

Wilson Area School District

Gang Policy

- Purpose** The Board recognizes the importance of providing a safe learning and working environment for students, employees and visiting community members and that the presence of gang activity and deviant behavior of an individual threatens the safety of the school environment.
- Definition** “Gang Activity: A ‘gang’ means any ongoing organization, association, or group of three or more persons, whether formal or informal, having as one of its primary activities the commission of one or more criminal acts or acts in violation of school rules, which has an identifiable name or identifying sign or symbol, and whose members individually or collectively engage in, or have engaged in, a pattern of criminal gang activity or activity relating to the violation of school rules. Gang activity includes, but is not limited to, any act in furtherance of the gang and possession or use of gang symbols, such as drawings, hand signs and attire.”
- Authority** It is the District’s policy to prohibit on school property or at any school activity the:
1. Wearing, possessing, using, distributing, displaying or selling of any clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign or other thing that is evidence of membership in or affiliation with any gang.
 2. Commission of any act or omission, or the use of any speech, either verbal or non-verbal (gestures, handshakes, etc.), which shows membership in or affiliation with any gang.
 3. Use of any speech, or committing any act or omission in furtherance of the interests of any gang or gang activity, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Soliciting others for membership in any gangs
 - b. Requesting any person to pay for “protection” or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person
 - c. Committing any illegal act or violation of school district policies
 - d. Inciting another person to act with physical violence upon any other person
- Implementation** 1. Any School District employee or any person with knowledge of

suspected signs of activity shall report the activity to his/her administrator or security personnel. Students, parents and community members are encouraged to report any suspected gang activity.

2. Administrators shall be aware that the occurrence of any of the acts described above does not necessarily constitute gang activity unless the entire definition of “gang” is met.
3. Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary actions, which may include suspensions and/or expulsion.
4. Notification of this policy shall be given to all students and employees.
5. School administrators shall identify any clothing, jewelry, emblems, badges, symbols or signs. Administrators shall consult with police and district security to help them determine what is gang-related, such as clothing, jewelry, emblems, badges, symbols or signs.

Administration shall report all incidents consistent with procedural guidelines to the Central Administration.