

# ALLENTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: GANGS

ADOPTED: June 21, 2007

REVISED:

218.3. GANGS	
1. Purpose	The Board recognizes the importance of providing a safe learning and working environment for students, employees and visitors and that the presence of gang activity threatens the safety of the school environment.
2. Definition	For purposes of this policy, a <b>gang</b> shall be defined as three (3) or more individuals with a common interest, bond, or activity which are associated with criminal activities or whose purpose includes the commission of illegal acts; and who refer to themselves by a group name or designation. This definition shall also include what is commonly known as a hate group.
3. Authority	The Board prohibits gang activity on school property or at any school-sponsored activity or during the time the student is traveling to or from school.
4. Guidelines	<p>The following guidelines are deemed closely related to gang activity and are prohibited:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Wearing, possessing, using, distributing, displaying or selling of any clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign, tattoos or manner of grooming, or other thing which indicates or implies membership in, or affiliation with any gang, and/or is representative of any gang.</li> <li>2. Commission of any act or omission, or the use of any speech, either verbal or nonverbal (gestures, handshakes, etc.), which indicates or implies membership in or affiliation with any gang, and/or is representative of any gang.</li> <li>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:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Soliciting others for membership in any gangs.</li> <li>b. Requesting any person to pay for protection or otherwise intimidating or threatening, hazing or harassing any person.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

- c. Committing any illegal act or violation of school district policies.
- d. Inciting another person to act with physical violence upon any other person or to cause damage to property.
- e. Painting, writing or otherwise inscribing gang-related graffiti, messages, insignias or signs on school property.

Implementation

A school or school district employee shall report all suspected signs of gang activity to her/his administrator. In determining whether acts are gang related, administrators are to exercise discretion and judgment based upon current circumstances in their school and surrounding neighborhood and the definition of gang set forth in this policy.

No student may engage in the above whether or not s/he is connected with a gang.

The Administration shall devise a schedule of penalties for engaging in activities in violation of this policy.

Notification of this policy shall be given to all students and employees.

Gang clothing, jewelry, emblems, badges, symbols or signs shall be identified by school administrators. Administrators shall consult with police, and/or the district's Office of Community and Student Services, as needed, to help them determine what is gang-related.

Administration shall report all incidents consistent with procedural guidelines.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 510