

*Series 500*

Policy Title: GROUP ACTIVITY OR ASSOCIATIONS

Code: 506.6.1

The Lapwai School District is committed to maintaining its school and properties in a manner, which is safe for students, staff and patrons. Gangs or groups of students, which threaten the safety or well-being of person(s) and/or property on the school grounds, are therefore considered prohibited.

The use of hand signals, graffiti or the presence of any apparel, jewelry, accessory, book or manner of grooming which, by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark, symbol or any other attribute which denotes or implies affiliation with such a group may create a clear and present danger to the orderly operation of school, may promote unlawful acts on school premises or may violate the school regulations. (See explanation below of gang activity.)

Students involved in incidents of initiations, hazing, intimidating or any type of related activities with group affiliation that may cause physical danger, harm, personal degradation or disgrace are prohibited.

If a student's behaviors or actions are in violation of these provisions as determined by the principal, the principal or designee shall deal with the students according to that school's handbook consistent with Board policy.

*Gang Activity – claiming membership in, association with, affiliation with or participation in a gang or gang-related activities at school or during school-related functions. A gang is a self-formed association of peers having the following characteristics: A gang name and recognizable symbols, identifiable leadership, a geographic territory, a regular or recurrent meeting pattern, and identification by law enforcement as a gang including collective actions to engage in serious criminal or violent behavior. The type of dress, apparel, activities, acts, behavior, or manner of grooming displayed, reflected or participated in by a student shall not:*

1. Lead school officials to reasonably believe that such behavior, apparel, activities, acts or other attributes are gang-related and would disrupt or interfere with the school environment or activity and/or educational objectives;
2. Present a safety hazard to self, students or staff;
3. Create an atmosphere in which a student or other person's well-being is hindered by undue pressure, behavior, intimidation, overt gesture or threat of violence; or
4. Imply gang membership or affiliation by written communication, marks, drawings, painting, design or emblem upon any school or personal property or one's person.

Date of Adoption:

May 17, 2004

Readopted: July 2009

Legal References:

Related References: