/arzB6j956FQB9ZVpuPXrdg==
5144.1	Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/cL7VGO0gOAB8Uq0LwYnlVQ==
5144.1	Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/YbZmlEgZM69ECslshslsh0Lm8plusplusA==
5144.2	Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process (Students With Disabilities) - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/F6slshdw9TuqpbVmzn9adoTIQ==
5145.2	Freedom Of Speech/Expression - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/rTVEGjulSslshzljHaDyg71w==
5145.3	Nondiscrimination/Harassment - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/HS2jqQmcpirrVcOPcO1cA==
5145.3	Nondiscrimination/Harassment - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/hg8YrNfWlz9xowEWRGjf4A==
5145.7	Sexual Harassment - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/rBQeKJ8CuSK3Vs2ghQlp6A==
5145.7	Sexual Harassment - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/8uQACoOGLQW90jy5rRhSVw==
5145.9	Hate-Motivated Behavior - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/9VqcQFGQvtC93eHXkr8uFg==
5147	Dropout Prevention - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/uhGs7cEid2RxinSOvtsLYQ==
6116	Classroom Interruptions - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/4pslshlGnwzKyLKBRRzJgdfw==

6142.8	Comprehensive Health Education - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/51jD3XTslsh3lp6JOLqHKxWIA==
6144	Controversial Issues - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/wTGAoyyS1lg9S8K8MCaiJw==
6145	Extracurricular And Cocurricular Activities - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/VbMmUulRE4mNN5BvoFh0Ag==
6145.2	Athletic Competition - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/NzSssODr4DFgKRGKKbxC5A==
6145.8	Assemblies And Special Events - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/AqYspz43BfMCB3cSlpbCXw==
6164.2	Guidance/Counseling Services - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/ULy61SPu3ykXzwHDslsh6bLWw==
6173.1	Education For Foster Youth - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/WW8plus8ZVtEZLLpU2ljJS7pg==
6184	Continuation Education - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/VFvzbF9BHGCLplus7ycTTVYhg==