

# LODI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Policy 5137.1

### Students

#### Prohibition of Hate-Motivated Behavior

In recognizing the need to provide orderly, caring and nondiscriminatory school learning environments, the Lodi Unified School District affirms the right of all students, staff and parent/ guardians to be protected from all behavior that is hate-motivated. The Board of Education directs the Superintendent to develop practices to insure protection from hate crimes, abusive statements or any activities that degrade an individual's race, culture, heritage, sexuality, physical/mental attributes, or religious beliefs and practices.

The Board recognizes that such hate-motivated acts, whether verbal or physical, are not only inflammatory and damaging to the victim's self-esteem, but also serve to jeopardize the safety and well-being of students, staff and parents/ guardians. Therefore, hate-motivated behavior will not be tolerated in the Lodi Unified School District. This expectation shall be specifically delineated in the Student Conduct Code. The Board directs the Superintendent to develop procedures that prohibit such acts and appropriately discipline students and staff engaging in such unacceptable behavior. Such discipline procedures may include, but not be limited to, suspension or recommendation for expulsion as authorized in the Education Code.

As previously affirmed in Board Policy 5137, staff shall be expected to teach students the meaning of equality, human dignity, and mutual respect, and to employ cooperative learning strategies that foster positive interactions in the classroom among students from diverse backgrounds. The district shall provide instruction and counseling designed to promote positive racial and ethnic identity, help students understand diverse cultures, teach them to think critically about racial bias, gender equity, and show them how to deal with discriminatory behavior in appropriate ways.

Legal References:     Education Code  
                              32230-32239 Conflict Resolution and School Violence  
  Reduction Program  
                              35160-35160.1 Authority of school districts  
                              44806 Duty concerning instruction of students  
                              48900 Conditions for Suspension, Expulsion  
                              48900.3 Hate Violence  
                              Penal Code  
                              422.6 Civil Rights Defined

Policy  
adopted:     08/20/96

revised: 06/02/98