

POLICY

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Related Entries: JCC, JCCB-RA
Responsible Office: OFFICE OF SCHOOL SECURITY

GANG AND GANG-LIKE ACTIVITIES

A. PURPOSE

To establish a policy regarding students who participate in gang or gang-like activities in Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) in accordance with the Maryland Safe Schools Act of 2010.

B. ISSUE

The Board of Education of Anne Arundel County (Board) recognizes that the presence of gang and gang-like activities are never acceptable. Such activities are detrimental to the health, welfare, and safety of all individuals, students, and employees within the AACPS school system.

C. POSITION

Students are expressly prohibited at all times from participating in gangs or gang-like activities on Board owned or leased property, including school buildings, school grounds, school buses, or other AACPS vehicles, whether or not school is in session and during any school-sponsored activity, regardless of location. Any violation of this policy shall result in severe disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion. Prohibited acts include:

1. Wearing, possessing, using, distributing, displaying, or selling any clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign, or other item associated with the membership in or affiliation with any gang.
2. Committing any act which furthers the interests of any gang, gang-like activity, or act of violence, including:
 - a. Solicitation for membership in a gang;
 - b. Requesting any person to pay for protection or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person;
 - c. Committing or inciting criminal acts or violation of AACPS policies;
 - d. Soliciting other students to engage in physical violence against any person;

- e. Engaging in any act, either verbal or nonverbal, including hand gestures, handshakes, slogans, or drawings, that show membership or affiliation with a gang;
- f. Threatening or provoking fights, flashing colors, or making other verbal threats;
- g. Marking or defacing school property with messages, symbols, or slogans that may signify gang affiliation;
- h. Displaying gang apparel, signs, symbols, or slogans on personal property;
- i. Engaging in physical confrontations where one or more persons confront another person or group; and
- j. Using electronic equipment and devices, including a telephone, cellular phone, mobile device, computer, or pager to communicate gang or gang-like activities while on school property, or at a school-sponsored activity.

D. IMPLEMENTATION

The Superintendent is authorized to develop regulations to implement this policy.

Policy History: Adopted on 7/13/11; Revised 02/06/19

Note Previous Policy History: None