514 Bullying Prohibition Policy …. simplified!

Disclaimer ….. These “talking points” were adapted from the official district 206 board approved bullying policy dated 8/20/07 and only serve to highlight the main points.. Please see official document for complete details as needed.

*I. PURPOSE*

Our school does not allow bullying!

A safe and civil environment in needed for students to learn and attain high academic standards and to promote healthy human relationships.

Bullying interferes with student’s ability to learn and teacher’s ability to teach in a safe environment.

It is the school districts’ intent to prevent bullying and to take action to investigate, respond , remediate, and discipline those acts of bullying which have not been successfully prevented.

The purpose of this policy is to assist the school in preventing and responding to acts of bullying, intimidation, violence, and other similar disruptive behavior.

*II. General Statement of policy*

Bullying either by an individual student or group of students is NOT ALLOWED at on our school grounds or school related functions.

“ON school property or at school related functions” means…

* All school district buildings,
* School grounds/property,
* Property immediately adjacent to school grounds,
* School bus stops & school buses,
* School vehicles,
* School sponsored activities, events, or trips.
* Walking/biking route to or from school or bus stop.
* While not allowing bullying at these locations and events, the school district can not provide supervision or assume liability at these locations and events.

This policy applies to the person(s) doing the bullying and to students who directly or indirectly approve of, or support the act of bullying.

This policy also applies to any student whose conduct, at any time or place, which interferes with the educational process at this school or the safety or welfare of the student, other students, or employee.

Technology example:

*How?* All digital/electronic formats:

By sending/posting/showing: emails, instant messages, texts, tweets, pictures/ images, or movies etc.

Web site postings: blogs, my space, face book U- tube, web pages etc.

*What?:* teasing, intimidations, defaming, threatening or terrorizing another person

*To whom?:* Anyone and everyone! (students, volunteers, & district staff etc)

*The above may be considered an act of bullying if it is on or off school districts’ property, and with or without the use of the school districts’ technology*.

No one should permit, approve of or tolerate bullying - this includes students, volunteers & district staff or anyone else.

Permission from or consent by a person being bullied DOES NOT make it okay to bully, or should it be reason to lessen the punishment.

Getting back at someone (retaliation against a victim) is considered bullying.

False accusations or reports of bullying against another student are NOT ALLOWED.

Anyone who does this may be disciplined for that act.

The districts’ discipline plan will take into consideration:

The developmental maturities and relationships of those involved,

level of harm and nature of the behavior, past incidence, and context in which the alleged incidents occurred.

The consequences for the bully may range from positive behavioral interventions up to and including suspension &/or expulsion.

There are also consequences for those that allow bullying to happen around them.

The school district will investigate all complaints of bullying and will discipline anyone who violates this bullying policy.

*III. Definitions*

Bullying means any:

* written / verbal/ visual or expression
* physical act or gesture
* pattern by a student, or group of students, that is intended to cause or is perceived as causing distress to one or more students.

It is behavior that interferes with a student’s educational beliefs, opportunities, or performance.

It is behavior that has the effect of:

* harming a student
* damaging property
* placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to his or her person or property
* creating a hostile educational environment for a student

*IV . How to report Bullying*

Anyone who believes he or she has been a victim of bullying or knows of a bullying incident must report it immediately or as soon as possible, but no longer than 24 hours.

A student may report an incident anonymously – but the school districts’ ability to take action against the bully may then be then limited.

Reports should be written on the report form available in the office - but oral reports will also be considered complaints as well.

Our school has an adult in the office responsible for receiving these reports, but anyone can also report directly incidents to the office human resources officer or the superintendent at our districts’ office.

Any employee of our district (including a volunteer) who has knowledge of or believes that bullying has occurred must report it to the principal it’s the law!

Reports of bullying are classified as private. And the reporter, witnesses, and the alleged bullies’ privacy will be respected as much as possible by the law.

*V. School districts action*

The school will investigate, and take appropriate action.

The school will notify the parents of those involved in the bullying incident of the action taken.