

**POLICY TITLE: Freedom of Speech
and Expression**

POLICY NO: 516

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The board of trustees seeks to provide an educational environment that respects the dignity and value of the individual student and district employee. While students have the right to express concerns, grievances, and viewpoints before school officials and fellow students, school officials may govern the time, place, and manner of such activity. At no time are students allowed to engage in speech or expression that is defamatory, illegal, invades or threatens to invade the rights of others, presents the likelihood of substantial disorder, or is disruptive to the educational process.

Language that is profane, vulgar, lewd, obscene, threatening, disruptive, discriminatory, or offensive in nature or content is prohibited on school premises, at school activities or events without regard to location, or on school sponsored transportation.

Use of such language may result in progressive discipline of the student to be established by the principal. In all circumstances, the principal may elect to take an incident directly to the board for expulsion, depending on the severity of the incident.



LEGAL REFERENCE:

LaVine v. Blaine School Dist., 257 F.3d 981 (9th Cir. 2001)

Tinker v. Des Moines Independent School District, 393 U.S. 503 (1969)

ADOPTED: January 11, 2010

AMENDED: