

COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN

Part I – Public Components

2019-2020

School: Branciforte Middle School

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Purpose of the Comprehensive School Safety Plan (CSSP)

Sections 32280-32288 of the California Education Code outline the requirements of all schools operating any kindergarten and any grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to write and develop a Comprehensive School Safety Plan relevant to the needs and resources of that particular school.

It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting the provisions to support California public schools as they develop their mandated Comprehensive School Safety Plans that are the result of a systematic planning process, that include strategies aimed at the prevention of, and education about, potential incidents involving crime and violence on school campuses. Comprehensive School Safety Plans are required under SB 719 & AB 115 and must contain the following elements:

- Assessment of school crime committed on school campuses and at school-related functions
- Child abuse reporting procedures
- Disaster procedures
- Suspension and expulsion policies
- Procedures to notify teachers of dangerous pupils
- Discrimination and harassment policies
- School wide dress code policies
- Procedures for safe ingress and egress
- Policies enacted to maintain a safe and orderly environment
- Rules and procedures on school discipline
- Hate crime reporting procedures

The Comprehensive School Safety Plan will be reviewed and updated by March 1st every year. In July of every year, the school will report on the status of its school safety plan including a description of its key elements in the annual School Accountability Report Card (SARC).

A copy of the Comprehensive School Safety Plan Public Version – Part I is available for review at the Branciforte Middle School office, and online at sccs.net.

Plan Development and Approval

The Branciforte Middle School Comprehensive School Safety Plan has been developed by:

- X School Site Council
- School Safety Planning Committee

Which includes the following members:

Name	Membership Role
Amy Spiers	Principal or Principal's Designee
Molly O'Neil	Teacher from Branciforte Middle School
Lisa Orozco	Parent whose child attends the School
Teo Lopez	Classified Employee
Trevor Kendall	Law Enforcement Agency Representative
Casey O'Brien	Other

Key Dates of Plan Development and Approval	Date(s)
Meeting with representative of law enforcement agency to develop the Plan	1/16/2019
Meeting at the school site to allow members of the public the opportunity to review and express opinions about the Plan	2/1/2019
School Site Council approval of the Plan	2/13/2019
School District Board approval of the Plan	2/20/2019
Submission to Santa Cruz County Office of Education for audit review	3/1/2019

Current Status of School Crime

This section presents data that will be analyzed to assess the current status of school crime committed on the Branciforte Middle School campus and at school-related functions. Data presented include:

Incident Type	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Suspensions (Total #)	9	39	31
Expulsions (Total #)	1	3	0
Chronic Absentee Rate (%)	9%	13%	13%
Discipline for Bullying and Harassment (Total #)	5	3	0
Discipline for Fighting/Physical Harm (Total #)	4	8	9
Discipline for Substance Abuse (Total #)	6	13	4
Incidents involving Law Enforcement	no data	no data	3

Findings from the analysis of the data presented above include:

<p>Suspensions: Our suspensions for 17-18 improved (declined) slightly, but are still up significantly from 15-16. This year we are having regular student support team meetings to discuss ways to support our students with Tier 2/3 behaviors, as well as focusing more on restorative practices to support our students and keep them in their classes while still addressing their behaviors.</p>
<p>Expulsions: Last year our site had 0 expulsions, an improvement from the following year. As stated above in Suspensions, we are working hard to identify student behavior concerns and hope to be able to continue to keep our expulsion numbers low.</p>
<p>Chronic Absenteeism: Our chronic absentee rate remained consistent (13%) over the past two years, but is still higher than preferred. Again, our student support team is examining absentee data regularly and checking in with students and families to help the students with truancy issues. Appropriate referrals can be made to the district Student Attendance Review Board for additional support and accountability.</p>

Bullying and Harassment: Last year we had zero instances of bullying and harassment. Our Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) team, counselors, administration, and staff have worked hard to implement school wide behavior expectations and we have adopted a zero-tolerance philosophy around bullying.

Substance Abuse: Our data from 2017-18 was down significantly compared to 2016-17. Our counseling staff and administration works with students and stakeholders by providing education and referrals to help educate around student substance abuse.

School Safety Strategies and Programs

Branciforte Middle School is committed to school safety for all students, staff, and visitors. Many strategies and programs provide and maintain a high level of school safety.

School Vision/Mission Statement

Branciforte is a creative and stimulating learning community built on a foundation of respect and integrity, where individuals are safe, known well, and cared for, where everyone contributes and values the contributions of others, where everyone learns every day, and where scholarship leads to academic excellence.

Providing a safe learning environment is a priority for staff, parents, students, and school community members. Branciforte Middle School prepares students to be self-disciplined and responsible citizens who can meet the challenge of living in an ethnically and socio-economically diverse community. Branciforte Middle School promotes caring and nurturing relationships and work cooperatively with parents, students, law enforcement representatives, and other community agencies. Branciforte Middle School stresses prevention of violence on campus and prepares students to handle conflict, anger, and other threats to safety.

Programs are implemented to prevent drug, alcohol, and tobacco use. The Branciforte Middle School discipline policy provides students with behavior guidelines that are aligned to the California Education Code and district policies. School-wide rules, classroom rules, the dress code, and consequences for rule infractions provide students with clear expectations for behavior. The focus is to reduce barriers to learning as well as to build protective factors leading to student success, both academically and socially.

Intervention and prevention programs focus on positive youth development. Branciforte Middle School implements programs to create a positive school climate and promote social-emotional learning using research-based strategies. Branciforte Middle School implements multi-tiered systems of support/response to intervention for students that promote high expectations, maintain student engagement in school, and provide systems for student success.

Strategies and programs unique to Branciforte Middle School that provide a safe learning environment for all students, including specifically for LGBTQ students.

PBIS, School Clubs, Rainbow Alliance, Counseling Services, AAA, RtI/MTSS, Orientation, BTV, Assemblies, SCIL, Family Life Curriculum

Child Abuse Reporting Procedures

(EC 35294.2 [a] [2]; PC 11166)

All school staff members actively monitor the safety and welfare of all students. Staff members understand their responsibility as child-care custodians and will immediately report all cases of known and suspected child abuse pursuant to Penal Code Section 11166. District employees who are mandated reporters, as defined by law and administrative regulation, are obligated to report all known or suspected incidents of child abuse and neglect.

Penal Code 11166. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (d), and in Section 11166.05, a mandated reporter shall make a report to an agency specified in Section 11165.9 whenever the mandated reporter, in his or her professional capacity or within the scope of his or her employment, has knowledge of or observes a child whom the mandated reporter knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect. The mandated reporter shall make an initial report by telephone to the agency immediately or as soon as is practicably possible, and shall prepare and send, fax, or electronically transmit a written follow up report within 36 hours of receiving the information concerning the incident. The mandated reporter may include with the report any non-privileged documentary evidence the mandated reporter possesses relating to the incident.

Plans are also completed to assure ongoing monitoring of the student. School staff work closely with police and Child Protective Services with follow up actions as needed. Considerable effort is made to maintain the confidentiality of the student and employee in all cases of child abuse reporting. Copies of all written reports are maintained in a confidential file in the principal's office. Board Policy 5141.4 addresses Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting and is included in the Appendix of the Comprehensive School Safety Plan.

Emergency/Disaster Preparedness Training Schedule

Branciforte Middle School will provide all students and staff with emergency/disaster preparedness training in a variety of procedures according to the following schedule:

Training	Date(s)
Fire Procedures	11/17/18
Lock Down Procedures	9/15/18
Code Red Procedures	9/15/18
Shelter in Place Procedures	9/15/18
Earthquake Emergency Procedures	10/15/18

Procedures for Emergency Use by Public Agency – BP 3516

As documented in Board Policy 3516, public agencies, including the American Red Cross, have permission to use school buildings, grounds, and equipment for mass care and welfare shelters during disasters or other emergencies affecting the public health and welfare. The Board will cooperate with such agencies in furnishing and maintaining whatever services they deem necessary to meet the community's needs. Board Policy 3516 is included in the Appendix.

Suspension/Expulsion Policies – BP 5144.1

As documented in Board Policy 5144.1, the school desires to provide students access to educational opportunities in an orderly school environment that protects their safety and security, ensures their welfare and well-being, and promotes their learning and development. Rules and regulations set the standards of behavior expected of students and the disciplinary processes and procedures for addressing violations of those standards, including suspension and/or expulsion. Board Policy 5144.1 is included in the Appendix.

"Re-entry" meetings are conducted for all suspensions with the intent of moving forward in a positive fashion.

Procedures to Notify Teachers of Dangerous Pupils – BP 5148

As documented in Board Policy 5148, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that employees are informed, in accordance with law, regarding crimes and offenses by students who may pose a danger in the classroom. Board Policy 5148 is included in the Appendix.

Nondiscrimination/Harassment Policy – BP 5145.3

As documented in Board Policy 5145.3, the Board of Education desires to provide a safe school environment that allows all students equal access and opportunities in the district's academic and other educational support programs, services, and activities. The Board prohibits, at any district school or school activity, unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying of any student, based on actual or perceived characteristics of race or ethnicity, color, nationality, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, religion, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or any other characteristic identified in Education Code 200 or 220, Penal Code 422.55, or Government Code 11135, or based on association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. Board Policy 5145.3 is included in the Appendix.

Strategies and programs unique to Branciforte Middle School that provide a safe school environment for all students, including specifically for LGBTQ students.

PBIS, School Clubs, Rainbow Alliance, Counseling Services, AAA, RtI/MTSS, Orientation, BTV, Assemblies, SCIL, Family Life Curriculum

Dress Code – BP 5132

As documented in Board Policy 5132, the Board of Education believes that appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive learning environment. The Board expects students to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to wear clothes that are suitable for the school activities in which they participate. Students' clothing must not present a health or safety hazard or a distraction which would interfere with the educational process. Students are prohibited from wearing gang-related apparel when there is evidence of a gang presence that disrupts or threatens to disrupt the school's activities. Board Policy 5132 is included in the Appendix.

Rules and Procedures for School Discipline – BP 5144

As documented in Board Policy 5144, the Board of Education is committed to providing a safe, supportive, and positive school environment which is conducive to student learning and to preparing students for responsible citizenship by fostering self-discipline and personal responsibility. The Board believes that high expectations for student behavior, use of effective school and classroom management strategies, provision of appropriate intervention, provision of appropriate intervention and support, and parent involvement can minimize the need for disciplinary measures that exclude students from instruction as a means for correcting student misbehavior.

Consultation, Cooperation and Coordination with other School Site Councils or School Safety Plan Committees

Districtwide Safety Collaboration Meeting 1/17/19; Countywide School Safety Plan Collaboration 12/12/18

Bullying Prevention – BP 5131.2

As documented in Board Policy 5131.2, the Board of Education is committed to creating a safe learning and working environment for all students and employees. The Board of Education recognizes the harmful effects of bullying on student learning and school attendance and desires to provide safe school environments that protect students from physical and emotional harm. District employees shall establish student safety as a high priority and shall not tolerate bullying of any student.

No student or groups of students shall, through physical, written, verbal, or other means, harass, sexually harass, threaten, intimidate, cyberbully, cause bodily injury to, or commit hate violence against any other student or school personnel. Board Policy 5131.2 is included in the Appendix.

Strategies and programs unique to Branciforte Middle School that prevent bullying for all students, including specifically for LGBTQ students.

PBIS, School Clubs, Counseling Services, RtI/MTSS, Orientation, BTV, Assemblies, SCIL, Family Life Curriculum, PBIS, School Clubs, Counseling Services, AAA, RtI/MTSS, Orientation (Beekeepers), BTV, Assemblies, SCIL, FTE for Connectedness, After school sports, Trauma Informed Classrooms.

Specific programs and supports for our LGBTQ students include a robust and visible Rainbow Alliance (Gay Student Alliance), All-gender bathrooms, counseling services, Whole student-body recognition of day-of-silence, assemblies that promote anti-bullying and acceptance.

Positive School Climate – BP 5137

As documented in Board Policy 5137, the Board of Education desires to enhance student learning by providing an orderly, caring, and nurturing educational and social environment in which all students can feel safe and take pride in their school and their achievements. The school environment should be characterized by positive interpersonal relationships among students and between students and staff.

The district's curriculum shall include age-appropriate character education which includes, but is not limited to, the principles of equality, human dignity, mutual respect, fairness, honesty, and citizenship. The Superintendent or designee may develop other strategies to enhance students' feelings of connectedness with the schools, such as campus beautification projects, graffiti removal, development of extracurricular activities and after-school programs, pairing of adult mentors with individual students, recognition of student achievement, and encouragement of strong family and community involvement in the schools. Board Policy 5137 is included in the Appendix.

California Healthy Kids Survey Summary of Key Indicators of School Climate and Well Being

The following data are the key safety and school connectedness indicators from the 2016-17 California Healthy Kids Survey. The

percentages represent the district responses for 7th grade.

School Environment Scales (Numbers represent % of High/Moderate/Low responses)

Total school supports - 42/49/8

Caring adults in school - 38/53/9

High expectations-adults in school - 55/41/4

Meaningful participation at school - 20/54/27

School Connectedness - 62/32/6

Perceived Safety at School - Very safe 21%, Safe 43%, Neither safe nor unsafe 30%, Unsafe 5%, Very unsafe 1%

The areas of greatest need under perceived safety were "Experienced any harassment or bullying" with 31% of students experiencing one or more instances in the past 30 days, "Had mean rumors or lies spread about you" with 31% of students

experiencing one or more instances in the past 30 days, and "Been made fun of, insulted, or called names" with 32% of students

experiencing one or more instances in the past 20 days.

The Branciforte Social Emotional Health Survey (SEHS) for 2018 provided more current feedback around Social/Emotional and Connectedness data for our site.

Data to celebrate:

The information provided will be shown as percent of 6th/7th/8th with responses indicating "Pretty much true" and "Very much true."

At my school, there is a teacher or some other adult who always wants me to do my best: 91/94/81

My family members really help and support one another: 81/88/81

I have a friend my age who helps me when I'm having a hard time: 78/79/74

Data to address:

The information provided will be shown as percent of 6th/7th/8th with responses indicating "Neither disagree or agree," "Disagree," and "Strongly disagree."

I am happy to be at this school: 33/33/43

I feel safe at my school: 37/31/35

PBIS, School Clubs, Counseling Services, AAA, RtI/MTSS, Orientation (Beekeepers), BTV, Assemblies, SCIL, FTE for Connectedness, After school sports, Trauma Informed Classrooms

School Counselor(s), School Social Worker, School Psychologist, Behaviorist, School Therapist, District Nurse, SRO, Administration and Outside Agencies as needed, provide Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 supports to Branciforte families and students.

Strategies and programs unique to Branciforte Middle School that create a positive school climate for all students, including specifically for LGBTQ students.

At Branciforte Middle School, there is ongoing and dedicated learning about LGBTQ student inclusivity and support by and for the whole school . This support is evidenced via staff knowledge of laws and policy, as well as expected behavior and interactions between students and staff. Other supports in place to enhance school climate include the implementation of Positive Behavior Intervention and Support, School Clubs, Counseling Services, AAA, RtI/MTSS, Orientation (Beekeepers), BTV, Assemblies, SCIL, FTE for Connectedness, school sports, and Trauma Informed Classrooms.

Specific programs and supports for our LGBTQ students include a robust and visible Rainbow Alliance (Gay Student Alliance), All-gender bathrooms, counseling services, whole student-body recognition of day-of-silence, assemblies that promote anti-bullying and acceptance.

Uniform Complaint Procedure – BP 1312.3

As documented in Board Policy 5137, the Board of Education recognizes that the district has the primary responsibility to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations governing educational programs. The Board encourages early resolution of complaints whenever possible. To resolve complaints which may require a more formal process, the Board adopts the uniform system of complaint processes specified in 5 CCR 4600-4670 and the accompanying administrative regulation. Board Policy 1312.3 is included in the Appendix.

Strategies and programs unique to Branciforte Middle School that encourage early resolution of complaints for all students, including specifically for LGBTQ students.

Our site leadership and counseling teams immediately address and investigate complaints. All complaints are taken seriously in an effort to find resolutions to promote safety for all students. We work in partnership with our district administration and follow board policy. Specific efforts are made to ensure that LGBTQ students are supported mentally, emotionally, and physically at our site and that they are aware of their rights and available supports.

Protocols to Address Mental Health Care of Pupils Who Have Witnessed a Violent Act

Pupils who have witnessed a violent act at school or at a school-sponsored activity, while going to or coming from school or a school sponsored activity, or during a lunch period on or off campus, will need attention to address their mental health. Witnessing violence and being a victim of violence at school have been found both positively and significantly associated with child psychological trauma symptoms and self-reported violent behavior, even after controlling for the effects of various demographic factors. Serious emotional and behavioral consequences can occur for students who are merely witnesses to violence (Flannery, D. J., Wester, K. L., & Singer, M. I., 2004).

All of the Branciforte teaching staff are trained in Trauma Informed/Brain-based learning to bring strategies to our classrooms to support students who have experienced trauma. In specific instances, we provide counseling by our site counselor, social worker, and outside agencies, as needed, to support our students who have witnessed or been victim to violence.

Procedures for Safe Ingress and Egress of Pupils, Parents, and School Employees to and from school

In an effort to assure the safety and welfare of students, parents, and visitors to Branciforte Middle School, the following procedures should be followed when traveling to and from the school site:

- Daily Bus Drop-off & Pick-up at School:
- Students Walking to School:
- Students and Adults visiting the school site after hours or on weekends:

Students arrive on campus in various ways. Walkers have crosswalks available at the corner of Melrose and Poplar. There is a four way stop at that corner. There is a crosswalk giving access to the center of campus at Poplar and Hammond. Slow School signs are placed in all directions from campus. Bicyclists and skateboarders, once on campus, have a bike cage and a skateboard shed to secure their bikes and skateboards. They are encouraged to have heavy-duty locks and cables. Our campus supervisor or other school personnel stays at the cage until all students have arrived in the morning and is positioned at the cage after school for safety.

Ecology Action and the regional transportation district working with staff, students, and parents, completed a bicycle and pedestrian safety audit on January 30, 2014. Recommendations included improved signage, crosswalk on Morrissey Blvd., and improved sidewalk and bicycle lanes in the neighborhood. There is a bus loading and unloading zone on Melrose to prevent cars parking in the area of bicycle ingress and egress.

Students and Adults visiting Branciforte after hours or on weekends are encouraged to follow the same safety guidelines.

Appendix

Board Policy 5141.4 Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting

Board Policy 3516 Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness

Board Policy 5144.1 Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Board Policy 4158 Employee Security/Teacher Notification

Board Policy 5145.3 Nondiscrimination/Harassment

Board Policy 5132 Dress and Grooming

Board Policy 5144 Discipline

Board Policy 5131.2 Bullying Prevention

Board Policy 5137 Positive School Climate

Board Policy 1312.3 Uniform Complaint Procedure

