

BULLYING

A student, either individually or as part of a group, shall not harass or bully others. Prohibited conduct includes, but is not limited to, physical, verbal, or written intimidation, taunting, name-calling, insults, exclusions, threatening body posture, and any combination of prohibited activities. Prohibited conduct includes verbal or written conduct consisting of comments regarding the race, ethnicity, physical abilities, physical or mental disabilities, physical characteristics, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression of any student or such harassment or bullying about any family members friends, or associates of the targeted person or group. Examples include, but not limited to:

- A. Repeated, unwanted negative overtures and actions over time toward a person or persons are prohibited.
- B. Bullying methods (repeated) such as verbal abuse, social exclusion or isolation, physical abuse, intimidation, lies, rumors, sexual inferences, robbery, damaged personal items, racial attacks, and bullying through electronic devices, will not be tolerated.
- C. Electronic bullying and/or cyberbullying-related activity of any nature, and which is obscene, pornographic, threatening, or otherwise inappropriate, including, but not limited to, email, instant messaging, web pages, and use of hardware and/or software which substantially disrupts or interferes with the safety and welfare of the school and its students, are strictly prohibited, even if such uses/actions take place off school property (i.e., home, business, private property, etc).
- D. All aspects of the Acceptable use Policy/regulation apply to this section on bullying.
- E. Conveying by gestures, notes, or verbal comments with the intent to cause bodily/emotional injury or to deprive a student of his rights, is prohibited.
- F. The willful use of physical or verbal threats or physical abuse intended to result in an involuntary transfer of money or property to another student, is prohibited.
- G. Cursing, using abusive language, teasing, hazing, or other acts of intimidation, are prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, any verbal, written, physical or mental teasing, threat of bodily injury or use of force directed toward and based upon a person's race, ethnicity, physical abilities, physical or mental disabilities, physical characteristics, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression of any student (employee) or such harassment or bullying about any family members, friends, or associates of the targeted person or group.

Bullying-A person is being bullied or victimized when he or she is exposed repeatedly and over time to negative actions on the part of one or more persons. The two main components of

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bullying are aggressive behavior that involves unwanted negative actions, and a pattern of behavior repeated over time and an imbalance of power or strength. The different forms of bullying are verbal, social exclusion or isolation, physical, lies and rumors, money or possessions taken or damaged, being threatened or forced to do things, racial bullying, sexual bullying, and cyberbullying via cell phone or internet. The person who inflicts such activity upon another or others is considered the bully and will be disciplined accordingly.

Adopted: July 5, 2012

Reviewed: June 17, 2021

Revised: August 7, 2025

Legal References: 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681-1688
29 U.S.C. § 794
42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d-2000d-7
42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e-2000e-17
34 C.F.R. part 106

Cross References: AC Nondiscrimination
AD Educational Philosophy
GB Equal Employment Opportunity/Nondiscrimination
JB Equal Educational Opportunities/Nondiscrimination
JFC Student Conduct
JHG Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting
KKA Service Animals in Public Schools