

**POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE**

The Governing Board desires to provide an orderly, safe, respectful, emotionally nurturing, and nondiscriminatory learning environment in which all students feel comfortable, empowered, and take pride in their school and achievements. The social and emotional development of all district students is important to their contributions to society.

The Board expects all students in the district to be taught the meaning of equality, human dignity, and mutual respect through the utilization of the caring schools initiatives, violence prevention programs, and the district character education program. Education Code 233.5 encourages school staff to promote harmonious relations and an environment free from discrimination in order to prevent acts of hate violence.

All schools will support and reward positive student behavior, daily attendance, participation in community projects, and other instances of outstanding citizenship.

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

233-233.8 *Hate violence prevention*

32280-32289 *School safety plans*

32295.5 *Teen court programs*

35181 *Governing board policy on responsibilities of students*

35291-35291.5 *Rules*

44807 *Teachers' duty concerning conduct of students*

48900-48925 *Suspension and expulsion*

*Management Resources:*

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*Cyberbullying: Policy Considerations for Boards, Policy Brief, July 2007*

*Protecting Our Schools: Governing Board Strategies to Combat School Violence, rev. 1999*

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

*Bullying at School, 2003*

*Creating Safe and Drug-Free Schools: An Action Guide, 1996*

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

*Preventing Bullying: A Manual for Schools and Communities, 1998*

WEB SITES

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

California Department of Education, Learning Support: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls>

National School Safety Center: <http://www.schoolsafety.us>

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools:

<http://www.ed.gov/offices/OESE/SDFS>