## Students GANG ACTIVITY

## Purpose:

## Timeline:

All staff are charged with the responsibility for maintaining an educational environment free form disruption. Gang activity may cause disruptions that create a threatening or harmful influence. Staff should be continuously alert to gang activity and maintain close supervision of the school environment.

At the site administrators discretion, staff may use the following techniques to discourage the influence of gangs:

- Any student wearing or carrying overt gang paraphernalia or making gestures that symbolize gang membership may be referred to the site administrator or designee. The parent/guardian may be contacted and the student sent home to change clothes if necessary.
- Daily checks for graffiti may be made throughout the campus, including restroom walls and doors. Any gang graffiti on school premises may be quietly removed, washed down or painted over as soon as discovered.
- Graffiti may be photographed before it is removed. Such photographs may be shared with local law enforcement authorities and used in future disciplinary or criminal action against the offenders.
- Classroom programs may be designed to enhance individual self-esteem, provide positive reinforcement for acceptable behavior and foster interest in a variety of wholesome activities.
- Staff may actively promote membership in authorized student organizations that provide students with companionship, safety and a sense of purpose and belonging.
- Students who seek help in rejecting gang associations may be referred to community-based gang suppression and prevention organizations.

## MENDOCINO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

Date Adopted: 06/23/1998 Date Revised: