

**Gangs****Prevention and Intervention Measures**

In order to discourage the influence of gangs, school staff shall take the following measures:

1. Any student displaying behavior, gestures, apparel or paraphernalia indicative of gang affiliation shall be referred to the principal or designee.
  - a. The student's parent/guardian shall be contacted and may be asked to meet with school staff.
  - b. The student may be sent home to change clothes if necessary.
2. Staff members shall be provided with the names of known gang members.
3. Students who seek help in rejecting gang associations may be referred to community-based gang suppression and prevention organizations.
4. Any gang graffiti on school premises shall be removed, washed down or painted over as soon as discovered.
  - a. Daily checks for graffiti shall be made throughout the campus.
  - b. Graffiti shall be photographed before it is removed. These photographs shall be shared with local law enforcement authorities and used in future disciplinary or criminal action against the offenders.
5. Classroom and after-school programs at each school shall be designed to enhance individual self-esteem, provide positive reinforcement for acceptable behavior, and foster interest in a variety of constructive activities. These programs shall also:
  - a. Explain the dangers of gang membership
  - b. Provide counseling for targeted at-risk students
  - c. Include lessons or role-playing workshops in gang avoidance skills and nonviolent conflict resolution, including communication skills, anger management, ethnic/cultural tolerance, and mediation skills
  - d. Assign individual gang members to cooperative learning groups in which they may work toward common goals with students who are not members of their gang
  - e. Provide school-to-career instruction
  - f. Provide positive interaction with local law enforcement staff

Gang prevention lessons may be taught jointly by teachers and law enforcement staff.

6. Staff shall actively promote membership in authorized student organizations which can provide students companionship, safety, and a sense of purpose and belonging, including:
  - a. Positive sports and cultural activities and affiliations with the local community
  - b. Structured, goal-oriented community service projects

**Community Outreach**

Gang prevention classes or counseling offered for parents/guardians shall address the following topics:

1. The dangers of gang membership
2. Warning signs which may indicate that children are at risk of becoming involved with gangs

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3. The nature of local gang apparel and graffiti
4. Effective parenting techniques
5. Conflict resolution techniques

Community programs shall address:

1. The scope and nature of local gang problems
2. Strategies by which each segment of the community may alleviate gang problems

**Criteria for Gang Affiliation**

In order to create a safe and secure school environment, all types of verbal and physical harassment are prohibited under the California Education Code 48900.4.

To provide such an environment, all forms of gang-related or gang affiliated behavior, speech, or activity are prohibited while on school grounds, going to or coming from school, during the lunch period whether on or off campus, while attending or going to or coming from a school sponsored activity. Any verbal or non-verbal communication that denotes or connotes gangs, gang activity, or gang-related behavior will not be tolerated. Students engaging in such activity or behavior will be subject to disciplinary action based on the Corcoran Unified School District's discipline policies as outlined in Administrative Regulations and Board Policies 5144 through 5144.2 and the California Education Code.

According to the State of California an affiliate can be determined by the following criteria. A person that is determined to have shown at least 3 of the following behavior(s) and/or action(s) shall be identified as being associates with gang behavior:

1. Admits gang membership
2. Gang associated tattoo(s)
3. In photos or possessing photos of gang members
4. Named by a reliable source
5. Identified in or correspondence with gang members
6. Writes gang material or in the possession of gang material
7. Associates with gang members
8. Gang clothing or attire
9. Name on gang document or graffiti
10. Involved in gang related crimes

The items listed above have been identified by school administration and validated by law enforcement.