

Student Violence/Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying

The district does not tolerate bullying in any form. Further, the District shall investigate each complaint of bullying and will take appropriate, timely and responsive action.

Bullying Definition: 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:

1. Has the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm or damage to property,
2. 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,
3. Occurs when there is a real or perceived imbalance of power or strength, or
4. May constitute a violation of law.

Bullying of a student or group of students can be manifested through written, verbal, physical, or emotional means and may occur in a variety of forms including, but not limited to:

- Verbal, written/printed or graphic exposure to derogatory comments, extortion, exploitation, name calling, or rumor spreading either directly through another person or group or through cyberbullying,
- Exposure to social exclusion or ostracism,
- Physical contact including but not limited to pushing, hitting, kicking, shoving, or spitting, and
- Damage to or theft of personal property.

Cyberbullying: Cyberbullying is, but not limited to, any act of bullying committed by use of electronic technology or electronic communication devices, including telephonic devices, social networking and other Internet communications, on school computers, networks, forums and mailing lists, or other District-owned property, and by means of an individual's personal electronic media and equipment.

Harassment: Harassment is intentional behavior by a student or group of students that is disturbing or threatening to another student or group of students. Intentional behaviors that characterize harassment include, but are not limited to, stalking, hazing, social exclusion, name calling, unwanted physical contact and unwelcome verbal or written comments, photographs and graphics. Harassment may be related, but not limited to, race, religious orientation, sexual orientation, cultural background, economic status, size, or personal appearance. Harassing behaviors can be direct or indirect and by use of social media.

Intimidation: Intimidation is intentional behavior by a student or group of students that places another student or group of students in fear of harm to person or property. Intimidation can be manifested emotionally or physically, either directly or indirectly, and by use of social media.

Students are prohibited from bullying on school grounds, school property, school buses, at bus stops, at school sponsored events and activities, and through the use of electronic technology or electronic communication equipment. Students who believe they are experiencing being bullied or suspect another student is bullied should report their concern to any staff member of the School District.

Procedures for Reporting – Do I fill out a complaint form (JICK-EA)?

