

Students

Harassment of Students Prohibited

No person, including a School District employee or agent, or student, shall harass, intimidate, or bully a student on the basis of actual or perceived: race; color; national origin; military status; unfavorable discharge status from military service; sex; sexual orientation; gender identity; gender-related identity or expression; ancestry; age; religion; physical or mental disability; order of protection status; status of being homeless; actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy; physical appearance; socioeconomic status; academic status; association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics; or any other distinguishing characteristic. The District will not tolerate harassing, intimidating conduct, or bullying whether verbal, physical, sexual, or visual, that affects the tangible benefits of education, that unreasonably interferes with a student's educational performance, or that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. Examples of prohibited conduct include name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, sexual violence, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, threatened or actual destruction of property, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.

Sexual Harassment Prohibited

The District shall provide an educational environment free of verbal, physical, or other conduct or communications constituting harassment on the basis of sex as defined and otherwise prohibited by State and federal law. See Board policies 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*, and 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

Making a Report or Complaint

Students are encouraged to promptly report claims or incidences of bullying, intimidation, harassment, sexual harassment, or any other prohibited conduct to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the student is comfortable speaking. A student may choose to report to an employee of the student's same gender.

Reports under this policy will be considered a report under Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, and/or Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator and/or Complaint Manager shall process and review the report according to the appropriate grievance procedure. The Superintendent shall insert into this policy the names, office addresses, email addresses, and telephone numbers of the District's current Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Managers. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator also serves as the District's Title IX Coordinator.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

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Janet Gladu

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Complaint Managers:

Name Ryan Hopper	Name Ashlee Goettsche
Address 404 West Main St., La Harpe, IL 61450	Address 404 West Main St., La Harpe, IL 61450
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The Superintendent shall use reasonable measures to inform staff members and students of this policy by including:

1. For students, age-appropriate information about the contents of this policy in the District’s student handbook(s), on the District’s website, and, if applicable, in any other areas where policies, rules, and standards of conduct are otherwise posted in each school.
2. For staff members, this policy in the appropriate employee handbook(s), if applicable, and/or in any other areas where policies, rules, and standards of conduct are otherwise made available to staff.

Investigation Process

Any District employee who receives a report or complaint of harassment must promptly forward the report or complaint to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or a Complaint Manager. Any employee who fails to promptly comply may be disciplined, up to and including discharge.

Reports and complaints of harassment will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable, subject to the District’s duty to investigate and maintain an educational environment that is productive, respectful, and free of unlawful discrimination, including harassment. For any report or complaint alleging sexual harassment that, if true, would implicate Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. §1681 *et seq.*), the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or designee shall consider whether action under Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*, should be initiated.

For any report or complaint alleging harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or a Complaint Manager or designee shall investigate under Board policy 2:270, *Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited*.

For any other alleged student harassment that does not require action under Board policies 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*, or 2:270, *Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited*, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or a Complaint Manager or designee shall consider whether an investigation under Board policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, and/or 7:190, *Student Behavior*, should be initiated, regardless of whether a written report or complaint is filed.

Reports That Involve Alleged Incidents of Sexual Abuse of a Child by School Personnel

An *alleged incident of sexual abuse* is an incident of sexual abuse of a child, as defined in 720 ILCS 5/11-9.1A(b), that is alleged to have been perpetrated by school personnel, including a school vendor or volunteer, that occurred: on school grounds during a school activity; or outside of school grounds or not during a school activity.

Any complaint alleging an incident of sexual abuse shall be processed and reviewed according to Board policy 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*. In addition to reporting the suspected abuse, the complaint shall also be processed under Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*, or Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

Enforcement

Any District employee who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge. Any third party who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be addressed in accordance with the authority of the Board in the context of the relationship of the third party to the District, e.g., vendor, parent, invitee, etc. Any District student who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to, suspension and expulsion consistent with the behavior policy. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to disciplinary action.

Retaliation Prohibited

Retaliation against any person for bringing complaints or providing information about harassment is prohibited (see Board policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*, and 2:270, *Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited*).

Students should report allegations of retaliation to the Building Principal, an administrator, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, and/or a Complaint Manager.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq., Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; 34 C.F.R. Part 106.
29 U.S.C. §791 et seq., Rehabilitation Act of 1973; 34 C.F.R. Part 104.
42 U.S.C. §2000d, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; 34 C.F.R. Part 100.
105 ILCS 5/10-20.12, 5/10-22.5, 5/10-23.13, 5/27-1, and 5/27-23.7.
775 ILCS 5/1-101 et seq., Illinois Human Rights Act.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.240 and Part 200.
Davis v. Monroe County Bd. of Educ., 526 U.S. 629 (1999).
Franklin v. Gwinnett Co. Public Schs., 503 U.S. 60 (1992).
Gebser v. Lago Vista Independent Sch. Dist., 524 U.S. 274 (1998).
West v. Derby Unified Sch. Dist. No. 260, 206 F.3d 1358 (10th Cir. 2000).

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 2:265 (Title IX Grievance Procedure), 2:270 (Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited), 4:165 (Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities)

Students

Administrative Procedure - Harassment of Students Prohibited

This procedure informs: (1) the Building Principal of specific steps to prevent harassment of students, and (2) staff members of the appropriate response to allegations of harassment.

Actor	Action
Building Principal or Designee	<p>Informs staff members and students that the District prohibits harassment of students. Distributes or references School Board policies 2:260, <i>Uniform Grievance Procedure</i>; 2:265, <i>Title IX Grievance Procedure</i>; 2:270, <i>Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited</i>; and 7:20, <i>Harassment of Students Prohibited</i>, using various methods. Takes measures to prevent harassment of students, which may include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conducts regular harassment awareness training for all school staff, including administrators, teachers, and school counselors, and ensures all new employees are trained. 2. Conducts regular age-appropriate harassment awareness training for students. 3. Provides a means for students to learn and discuss what constitutes harassment and how to respond to it in the school setting. 4. Surveys students to determine if harassment is occurring at school. 5. Conducts regular harassment awareness training for parents/guardians. 6. Works with parents/guardians and students to develop and implement age-appropriate, effective measures for addressing harassment. 7. Determines when extra supervision and precaution should be taken, such as when: two or more students seem to be in conflict with each other; there have been previous incidents of harassment, sexual assaults, threats, or bullying around perceived sexual orientation; or a specific student has had multiple disciplinary violations. 8. Has a process in place to: (1) inform a staff member when a student that he or she supervises has a history of violent or sexually inappropriate behavior, and (2) keep such a student constantly supervised. 9. Regularly trains staff members regarding: (1) their classroom and non-classroom supervisory responsibilities, e.g., during a school-sponsored event, before and after school, while students wait for the school bus, between classes, during lunch, and at recess, (2) behaviors that may be an indicator of sexual or physical violence against another student, and (3) what to do when they observe an unusual and disruptive student.

Actor	Action
	<p>10. Identifies areas in the school building that are isolated, e.g., restrooms, locker rooms, hallways while classes are in session, stairwells, and empty rooms, and takes extra steps to make them safe.</p> <p>11. Immediately notifies the police and relevant parents/guardians when an assault or attempted assault has occurred.</p>
<p>Nondiscrimination Coordinator and/or Complaint Manager(s)</p>	<p>Thoroughly and promptly investigates allegations of harassment by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Distributing Board policies 2:260, <i>Uniform Grievance Procedure</i>; 2:265, <i>Title IX Grievance Procedure</i>; 2:270, <i>Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited</i>; and 7:20, <i>Harassment of Students Prohibited</i>, to any person upon request; 2. Following Board policies 2:260, <i>Uniform Grievance Procedure</i>; 2:265, <i>Title IX Grievance Procedure</i>; 2:270, <i>Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited</i>; and 7:20, <i>Harassment of Students Prohibited</i>; 3. Notifying a student’s parents/guardians that they may attend any investigatory meetings in which their child is present; 4. Keeping the complaining parents/guardians informed of any investigation’s progress; and 5. Keeping confidential all information about an investigation and the statements of students and other witnesses. The Superintendent shall be kept informed of an investigation’s progress, unless the Superintendent is the subject of the complaint. If a complaint contains allegations involving the Superintendent, the Board President shall be kept informed of an investigation’s progress.
<p>All District Staff Members</p>	<p>Immediately reports to the Ill. Dept. of Children and Family Services any situation that provides you with reasonable cause to believe that a child may be an abused child or a neglected child. See Board policy 5:90, <i>Abused and Neglected Child Reporting</i>.</p> <p>Promptly notifies the Superintendent or Building Principal that you made a report. If a report contains allegations involving the Superintendent, only notifies the Building Principal who shall contact the Board President. If a report contains allegations involving the Building Principal, only notifies the Superintendent.</p>

Students

Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment

Bullying, intimidation, and harassment diminish a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate. Preventing students from engaging in these disruptive behaviors and providing all students equal access to a safe, non-hostile learning environment are important District goals.

Bullying on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, physical appearance, socioeconomic status, academic status, pregnancy, parenting status, homelessness, age, marital status, physical or mental disability, military status, sexual orientation, gender-related identity or expression, unfavorable discharge from military service, order of protection status, association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics, or any other distinguishing characteristic **is prohibited** in each of the following situations:

1. During any school-sponsored education program or activity.
2. While in school, on school property, on school buses or other school vehicles, at designated school bus stops waiting for the school bus, or at school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events or activities.
3. Through the transmission of information from a school computer, a school computer network, or other similar electronic school equipment.
4. Through the transmission of information from a computer that is accessed at a nonschool-related location, activity, function, or program or from the use of technology or an electronic device that is not owned, leased, or used by the School District or school if the bullying causes a substantial disruption to the educational process or orderly operation of a school. This paragraph (item #4) applies only when a school administrator or teacher receives a report that bullying through this means has occurred; it does not require staff members to monitor any nonschool-related activity, function, or program.

Definitions from 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7

Bullying includes *cyberbullying* and means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

1. Placing the student or students in reasonable fear of harm to the student's or students' person or property;
2. Causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student's or students' physical or mental health;
3. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' academic performance; or
4. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Bullying may take various forms, including without limitation one or more of the following: harassment, threats, intimidation, stalking, physical violence, sexual harassment, sexual violence, theft, public humiliation, destruction of property, or retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of bullying. This list is meant to be illustrative and non-exhaustive.

Cyberbullying means bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication, including without limitation any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data, or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic system, photo-electronic system, or photo-optical system, including without limitation electronic mail, Internet communications, instant messages, or

facsimile communications. *Cyberbullying* includes the creation of a webpage or weblog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person or the knowing impersonation of another person as the author of posted content or messages if the creation or impersonation creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of bullying. *Cyberbullying* also includes the distribution by electronic means of a communication to more than one person or the posting of material on an electronic medium that may be accessed by one or more persons if the distribution or posting creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of *bullying*.

Restorative measures means a continuum of school-based alternatives to exclusionary discipline, such as suspensions and expulsions, that: (i) are adapted to the particular needs of the school and community, (ii) contribute to maintaining school safety, (iii) protect the integrity of a positive and productive learning climate, (iv) teach students the personal and interpersonal skills they will need to be successful in school and society, (v) serve to build and restore relationships among students, families, schools, and communities, (vi) reduce the likelihood of future disruption by balancing accountability with an understanding of students' behavioral health needs in order to keep students in school, and (vii) increase student accountability if the incident of bullying is based on religion, race, ethnicity, or any other category that is identified in the Ill. Human Rights Act.

School personnel means persons employed by, on contract with, or who volunteer in a school district, including without limitation school and school district administrators, teachers, school social workers, school counselors, school psychologists, school nurses, cafeteria workers, custodians, bus drivers, school resource officers, and security guards.

Bullying Prevention and Response Plan

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and maintain a bullying prevention and response plan that advances the District's goal of providing all students with a safe learning environment free of bullying and harassment. This plan must be consistent with the requirements listed below.

1. The District uses the definition of *bullying* as provided in this policy.
2. Bullying is contrary to State law and the policy of this District. However, nothing in the District's bullying prevention and response plan is intended to infringe upon any right to exercise free expression or the free exercise of religion or religiously based views protected under the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution or under Section 3 of Article I of the Illinois Constitution.
3. Students are encouraged to immediately report bullying. A report may be made orally or in writing to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, a Complaint Manager, or any staff member with whom the student is comfortable speaking. Anyone, including staff members and parents/guardians, who has information about actual or threatened bullying is encouraged to report it to the District named officials or any staff member. The District named officials and all staff members are available for help with a bully or to make a report about bullying. Anonymous reports are also accepted; however, this shall not be construed to permit formal disciplinary action solely on the basis of an anonymous report.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

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4. Consistent with federal and State laws and rules governing student privacy rights, the parents/guardians of all students involved in an alleged incident of bullying will be notified of such, along with threats, suggestions, or instances of self-harm determined to be the result of bullying, within 24 hours after the school's administration is made aware of the student's involvement in the incident. As appropriate, the school's administration shall also discuss the availability of social work services, counseling, school psychological services, other interventions, and restorative measures. The school shall make diligent efforts to notify a parent or legal guardian, utilizing all contact information the school has available or that can be reasonably obtained within the 24-hour period.
5. The Superintendent or designee shall promptly investigate and address reports of bullying, by, among other things:
 - a. Making all reasonable efforts to complete the investigation within 10 school days after the date the report of a bullying incident was received and taking into consideration additional relevant information received during the course of the investigation about the reported bullying incident.
 - b. Involving appropriate school support personnel and other staff persons with knowledge, experience, and training on bullying prevention, as deemed appropriate, in the investigation process.
 - c. Notifying the Building Principal or school administrator or designee of the reported incident of bullying as soon as possible after the report is received.
 - d. Consistent with federal and State laws and rules governing student privacy rights, providing parents/guardians of the students who are parties to the investigation information about the investigation and an opportunity to meet with the Building Principal or school administrator or his or her designee to discuss the investigation, the findings of the investigation, and the actions taken to address the reported incident of bullying.
 - e. The Superintendent or designee shall investigate whether a reported incident of bullying is within the permissible scope of the District's jurisdiction and shall require that the District provide the victim with information regarding services that are available within the District and community, such as counseling, support services, and other programs.
6. The Superintendent or designee shall use interventions to address bullying, that may include, but are not limited to, school social work services, restorative measures, social-emotional skill building, counseling, school psychological services, and community-based services.
7. A reprisal or retaliation against any person who reports an act of bullying is **prohibited**. Any person's act of reprisal or retaliation will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge with regard to employees, or suspension and/or expulsion with regard to students.
8. A student will not be punished for reporting bullying or supplying information, even if the District's investigation concludes that no bullying occurred. However, a person who is found to have falsely accused another of bullying, as a means of retaliation, as a means of bullying, or provided false

information will be treated as either: (a) *bullying*, (b) student discipline up to and including suspension and/or expulsion, and/or (c) both (a) and (b) for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions.

9. The District's bullying prevention and response plan is based on the engagement of a range of school stakeholders, including students and parents/guardians.
10. The Superintendent or designee shall post this policy on the District's publicly accessible website, if any, and include it in the student handbook, and, where applicable, post it where other policies, rules, and standards of conduct are currently posted. The policy must be distributed annually to parents/guardians, students, and school personnel (including new employees when hired), and must also be provided periodically throughout the school year to students and faculty.
11. Pursuant to State law and Board policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*, the Board monitors this policy every two years by conducting a review and re-evaluation of this policy to make any necessary and appropriate revisions. The Superintendent or designee shall assist the Board with its re-evaluation and assessment of this policy's outcomes and effectiveness. Updates to this policy will reflect any necessary and appropriate revisions. This process shall include, without limitation:
 - a. The frequency of victimization;
 - b. Student, staff, and family observations of safety at a school;
 - c. Identification of areas of a school where bullying occurs;
 - d. The types of bullying utilized; and
 - e. Bystander intervention or participation.

The evaluation process may use relevant data and information that the District already collects for other purposes. Acceptable documentation to satisfy the re-evaluated policy submission include one of the following:

- i. An updated version of the policy with the amendment/modification date included in the reference portion of the policy;
- ii. If no revisions are deemed necessary, a copy of board minutes indicating that the policy was re-evaluated and no changes were deemed to be necessary; or
- iii. A signed statement from the Board President indicating that the Board re-evaluated the policy and no changes to it were necessary.

The Superintendent or designee must post the information developed as a result of the policy re-evaluation on the District's website, or if a website is not available, the information must be provided to school administrators, Board members, school personnel, parents/guardians, and students. Reviews and re-evaluations in years they are due must be submitted to ISBE by September 30.

12. The Superintendent or designee shall fully implement the Board policies, including without limitation, the following:
 - a. 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. A student may use this policy to complain about bullying.
 - b. 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*. Any person may use this policy to complain about sexual harassment in violation of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.
 - c. 2:270, *Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited*. Any person may use this policy to complain about discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin in violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and/or the Illinois Human Rights Act.
 - d. 6:60, *Curriculum Content*. Bullying prevention and character instruction is provided in all grades in accordance with State law.

- e. 6:65, *Student Social and Emotional Development*. Student social and emotional development is incorporated into the District's educational program as required by State law.
- f. 6:235, *Access to Electronic Networks*. This policy states that the use of the District's electronic networks is limited to: (1) support of education and/or research, or (2) a legitimate business use.
- g. 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*. This policy prohibits any person from harassing, intimidating, or bullying a student based on an identified actual or perceived characteristic (the list of characteristics in 7:20 is the same as the list in this policy).
- h. 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*. This policy prohibits teen dating violence on school property, at school sponsored activities, and in vehicles used for school-provided transportation.
- i. 7:190, *Student Behavior*. This policy prohibits, and provides consequences for, hazing, bullying, or other aggressive behaviors, or urging other students to engage in such conduct.
- j. 7:310, *Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools*, and 7:315, *Restrictions on Publications; High Schools*. These policies prohibit students from and provide consequences for: (1) accessing and/or distributing at school any written, printed, or electronic material, including material from the Internet, that will cause substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities, and (2) creating and/or distributing written, printed, or electronic material, including photographic material and blogs, that causes substantial disruption to school operations or interferes with the rights of other students or staff members.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.14, 5/10-22.6(b-20), 5/24-24, and 5/27-23.7.
 405 ILCS 49/, Children's Mental Health Act.
 775 ILCS 5/1-103, Ill. Human Rights Act.
 23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.240, 1.280, and 1.295.

CROSS REF.: 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 2:265 (Title IX Grievance Procedure), 2:270 (Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited), 4:170 (Safety), 5:230 (Maintaining Student Discipline), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:220 (Bus Conduct), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities), 7:285 (Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program), 7:310 (Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools), 7:315 (Restrictions on Publications; High Schools)

Students

Administrative Procedure - Prevention, Identification, Investigation, and Response to Bullying

The strategic components for integrating an anti-bullying program into the District's existing policies and procedures are listed below. Each component lists specific implementation steps along with resources and accompanying exhibits. The Superintendent or designee, at the District level, or the Building Principal or designee, at the Building level, is responsible for the integration of these components. Use the local conditions of the community and other available resources to determine the best implementation methods. At times, support from the School Violence Prevention Team (see Board policy 4:190, *Targeted School Violence Prevention Program*) may be appropriate as bullying and threats of school violence often arise from the same behavior pattern(s), i.e., interpersonal aggression.

Preventing Bullying

1. Review 7:180-AP1, E1, *Resource Guide for Bullying Prevention*.
2. Review the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) bullying prevention webpage, at: www.isbe.net/Pages/Bullying-Prevention.aspx.
3. Review the Cyberbullying Research Center's Cyberbullying Fact Sheet: Identification, Prevention, and Response, at: <https://cyberbullying.org/cyberbullying-fact-sheet-identification-prevention-and-response>.
4. Assess the District's Conditions for Development and Learning. Below are resources that discuss and provide information about how to implement school climate measurement instruments and how to build a safe environment:
 Safe Supportive Learning's School Climate Measurement compendium at: <https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/topic-research/school-climate-measurement>.
 U.S. Government's StopBullying.gov prevention webpage, at: www.stopbullying.gov/prevention/build-safe-environment.

Identifying Bullying

1. Post 7:180-AP1, E2, *Be a Hero by Reporting Bullying*, in school buildings, student handbooks, online, etc.
2. Train staff to recognize and accept reports of bullying, 7:180-AP1, E3, *Memo to Staff Regarding Bullying*.
3. Inform parents/guardians about the District's anti-bullying program, 7:180-AP1, E4, *Memo to Parents/Guardians Regarding Bullying*.
4. Inform students how to make a report, including an anonymous report, i.e., complete and submit 7:180-AP1, E5, *Report Form for Bullying*.

Investigating Reports of Bullying

1. Within 24 hours after the school administration becomes aware of a student's involvement in an alleged incident of bullying, notify the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) of the incident, along with threats, suggestions, or instances of self-harm determined to be the result of bullying. Utilize all contact information available or that can be reasonably obtained within the 24-hour period.
2. Conduct a prompt, thorough, and impartial investigation upon receiving a report.
3. Review the report, i.e., 7:180-AP1, E5, *Report Form for Bullying*.
4. Interview the listed aggressor(s), target(s), and witnesses using 7:180-AP1, E6, *Interview Form for Bullying Investigation*.

Responding to Bullying

1. Complete 7:180-AP1, E7, *Response to Bullying*.
2. Notify the District's Non-Discrimination Coordinator if the findings indicate that the behavior was based upon the protected statuses listed in Board policy 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*.
3. Communicate and partner with the parents/guardians of the students involved. Ask parents/guardians, "How can we help you and your child?"
4. Stop the behavior(s).
5. Eliminate any hostile environment(s) and its effects (see **Preventing Bullying #4**, above).
6. Prevent the bullying from happening again.
7. Implement appropriate interventions for the target, aggressor, and District.
8. Address any findings of repeated inaccurate accusations against an alleged aggressor that are beginning to impede his or her education, e.g., reverse bullying.
9. Follow up with the target, aggressor, and their parents/guardians to ensure subsequent bullying has not occurred and no new concerns have arisen.

Students

Exhibit - Resource Guide for Bullying Prevention

General Resources

Safe2Help Illinois:

www.safe2helpil.com/

Ill. State Board of Education *School Bullying Prevention Task Force Report*:

www.isbe.net/Documents/SBPTF/sbptf_report_030111.pdf

Ill. State Board of Education *Model Policy for Bullying Prevention*:

www.isbe.net/Documents/Model-Bullying-Prevention-Policy.pdf

Resources section of the website managed by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services:

www.stopbullying.gov

Bullying in Schools - Cops – U.S. Department of Justice:

<https://cops.usdoj.gov/RIC/Publications/cops-w0018-pub.pdf>

Restorative Discipline Resources

Positive Behavior Intervention & Supports (PBIS):

www.pbis.org/

Social and Emotional Learning Standards:

www.isbe.net/Documents/SEL-Standards.pdf

Dignity in Schools:

<http://dignityinschools.org/take-action/model-school-code/>

Conditions for Development and Learning; Data Collection Resources

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)'s *Measuring Bullying Victimization, Perpetration, and Bystander Experiences: A Compendium of Assessment Tools*:

www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/bullycompendium-a.pdf

Safe Supportive Learning's School Climate Survey Compendium:

<https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/topic-research/school-climate-measurement/school-climate-survey-compendium>

CDC's *Youth Violence: Measuring Violence-Related Attitudes, Behaviors, and Influences Among Youths: A Compendium of Assessment Tools - Second Edition*:

https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/yv_compendium.pdf

CDC's *Intimate Partner Violence and Sexual Violence Victimization Assessment Instruments for Use in Healthcare Settings, Version 1*:

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/ipv/ipvandsvscreening.pdf>

World Health Organization's *Creating an environment for emotional and social well-being*: an important responsibility of a health promoting and child-friendly school.

<https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/42819>

Rachel's Challenge:

<https://rachelschallenge.org>

Students

Exhibit - Be a Hero by Reporting Bullying

Who reports?	YOU, if you have information about bullying, harassment, and/or a threat of one of these actions. It doesn't matter whether you are the target of bullying or think someone is being bullied, please report it!
What do I report?	<p>Any activity that targets someone to be hurt in any way. Bullying, harassment, and threats take many forms. One thing they have in common – someone is targeted to be hurt. Examples of these hurtful behaviors include unwanted teasing, intimidation, physical violence, humiliation, spreading false rumors, social exclusion, or theft or destruction of property.</p> <p>Bullying, harassment, and threats may occur almost anywhere students go – in school buildings, on school grounds or buses, or at bus stops, for example. Bullying or harassing may also occur using social networking sites or cell phones.</p>
When should I report?	As soon as possible.
Where or how do I report?	<p>Tell any school staff member. You may do this in person, by phone, or by email. You may be asked to complete 7:180-API, E5, <i>Report Form for Bullying</i>.</p> <p>You may make an anonymous tip.</p>
Why should I report?	Fear and abuse have no place in our school. Be a hero and report bullying. If you are being bullied, a report will help you and other students who may also be targeted for bullying.
What will happen after I report?	<p>An Administrator will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acknowledge and review your report. 2. Treat your report with privacy and respect its sensitive nature. 3. Investigate your report. The school will not bring students who bully and those they bully into the same room to confront each other. All interviews will be private. 4. Take appropriate action that may include increased monitoring and supervision, restructuring schedules, additional resources, and disciplinary action for conduct code violations, among others. 5. Provide you with feedback, if appropriate.

Students

Exhibit - Memo to Staff Regarding Bullying

On District or School Letterhead

Date

Re: Bullying

All staff members:

Please join me in stopping and preventing student bullying in our school. The purpose of this letter is to introduce you to our three-pronged approach that will help accomplish this goal.

First - If a student reports bullying to you, respond immediately and with compassion. Ask for the basic facts (who-what-when-where). Refer the report to my office. Give the student our form for reporting bullying, 7:180-API, E5, *Report Form for Bullying*.

Second - Provide me your feedback and concerns. Do you know of any bullying *hot spots* that need additional supervision or monitoring? Are there known bullies or targets of bullying?

Third - Intervene immediately to stop a bullying incident. When teachers or adults ignore bullying, students interpret it as acceptable behavior. Immediately contact administration and building security or law enforcement if the incident involves a weapon or other illegal activity.

Bullying is defined in School Board policy 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*, as follows:

Bullying means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

5. Placing the student or students in reasonable fear of harm to the student's or students' person or property.
6. Causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student's or students' physical or mental health.
7. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' academic performance.
8. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Bullying may take various forms, including without limitation one or more of the following: harassment, threats, intimidation, stalking, physical violence, sexual harassment, sexual violence, theft, public humiliation, destruction of property, or retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of bullying. This list is meant to be illustrative and non-exhaustive.

The Board's entire policy may be found on the District's website. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Building Principal

Students

Exhibit - Memo to Parents/Guardians Regarding Bullying

On District or School Letterhead

Date

Re: Bullying

Dear Parents/Guardians:

At our school, bullying of any kind, by any person, is unacceptable. All students should be free from worries about being bullied. Students who bully others must be taught other, appropriate ways of interacting with peers. The purpose of this letter is to provide you with information concerning the School District's anti-bullying program and to encourage you to help us identify students who are being bullied.

The School Board policy on bullying begins with this goals statement:

Bullying, intimidation, and harassment diminish a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate. Preventing students from engaging in these disruptive behaviors is an important District goal.

Bullying is defined as follows:

Bullying means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

1. Placing the student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or property.
2. Causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student's physical or mental health.
3. Substantially interfering with the student's academic performance.
4. Substantially interfering with the student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Bullying, intimidation, and/or harassment may take various forms, including without limitation: threats, stalking, physical violence, sexual harassment, theft, public humiliation, destruction of property, or retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of bullying.

I asked our school staff members to respond immediately and with compassion to a student who reports bullying or school violence. After evaluating the situation to determine if an immediate referral to my office is needed, a staff member will give the student our form for reporting bullying, 7:180-API, E5, *Report Form for Bullying*. I will inform you whenever your child is involved in a bullying report.

I also asked our staff members for their feedback and concerns specifically regarding locations that may be bullying *hot spots* needing additional supervision or monitoring or if there are any known bullies or targets of bullying in our building. I want to ask you to do the same thing. Please inform me if you know of any bullying *hot spots* in or around our school, or if you are aware of a known bully or target of bullying.

Finally, I requested our staff members to intervene immediately to stop a bullying incident. They will immediately contact building security and/- or law enforcement if the incident involves a weapon or other illegal activity.

Below are some of the signs that a young person is being bullied:

- Does not want to go to school and refuses to explain the reason
- Talks about not having any friends
- Has unexplained bruises, cuts, scratches, or abrasions
- Has unexplained damage to clothing, possessions, books, etc.
- Frequently loses money or possessions
- Loses interest in school and/or has declining grades
- Becomes withdrawn and/or has stress or depression symptoms

These signs do not necessarily mean your child is being bullied, but if present, ask your child whether they are being bullied.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Building Principal

Students

Exhibit - Report Form for Bullying

To be completed by the bullying target, witness, or person with information about an incident of bullying and submitted to the Building Principal's office. Make readily accessible via website(s) and other publicized designated areas in schools.

Please print and check appropriate boxes.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Student Parent/Guardian Staff Other _____

Indicate here if you prefer to remain anonymous: Yes No

Are you the target of the bullying that you are reporting: Yes No

Date of incident: _____ Time of Incident: _____

Person(s) being reported as targets of bullying:

Name: _____ Student Staff

Name: _____ Student Staff

Name: _____ Student Staff

Person(s) being reported as aggressors engaged in bullying:

Name: _____ Student Staff Other

Name: _____ Student Staff Other

Name: _____ Student Staff Other

Person(s) who witnessed the bullying:

Name: _____ Student Staff Other

Name: _____ Student Staff Other

Name: _____ Student Staff Other

Was the incident based on any of these actual or perceived characteristics? (Check all that apply).

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Race | <input type="checkbox"/> Color | <input type="checkbox"/> National origin |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sex | <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual orientation | <input type="checkbox"/> Gender-related identity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy | <input type="checkbox"/> Gender-related expression | <input type="checkbox"/> Ancestry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Age | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion | <input type="checkbox"/> Physical disability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mental disability | <input type="checkbox"/> Order of protection status | <input type="checkbox"/> Homeless status |

- Marital status
- Parenting status
- Physical appearance
- Socioeconomic status
- Academic status
- Military status
- Associated with person/group with one or more of the above actual or perceived characteristics
- Other _____
- I do not know.

Student(s) were targeted for bullying in the following way(s): (Check all that apply.)

- Electronic devices (e.g., Internet, social media platforms, text, email, cyberbullying, etc.)
- Written communication (e.g., handwritten notes, other written documents, email, etc.)
- Physical act or conduct (e.g., pushing, hitting, destruction of property, stalking, etc.)
- Verbal act or conduct (e.g., rumors, lies, name-calling, using derogatory slurs, etc.)
- Social (e.g., purposeful exclusion, causing psychological harm, etc.)
- Items depicting implied hatred or prejudice were worn, possessed or displayed
- Other (please explain): _____

Student(s) were targeted for bullying in the following place(s): (Check all that apply.)

- Classroom
- Locker room
- Hallway
- Extracurricular activity
- Cafeteria
- Bus
- Restroom
- Bus stop
- Gym
- School or related activity or event
- Other: _____

Please tell us about the incident in your own words. Use as much detail as possible - what time did the incident(s) take place, who witnessed it, what was said, what types of interactions occurred (physical, written, social, electronic, etc.)

- The above information is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Students

Exhibit - Interview Form for Bullying Investigation

To be completed by the Building Principal or designee to obtain information about a bullying report. Use this form as a coversheet for each person interviewed during the investigation.

Name of person interviewed: _____ Date: _____
 Name of interviewer: _____ Title: _____

Instructions for Interviewer

1. Protect the identity of the student who reports. Begin a prompt, thorough and impartial investigation by interviewing witnesses separately in a private location with a school colleague present (not the school resource officer). Use the **Questions** section below to guide your notes while you interview the person listed above. Attach to 7:180-AP1, E7, *Response to Bullying*.
2. Make your notes on a separate document and attach them to this form.
3. Review and preserve any videos, photos, screenshots or other physical evidence and label it.
4. File this form, notes, and any other evidence provided in a designated investigation and response folder.
5. Use this form to complete 7:180-AP1, E7, *Response to Bullying*.
6. Create a *Basic Facts* section, i.e., who, what, where, when, why and how.
7. Record the actions and behavior that were experienced or observed (follow-up with leading questions to complete the description of what happened and its consequences, if necessary).
8. Include open-ended questions. For example, ask "How are you feeling?" "How has what happened affected you?"

Questions

1. Has this happened before?
2. Do you fear for your safety? How? Where (at school, home, or both places)?
3. Do you fear that harm would come to any of your personal property? How?
4. In a developmentally appropriate manner, ask whether the target's health (physical, emotional, and/or mental) has been affected. How (seen by a doctor, missing school)?
5. Has your academic performance been affected? How (increase in tardiness/absences, grades going down, missed assignments)?
6. Have you quit or modified attendance in any extracurricular activities?
7. Have you changed any of your usual routines at school (using different hallway, skipping lunch in lunchroom or using different lunch period, taking different route to school, etc.)?
8. Why do you think this behavior is happening?
9. What will help make you feel safe?

Students

Exhibit - Response to Bullying

To be completed by the Building Principal and attached as a coversheet for the school office's designated bullying report investigation and response folder. Place a copy of the completed coversheet only (not attachments) in each listed student's temporary school student record. Redact all student names other than the student's name for which the record pertains.

Initial Notices to Parents/Guardians of Involved Students

Initial notice must be given to the parents/guardians of students involved in an incident of bullying (as well as all threats, suggestions, or instances of self-harm determined to be the result of bullying) within 24 hours after becoming aware of the student's involvement.

Target's parent/guardian:

Circle contact method: Phone Email Letter In-person Other:

Date: _____ Time: _____

Staff Member: _____ Title: _____

Aggressor's parent/guardian:

Circle contact method: Phone Email Letter In-person Other:

Date: _____ Time: _____

Staff Member: _____ Title: _____

Investigator: _____ Title: _____

Investigation

File an interview form for each party interviewed in the designated investigation and response folder.

Check here to indicate that all interview forms have been properly completed and filed.

Target: _____ Date: _____

Aggressor: _____ Date: _____

Witnesses: _____ Date: _____

_____ Date: _____

_____ Date: _____

Are there any prior documented incidents by the aggressor identified above? Yes No (Attach information)

If yes, have incidents involved target or target group previously? Yes No

Findings

- Bullying Other: _____
- Aggressor motivated by protected characteristics listed in policy 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*.

Bullying Investigation Response

Response and Plan for Target (Check all that apply and include descriptions.)

Contact parent/guardian: _____ Date: _____

Circle contact method: Phone Email Letter In-person Other: _____

- Safety plan: _____
- Increase staff supervision: _____
- Education: _____
- Minimize contact with aggressor: _____
- District resources: (Student Services/IDEA/504) _____
- Other: _____

Target follow-up scheduled date: _____ Date and initial completed: _____

Parent/guardian follow-up date: _____ Date and initial completed: _____

Circle contact method: Phone Email Letter In-person Other: _____

- Provide parent/guardian with copies of Board policies 2:260 and 7:180. Date: _____

Response and Plan for Aggressor (Check all that apply and include descriptions.)

Contact parent/guardian: _____ Date: _____

Circle contact method: Phone Email Letter In-person Other: _____

- 7:190-E1, *Aggressive Behavior Reporting Letter and Form* sent Date: _____
- Provide parent/guardian with copies of Board policies 2:260 and 7:180 Date: _____

Restorative Responses

- Safety plan: _____
- Increase staff supervision: _____
- Education: _____
- Non-District affiliated psychological services : _____
- Alternative school assignment: _____
- Minimize contact with target: _____
- District resources (Student Services/IDEA/504): _____

Other: _____

Punitive Responses

Loss of privileges: _____

Detention: _____

Suspension: _____

Expulsion: _____

Community agency service: _____

Reciprocal Reporting Act utilized: Yes No _____

Report to School Resource Officer/Law Enforcement: _____

Other: _____

Aggressor follow-up date: _____ Date and initial completed: _____

Circle contact method: Phone Email Letter In-person Other: _____

Parent/guardian follow-up date: _____ Date and initial completed: _____

Circle contact method: Phone Email Letter In-person Other: _____

Contact District Complaint Manager: _____ Date: _____

Target response implementation: _____

Aggressor response implementation: _____

Systemic culture/climate intervention: _____

Referral to address needs for ideal conditions for developmental learning: _____

Other: _____

Submit reports to: Building Principal (if not the investigator) Date: _____

Superintendent Date: _____

Signature of investigator: _____ Date: _____