

Policy JICK: BULLYING / HARASSMENT/INTIMIDATION
Summary Statement

Introduction

The Governing Board believes it is the right of every student to be educated in a positive, safe, caring, and respectful learning environment. The Board further believes a school environment inclusive of these traits maximizes student achievement, fosters student personal growth, and helps students build a sense of community that promotes positive participation as members of society. The District, in partnership with parents, guardians, and students, shall establish and maintain a school environment based on these beliefs.

Definition

Bullying: bullying may occur when a student or group of students engages in any form of behavior that includes such acts as intimidation and/or harassment that has the effect of physically or emotionally harming a student, damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm or damage to property. Is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that the action, behavior, or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive environment in the form of physical or emotional harm, occurs when there is a real or perceived imbalance of power or strength, or may constitute a violation of law.

Examples of bullying could include:

- Physical: hitting, kicking, pushing, choking, or punching
- Verbal/Written: threatening, teasing, starting rumors, or name-calling
- Cyber: writing mean things on Facebook, e-mail or posting embarrassing photos of people
- Harassment/Intimidation: stalking, social exclusion, unwanted verbal or physical contact and may be related to race, religion, sexual orientation, cultural background, economic status, size or personal appearance.

Discipline

Students will receive a disciplinary action if bullying occurs on school grounds, school property, school buses, school bus stops, field trips or other school-sponsored activities, and through the use of computers or cell phones.

All suspected violations of law will be reported to the local police.

Reporting Bullying

Students, parents/guardians, and employees must report bullying incidents to the school principal.

All reports are confidential.

The principal must investigate the incident within two days and maintain written documentation of the bullying incident.

Parents will receive information regarding support services and a follow-up letter regarding the findings of the bullying report.

Emergency medical services or the local police will be contacted, if necessary.