

## GANG PREVENTION POLICY

### PURPOSE

In accordance with Utah State Code 53E-3-509, the purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe, orderly, and supportive school environment by preventing gang involvement and addressing gang-related activity by and against students, parents, volunteers, and employees of Promontory School of Expeditionary Learning. This policy establishes expectations for prevention, reporting, intervention, and disciplinary response in accordance with Utah law and State Board of Education rules. A secondary purpose is to provide clear standards and a safe and accessible reporting process for school faculty and personnel suspecting gang activity. This policy shall be implemented without discrimination based on race, ethnicity, disability, religion, national origin, or protected status.

In accordance with:

- Utah State Board of Education rules including R277-436
- Utah Code 53E-3-509
- Applicable student discipline and safe schools laws

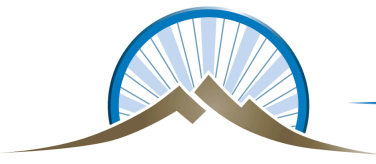
### DEFINITIONS

1. "Gang" means a group or association of three or more persons whose members:
  - a. form an allegiance;
  - b. engage in criminal activity, which uses violence or intimidation to further its criminal objectives; and
  - c. may have a name, turf, colors, symbols, distinct dress; or
  - d. any combination of the preceding characteristics.
2. "Gang Activity" means the commission of, attempted commission of, conspiracy to commit, or solicitation of two or more underlying crimes acts by a juvenile that would be an underlying crime if committed by an adult.

### POLICY

#### Prohibitions

1. No school employee or student may engage in the following on school property, at school-sponsored events, or in a context that affects the school environment:
  - a. advocating or promoting a gang or any gang-related activities;
  - b. marking school property, books, or school work with gang names, slogans, or signs;



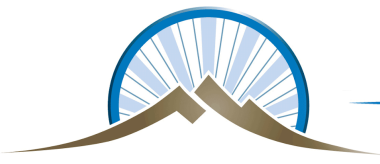
- c. conducting gang initiations;
  - d. threatening another person with bodily injury or inflicting bodily injury on another in connection with a gang or gang-related activity;
  - e. aiding or abetting an activity described under Subsections (2)(f)(i) through (iv) in Utah state code 53E-3-509 by a person's presence or support;
  - f. Wearing symbols, apparel, gestures, markings, or items reasonably determined by administration to materially disrupt the school environment, intimidate others, or communicate gang affiliation.
  - g. communicating in any method, including verbal, non-verbal, and electronic means, designed to convey gang membership or affiliation.
2. No school employee or student may make a false allegation of advocating or promoting a gang or any gang-related activities. False accusations may result in disciplinary action.

### Reporting & Investigation Requirements

1. All school employees who become aware of suspected or confirmed gang-related activity shall immediately report the information to school administration.
2. Upon receiving a report, Administration, or their designee, shall:
  - a. assess reported incidents promptly;
  - b. gather facts prior to labeling conduct as gang-related; and
  - c. avoid conclusions based solely on race, ethnicity, clothing style, neighborhood, friendships, or slang.
3. School Administration, or their designee, shall promptly report to law enforcement when the activity involves criminal conduct, threats, or safety risks.
  - a. If a safety threat is made, Administration shall follow Threat Assessment policies and procedures.
4. Reports shall be documented in accordance with school procedures.

### Parent/Guardian Notification

1. Gang-related incidents, such as graffiti or damage to school property, shall result in parent or guardian notification and appropriate administrative and/or law enforcement actions, which may include obtaining restitution from those responsible for the damage.
2. If a serious gang-related incident, such as a substantiated threat or safety risk, as determined by the school administrator and/or in consultation with local law enforcement, occurs on school property, at school-sponsored events, or in a context that affects the school environment parents and guardians of students affected shall be notified as soon as reasonably practicable following confirmation of the incident.
3. When notifying the broader school community of a serious incident, the school will:
  - a. provide general information without personally identifiable student information;
  - b. emphasize school safety; and



c. outline actions taken in response.

## Discipline and Consequences

Gang-related conduct will result in disciplinary action consistent with the school policies and applicable law. Consequences may include, but are not limited to:

- loss of privileges
- exclusion from extracurricular activities
- exclusion from school-sponsored events
- suspension or expulsion
- restitution for damage to school property
- law enforcement involvement

Disciplinary decisions will consider the severity of the behavior, student age, and prior interventions, and shall be implemented in compliance with applicable IDEA and Section 504 requirements.

## Prevention & Intervention

The School will implement developmentally appropriate prevention strategies in an effort to reduce the risk of gang involvement, which may include but is not limited to:

- promoting a positive school culture and student belonging
- instruction in social-emotional skills, conflict resolution, and decision-making
- providing access to extracurricular, leadership, and engagement opportunities

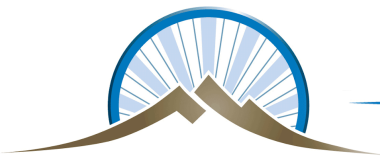
Students identified as at risk of, suspected of, or involved in gang activity will receive targeted, tiered interventions aligned with the school's support systems, which may include but is not limited to:

- counseling and behavioral supports
- mentoring and family engagement, including parent/guardian meetings
- referrals to community-based resources
- attendance and academic supports
- Other supports as appropriate

To support student safety and well-being, the school may collaborate with:

- local law enforcement;
- community organizations; and
- other prevention and intervention supports

In alignment with the goals of Utah Administrative Code R277-436, the school may utilize available resources and funding to support evidence-based gang prevention and intervention efforts when



appropriate.

## Training

1. School employees shall receive training on gang prevention and intervention as part of ongoing professional development.
2. To the extent feasible, training may be provided by qualified professionals, which may include community prevention specialists or law enforcement partners.
3. Training will support staff in recognizing early warning signs of gang involvement and in responding in ways that promote student safety and positive engagement that help students resist involvement in gang-related activities.
4. Annual training should include:
  - Warning signs
  - De-escalation
  - Reporting expectations
  - Avoiding profiling / bias
  - Social media threats
  - Intervention resources
  - Trauma-informed supports

## Records / Confidentiality

- Reports shall be kept confidential to the extent permitted by law, including applicable Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act protections, and information shall be shared only with staff who have a legitimate educational or safety need to know.

## Publication

This policy shall be distributed and made publicly available to students, parents/guardians, and employees through one or more appropriate communication methods, which may include handbooks, the school website, or other readily accessible formats.