

## **GANGS AND GANG-LIKE ACTIVITY/BEHAVIOR PROHIBITED**

Gangs and gang-like activities/behavior are prohibited on school property or at any school-related activities. The visibility of gang and gang-like activities/behavior causes a substantial disruption and /or material interference to the educational process as well as school activities of District 214.

Gangs may be defined as any ongoing organization, association, or group of two or more persons, whether formal or informal, having as one of its primary activities the commission of one or more criminal acts or acts of 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 and gang-like activities/behavior as used in policy 7:190 shall mean, but is not limited to, the following:

- Any conduct engaged in by a student (1) on behalf of any gang, (2) to perpetuate the existence of any gang, or (3) to affect the common purpose and design of any gang, including without limitation, recruiting students for membership in any gang and threatening or intimidating other students or employees;
- Wearing, possessing, using, distributing, displaying, or selling any clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign, tattoo, or other item which is representative of membership or affiliation in any gang;
- Demonstrating verbal or nonverbal behavior representative of membership or affiliation in any gang, such as:
  - Intimidating, recruiting, or congregating to illustrate solidarity;
  - Harassing;
  - Making gestures or handshakes;
  - Possessing or creating slogans or drawings;
  - Using inappropriate verbal expressions/comments.
- Committing any act which furthers gang or gang-like activity/behavior such as:
  - Soliciting others for membership in any gang;
  - Encouraging other students to act with physical violence and /or act with intimidation upon any other person;
  - Using electronic devices to access information associated with gangs, which is not part of a curricular assignment. All violations will be referred to local police via the division head for student success, safety and wellness or other administrator, e.g. principal.

Consequences or interventions shall include, but are not limited to, one of the following:

- Formal warning;
- Referral to outside community agencies;
- Loss of privileges;
- Removal from co-curricular and athletic activities;
- Alternative to suspension;
- Suspension;

- Expulsion;
- Arrest for criminal offense.



