BULLYING

ILTexas prohibits bullying on school property, at school-sponsored or school-related activities, or in any vehicle operated by the charter. Bullying may be verbal or written expression or expression through electronic means, or physical conduct. Cyberbullying that occurs off school property or outside of a school-sponsored or school related activity if the cyberbullying interferes with a student's educational opportunities or substantially disrupts the orderly operation of a classroom, school, or school-sponsored or school related activity. Bullying is not tolerated by the charter and any student or parent of a student, who believes that the student or another student has experienced bullying or that a student has engaged in bullying, is encouraged to immediately report the incident. Students and parents reporting an allegation of bullying/harassment, are asked to use the anonymous form located on the charter website by clicking on the contact tab, choosing Crime Stoppers or make the report of bullying/harassment to a campus administrator in person, through email, or by phone.

Definitions of bullying as defined by ILTexas:

Bullying: A single significant act or pattern of acts by one or more students directed at another student that exploits an imbalance of power and involves engaging in written or verbal expression, expression through electronic means, or physical conduct that:

- 1. Has the effect or will have the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or of damage to the student's property;
- 2. Is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive enough that the action or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student;
- 3. Materially and substantially disrupts the educational process or the orderly operation of a classroom or school; or
- 4. Infringes on the rights of the victim at school.

Harassment: Physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct based on a student's race, color, religion, sex, gender, national origin, disability, age, or any other basis prohibited by law that is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that the conduct:

 Affects a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment;

- 2. Has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with the student's academic performance; or
- 3. Otherwise adversely affects the student's educational opportunities.

Cyberbullying: Bullying that is done through the use of any electronic communication device, including through the use of a cellular or other type of telephone, a computer, a camera, electronic mail, instant messaging, text messaging, a social media application, an Internet website, or any other Internet-based communication tool.

Students have multiple avenues to report bullying concerns. They can come into the counseling office and report them directly to us. However, we also know that many students are not comfortable reporting concerns and may not be willing to come in and talk to us. As such, we also have the option to report bullying anonymously through our partnership with the Crime Stoppers hotline. Students can report over the phone, or through a website. Crime Stoppers

For More Information and Resources: Stop Bullying Cyberbullying Resources for Parents Violence Prevention Works The Bully Project