

The California Standards for the School Counseling Profession

STANDARD 5

PROMOTE AND MAINTAIN A SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL STUDENTS

School counselors actively participate in systematic planning for school safety that includes school climate and crisis response plans. School counselors address elements of prevention, intervention, and treatment and contribute to establishing and maintaining a positive, safe, and secure school environment. School counselors develop and implement programs that reduce the incidence of school-site verbal, psychological, and physical intimidation and violence. School counselors provide support to witnesses and victims of violence and promote responsible behavior by the perpetrators of violence.

5.1 Promote a positive, safe, and supportive learning environment

- Facilitate the development of a positive school environment that promotes active school engagement
- Ensure that students understand the relationship between rules, laws, safety, and the protection of individual rights
- Promote school safety and the reduction of verbal, emotional, psychological, and physical violence
- Advocate for the safety and well-being of all students through prevention, intervention, and treatment

5.2 Develop and implement programs that address the personal and social risk factors of students

- Collaborate with others to provide programs that reduce student at-risk behaviors
- Identify and respond to individual students who display early warning signs of difficulty in school adjustment, interpersonal conflicts and/or personal problems.
- Educate students, parents, staff members and the school community about the negative effects of verbal and physical abuse, gang activity, discrimination and stereotyping.

5.3 Develop and implement programs that reduce the incidence of school site Violence

- Design and implement programs that address ethnic, cultural, socioeconomic and other environmental factors that influence student learning and achievement.
- Collaborate with other school staff, community agencies, parents and student groups, to build and maintain safe learning environments
- Use assessment data to develop programs that promote a positive school climate and the wellbeing of all students.
- Utilize negotiation skills, conflict management skills, and mediation skills to help school staff communicate with difficult and/or angry parents, students, teachers, and other school staff

5.3 Incorporate models of systemic school safety that address elements of prevention, intervention, and treatment into the school system

- Utilize research-based models and programs designed to detect and limit the occurrence of violence and promote positive social relations in the classroom and on school campuses.
- Develop, implement and maintain crisis intervention procedures and practices and crisis management plans
- Promote the importance of a healthy balanced lifestyle in students including nutrition, fitness and positive use of leisure time.