

Community Relations

Civility

Members of Lowell Joint School District staff will treat parents and other members of the public with respect and expect the same in return. The District is committed to maintaining orderly educational and administrative processes by keeping schools and administrative offices free from disruptions and preventing unauthorized persons from entering school/district grounds.

This policy promotes mutual respect, civility and orderly conduct among District employees, parents and the public. This policy is not intended to deprive any person of his/her right to freedom of expression, but only to maintain, to the extent possible and reasonable, a safe, harassment-free workplace for our pupils and staff. In the interest of presenting District employees as positive role models to the children of this District, as well as the community, the Lowell Joint School District encourages positive communication, and discourages volatile, hostile or aggressive actions. The District seeks public cooperation with this endeavor.

Disruptions

1. Any individual who disrupts or threatens to disrupt school office operations; threatens the health and safety of pupils or staff, willfully causes property damage; uses loud and/or offensive language which could provoke a violent reaction; or who has otherwise established a continued pattern of unauthorized entry on school district property, will be directed to leave school or school district property promptly by the Superintendent or designee.
2. If any member of the public uses obscenities or speaks in a demanding, loud, insulting and/or demeaning manner, the administrator or employee to whom the remarks are directed will calmly and politely admonish the speaker to communicate civilly. If corrective action is not taken by the abusing party, the District employee will verbally notify the abusing party that the meeting, conference or telephone conversation is terminated and, if the meeting or conference is on District premises, the offending person will be directed to leave promptly.
3. When an individual is directed to leave under such Paragraph 1 or 2 circumstances, the Superintendent or designee shall inform the person that he/she will be guilty of a misdemeanor in accordance with California Education Code 44811 and Penal Codes 415.5 and 626.7, if he/she reenters any district facility after being directed to leave. Restrictions on re-entry are specifically addressed in the above-referenced codes. If an individual refuses to leave upon request or returns before the applicable period of time, the Superintendent or designee may notify law enforcement officials.

(cf. 5146 - Campus Disturbance)

(cf. 9323 Meeting Conduct)

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Documentation

When it is determined by staff that a member of the public is in the process of violating the provisions of this policy, an effort should be made by staff to provide a written copy of this policy, including applicable code provisions, at the time of occurrence.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

32210 Disturbing School

44014 Assault on Personnel

44810 Person on School Grounds

44811 Insults and Abuses

PENAL CODE

243.5 Arrest on School Grounds

415.5 Fighting on School Ground

626.8 Entry of School by Person Not on Lawful Business

627.7 Refusal to Leave School Grounds

Policy Adopted: June 29, 2015