

STUDENT DISTURBANCES

The Yolo County Board of Education and the Yolo County Office of Education desire to provide orderly campuses that create a positive school environment and are conducive to learning. When students initiate or are involved in a campus disturbance that has the potential to threaten the safety of students or staff, the Yolo County Superintendent of Schools or designee may request law enforcement assistance.

The County Superintendent or designee and the site administrator of each school/program shall establish a school disturbance response plan that is intended to curb disruptions which may lead to riots, violence, or vandalism at school or at school-sponsored events. In developing each school or program plan, the County Superintendent or designee shall consult with local law enforcement authorities to create guidelines for law enforcement support and intervention.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)
(cf. 5131.5 - Vandalism, Theft and Graffiti)

Staff are encouraged to be alert to conditions at school that may lead to a disturbance, such as racial or cultural conflict, student protests, or gang intimidation and confrontations. Staff who believe that a disturbance is imminent, or who see a disturbance occurring, shall immediately contact the site administrator and invoke the school disturbance response plan.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 5136 - Gangs)
(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)
(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)

Students who participate in a campus disturbance shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with County Office policy and administrative regulations.

(cf. 3515 - Campus Security)
(cf. 5144 - Discipline)
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)
(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion: Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

Legal Reference: (see next page)

STUDENT DISTURBANCES (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

32210 Willful disturbance of public school or meeting
32211 Threatened disruption or interference with classes
32280-32288 School safety plans
35160 Authority of governing boards
38000-38005 Security patrols
44810 Willful interference with classroom conduct
44811 Disruption of classwork or extracurricular activities
48900 Grounds for suspension or expulsion
48907 Student exercise of free expression
51512 Prohibited use of electronic listening or recording device

PENAL CODE

243.5 Assault or battery on school property
403-420 Crimes against the public peace, especially:
415 Fighting; noise; offensive words
415.5 Disturbance of peace of school
416 Assembly to disturb peace; refusal to disperse
626-626.10 Crimes on school grounds
627-627.7 Access to school premises
653b Loitering about schools or public places

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

911! A Manual for Schools and the Media During a Campus Crisis, 2001

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Practical Information on Crisis Planning: A Guide for Schools and Communities, May 2003

WEB SITES

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

California Department of Education, Safe Schools Office: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/lr/ss>

U.S. Department of Education, Emergency Planning: <http://www.ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/emergencyplan>

STUDENT DISTURBANCES

Prohibited Activities

A student involved or attempting to be involved in any of the following prohibited activities shall be subject to discipline:

1. Disturbing the peace, including, but not limited to, causing or attempting to cause a riot, burning or destroying property, fighting, challenging another to fight, or using offensive words likely to provoke a fight

(cf. 3515 - Campus Security)

2. Disrupting school operations, including, but not limited to, exercising free expression which is obscene, libelous, or slanderous or so incites students as to create a clear and present danger of the commission of unlawful acts on school premises or the violation of lawful school regulations, or substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school (Education Code 48907)

(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)

Other examples of activities that may be considered disrupting school operations include, but are not limited to:

- a. Organizing or participating in unauthorized assemblies on school premises
- b. Participating in sit-ins or stand-ins which deny students or employees normal access to school premises
- c. Interfering with or unauthorized use of the Yolo County Office of Education's computer system

(cf. 6163.4 - Student Use of Technology)

3. Refusing to disperse, including, but not limited to, assembling for the purpose of causing a disruption and refusing to disperse upon the direction of school personnel
4. Boycotting school, including, but not limited to, participating in any protest that involves nonattendance where attendance is required at school, class, or at a school activity

Any student who participates in a boycott shall be given an unexcused absence and may be classified as truant, regardless of any parent/guardian approval of the absence.

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

(cf. 5113.1 - Truancy)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

STUDENT DISTURBANCES (continued)

Extension of Class Period and/or Dismissal of School

During any disturbance in which additional students might become involved while changing classes, the site administrator or designee may notify all staff that any class currently in session will be extended until further notice. Upon receiving this notification, staff shall ensure that all students in their charge remain in one location under their supervision and shall ask all students who are in the halls to return to their classes immediately.

The site administrator may also request that the Yolo County Superintendent of Schools dismiss school in accordance with the school disturbance response plan.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)