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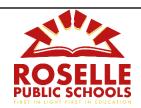
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# NJ Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act **Fact Sheet for Parents**

# How is HIB defined?

"Harassment, intimidation or bullying" means any gesture, any written, verbal or physical act, or any electronic communication, whether it is a single incident or a series of incidents:

- That is reasonably perceived as being motivated either by any actual or perceived characteristic, such as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or a mental, physical or sensory disability, or by any other distinguishing characteristic;
- That takes place on school property, at any school-sponsored function, on a school bus, or off school grounds;
- That substantially disrupts or interferes with the orderly operation of the school or the rights of other students and that:
  - o A reasonable person should know, under the circumstances, will have the effect of physically or emotionally harming a student or damaging the student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of physical or emotional harm to his/her person or damage to his/her property;
  - o Has the effect of insulting or demeaning any student or group of students; OR
  - o Creates a hostile educational environment for the student by interfering with the student's education or by severely or pervasively causing physical or emotional harm to the student.

# The Path of a HIB Complaint

1.

Verbally report Incident -

- All incidents of HIB must be reported to the principal or the principal's designee
- Written report within 2 days via HIBster url or utilizing the HIB forms located on the District website.
- Parent contact to all parties

2.

The investigation -

- Principal assigns incident to ABS
- ABS has ten days to investigate & make a determination with the School Safety Team.
   (Founded/Unfounded/Inconclusive)
- Principal assigns incident to Superintendent within 2 days

3.

The Superintendent –

- Reports to BOE results of investigation at next BOE meeting
- Provides parents written report of information within 5 days after BOE meeting
- Parent may request BOE hearing and may appeal to NJDOE and/or Office of Civil Rights

# **Definition of HIB**

(Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying)

For a determination of HIB on or off school grounds under the ABR, there must be:

- Substantial <u>disruption</u> of <u>interference</u> with the orderly operation of school or student's <u>rights</u>;
- An actual or perceived distinguishing <u>characteristic</u> as the motivating factor;
  and
- One of the following:
  - Physical or emotional <u>harm</u> to a student or his or her property or <u>fear of</u> <u>harm</u> to student or property;
  - o Effect of insulting or demeaning a student or group of students; or
  - o Creation of a "<a href="hostile educational environment">hostile educational environment</a>" interfering with a student's education