



Section: *Pupils*

Title: *Bullying Prevention*

Adopted: *November 18, 2008*

Revised:

221. *Bullying Prevention*

The Colonial School District recognizes that bullying of students has a negative effect on the educational environment of its schools. Therefore, the school district strives to offer all students an educational environment free from bullying. It shall be the policy of the district to maintain an environment in which any type of bullying, including intimidation and extortion, are not tolerated.

Bullying shall mean both an intentional electronic, verbal, written, or physical act, or a series of acts that, individually or cumulatively, are severe, persistent or pervasive, that are directed at a student by another student in a school setting, and that has the intent and effect of:

- 1. Substantially interfering with a student's educational opportunities; or*
- 2. creating a threatening environment; or*
- 3. substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.*

School setting means in the school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop or at any activity sponsored, supervised or sanctioned by the school.

The school district will not tolerate known acts of bullying occurring in the school setting.

Development of Educational Programs - The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative procedures and programs to increase the awareness of the problems of bullying, and train teachers to effectively prevent bullying and to intervene if bullying is witnessed in their presence or brought to their attention. Programs prepared for students shall have the aim of preventing bullying.

The Superintendent or designee, in cooperation with other appropriate administrators, shall review this policy every three (3) years and recommend necessary revisions to the Board.

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Student, Parent and Employee Reporting

The school district strongly encourages all students and parents who become aware of any act of bullying to immediately report that conduct. Students may report acts of bullying to their teachers, building principal or other school employees supervising school-sponsored activities. Parents may contact the building principal to report acts of bullying. In the absence of any other appropriate staff member, such complaints may be made to the Colonial School District Tip Line. All reports will be treated in a confidential manner. Where the alleged perpetrator attends school in a different district, the Colonial School District Superintendent will notify the equivalent counterpart in that other district to report the incident and any findings.

Investigation Procedures

Upon learning about a bullying incident, the principal or designee shall interview students involved in the incident(s), and thoroughly investigate. This investigation may include interviews with students, parents and school staff, and the review of school records. Where the involved students attend different schools, the alleged perpetrator's building principal or that principal's designee will lead the investigation.

Consequences

Students who bully others will be subject to disciplinary options that may include a mental health assessment, a parent conference, detention, suspension, expulsion or any other consequences provided in the Colonial School District Discipline Code/Policy.

Notification to Students

Within ninety (90) days of adoption of this policy, or any subsequent changes thereto, and at least one (1) time during each school year thereafter, the building level administration for each school within the District will arrange that this policy will be reviewed with the students in the building to ensure their awareness of the same.

The policy shall be available on the District web site, in each classroom and posted prominently in at least one location in each building in such a location as other such notices are posted. The policy shall also be incorporated into the District's student code of conduct.

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Notification to the Office of Safe Schools

The Superintendent or his designee shall provide as part of the annual report to the Office of Safe Schools a copy of this policy and any information relating to the development and implementation of any bullying prevention, intervention and education programs.

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