Policy Guide

POLICY NO. 251
TERRORISTIC THREATS/ACTS

Section 1 Purpose

The Board recognizes the danger that terroristic threats and acts by students present to the safety and welfare of district students, staff and community. The Board acknowledges the need for an immediate and effective response to a situation involving such a threat or act. In all instances, the District’s goal will be to ensure the safety of all students and personnel.

Section 2 Definitions

**Terroristic Threat** – Shall mean a threat communicated either directly or indirectly to commit any crime of violence with the intent to terrorize another; to cause evacuation of a building, place of assembly or facility of public transportation; or to otherwise cause serious public inconvenience, or cause terror or serious public inconvenience with reckless disregard of the risk of causing such terror or inconvenience.

**Terroristic Act** – Shall mean an offense against property or involving danger to another person.

**Communicate** – Shall mean to convey in person or by written or electronic means, including telephone, electronic mail, internet, facsimile, telex and similar transmissions.

18 PA C.S.A. Sec. 2706
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Section 3  Authority

The Board prohibits any district student from communicating terroristic threats or committing terroristic acts directed at any student, employee, Board member, community member or property owned, leased or being used by the District.

In the case of a student with a disability, including a student for whom an evaluation is pending, the District in collaboration with the Solicitor shall take all steps required to comply with state and federal laws and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies while ensuring that the safety of all students and personnel is of the utmost importance.

If a student is expelled for making terroristic threats, the Board may require, prior to readmission, that the student provide competent and credible evidence that the student does not pose a risk of harm to others.

Section 4  Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall react promptly to information and knowledge concerning a possible or actual terroristic threat. Such action shall be in compliance with state law and regulations and with the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement officials and the District’s emergency preparedness plan.

Section 5  Guidelines

Staff members and students shall be made aware of their responsibility for informing the building principal regarding any information or knowledge relevant to a possible or actual terroristic threat or act.

When the building principal has evidence that a student has made a terroristic threat or committed a terroristic act, the following guidelines shall be applied:
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1. The building principal shall summon the student to the office and determine if an immediate suspension is in order. The student’s parents/guardians will be notified.

2. The building principal shall promptly report the incident to the Superintendent or designee.

3. Based on further investigation, the Superintendent or designee shall report the student to law enforcement officials.

4. The Superintendent or designee shall review the case with the Board and make recommendations, which may include permanent expulsion of the student.

The Superintendent or designee shall report incidents involving terroristic threats on school property, while the student is coming to or from school, at any school sponsored activity or on a conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school-sponsored activity to the local police department that has jurisdiction over the school’s property, in accordance with state law and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies.

The Superintendent or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of any student directly involved in an incident involving a terroristic threat as a victim or suspect immediately, as soon as practicable. The Superintendent or designee shall inform the parent/guardian that the local police department that has jurisdiction over the school property has been notified of the incident. The Superintendent or designee shall document attempts made to reach the parent/guardian.

In accordance with state law, the Superintendent shall annually, by July 31, report all incidents of terroristic threats to the Office for Safe Schools on the required form.

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**Pol. 233**

SC 1302.1-A, 1303-A
Title 22 Sec. 10.2, 10.25
Pol. 825

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SC 1303-A
Pol. 825
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References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1302.1-A, 1303-A

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 10.2, 10.23, 10.25, 12.2

Terroristic Threats – 18 Pa. C.S.A. Sec 2706


Individuals With Disabilities Education Act, Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations – 34 CFR Part 300

Board Policy – 113.1, 233, 805, 825