

South High - Inciting Conflict or Disruption

1. Purpose and Expectations

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all students respect each other and maintain a positive, peaceful learning environment. South High does not support any behavior that encourages, instigates, or incites altercations or conflicts between students. Students are expected to contribute to a culture of mutual respect, kindness, and nonviolence. Spreading false, malicious, or inflammatory information with the intent to create conflict, tension, or violence will not be tolerated.

2. Behavior Defined

The following actions are examples of behavior that are considered to incite conflict, promote violence and could lead to a substantial disruption:

- Spreading rumors, gossip, or lies that could cause substantial disruption.
- Deliberately sharing sensitive or personal information that is intended to provoke anger or conflict.
- Making inflammatory comments that create divisions or lead to arguments or physical confrontation.
- Instigating confrontations by encouraging other students to fight, argue, or act aggressively.
- Instigating or provoking online or in-person conflicts by targeting specific individuals or groups.
- Remaining in the vicinity of an escalated situation/physical altercation. Students are expected to walk away and remove themselves from the situation.
- Confronting another individual in an instance that leads to a disruption of the school environment

This includes both in-person behavior and online behavior (such as social media posts) that carry over into the school environment and disrupt the learning atmosphere.

3. Rationale for the Policy

- Safety and Well-Being: A safe school environment is essential for all students to thrive academically and socially. When students are subjected to harmful rumors or tension caused by others, it affects their ability to focus, feel safe, and succeed.
- Conflict Resolution: Encouraging peaceful conflict resolution is a priority. The school aims to prevent the escalation of conflicts by addressing harmful behaviors early.
- Respect for the School Community: All students deserve to learn in an environment free from intimidation, threats, or violence. Instigating harmful interactions undermines the values of respect, inclusion, and cooperation.

4. Consequences for Violations

The severity of the consequences will be determined based on the outcome of the substantial disruption. These measures ensure a fair approach while focusing on restorative outcomes.