## **Civility Policy**

The Newhall School District Governing Board adopted a policy (BP #1322) on Civility in response to a growing number of incidents in which school staff members have felt threatened by parents or other adults.

The policy states "members of the Newhall School District staff will treat parents, each other, and other members of the public with respect and expect the same in return." It goes on to say, "The Governing Board believes that all employees should have the opportunity to carry out their duties and interactions with the public in a professional manner and that employees should not be subjected to abusive behavior."

In reality, the District's Civility Policy is a strong reminder of existing District rules and states laws involving disruptions on school property. For example, the policy states that anyone who threatens the safety of students or staff, or, whose actions could provide a violent reaction, will be asked to leave school property. This is standard procedure in our schools.

Newhall employees are being urged by this policy to admonish members of the public if they use obscenities or threatening language or behavior to intimidate or berate employees.

It is important to note that though the policy was prompted by certain members of the public's behavior toward staff, the policy is reciprocal and also applies to school staff.

The District seeks public cooperation with this policy.