

BULLYING PROHIBITION POLICY SUMMARY

A safe and civil environment is needed for students to learn and attain high academic standards and to promote healthy human relationships. Bullying, including cyberbullying, is prohibited on school premises, on school district property, at school functions or activities, or on school transportation.



WHAT IS BULLYING?

“Bullying” means intimidating, threatening, abusive, or harming conduct that is:

a. objectively offensive;	OR	materially and substantially interferes with a student’s educational opportunities or performance or ability to participate in school functions or activities or receive school benefits, services, or privileges.
b. an actual or perceived imbalance of power exists between the student engaging in the prohibited conduct and the target of the prohibited conduct;		
b. the conduct is repeated or forms a pattern;		

WHO DOES THE BULLYING POLICY APPLY TO?

- Students who directly engage in an act of bullying and students who condone or support another student’s act of bullying.
- Teachers, administrators, volunteers, contractors, or other employees of the school district.
- Apparent permission or consent by a student being bullied does not lessen or negate the prohibitions contained in this policy.

REPORTING BULLYING

- Alleged acts should immediately be reported to the school Principal, Dean of Students, or Counselor, preferably on the report form available in the school office.
- Bullying can be reported anonymously but the school district may not rely solely on an anonymous report to determine discipline or other remedial responses.
- Reports of bullying are classified as private data and are confidential.

SCHOOL OR DISTRICT RESPONSE

- Within three days of the receipt of a report of bullying, the school district will begin an investigation.
- Immediate steps may be taken to protect the target of the bullying, the complainant, the reporter, or others.
- The alleged perpetrator of the bullying will be allowed the opportunity to present a defense.
- Upon completion of an investigation the school district will take appropriate action, which may include, but is not limited to, warning, suspension, exclusion, expulsion, transfer, remediation, termination, or discharge.
- Disciplinary consequences will be sufficiently severe to try to deter violations and to appropriately discipline prohibited conduct.
- School officials will notify the parent(s) or guardian(s) of students who are targets of bullying and the parent(s) or guardian(s) of alleged perpetrators of bullying who have been involved in a reported and confirmed bullying incident.
- The school district will discipline or take appropriate action against any student or adult who commits an act of reprisal or retaliation.

OTHER IMPORTANT ITEMS

- Training will be provided by the district to school personnel and volunteers.
- Students, parents, and staff will be notified of the Bullying policy in student handbooks, school offices, and it will be available on the district website.