

Teen Dating Violence

Each student has the right to a safe learning environment. Accordingly, teen dating violence is unacceptable and is prohibited, at school, on school grounds, during school-sponsored activities, or in any school provided transportation. "Teen dating violence" means:

1. A pattern of behavior in which a person uses or threatens to use physical, mental, or emotional abuse to control another person who is in a dating relationship with the person, where one or both persons are 13 to 19 years of age, or
2. Behavior by which a person uses or threatens to use sexual violence against another person who is in a dating relationship with the person, where one or both persons are 13 to 19 years of age.

For purposes of this policy, "dating" or "dating relationship" means an ongoing social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature between two persons; it does not include a causal relationship or ordinary fraternization between two persons in a business or social context.

The Administration shall incorporate age-appropriate education about teen dating violence into its curriculum in grades 7 and 8 and into its employee training programs, as recommended by the Superintendent. Students should be encouraged to notify school district employees if they are involved in or witness teen dating violence. Employees and sub-contracted employees receiving such reports, or employees who witness teen dating violence, shall report incidents of teen dating violence to the Principal or to the Assistant Principal as soon as possible. The Principal or other administrator designated by the Principal will coordinate the investigation into the incident and shall notify the parents of both the alleged victim and the alleged perpetrator of the report. To the extent that the incident is founded and occurred in school, on school grounds, during a school-sponsored activity, or in any school provided transportation, recommend discipline under the District's Student Discipline Policy and Procedures, and shall seek supportive resources for the victim of teen dating violence. Employees also may report teen dating violence to the police, if the situation warrants it.

Parents and students will be initially notified of the existence of this policy upon its formal approval by the Board of Education by email. Thereafter, notice of this policy shall be provided as part of the student handbook.

Adopted: December 17, 2014

Reference: 105ILCS 110/3; 105 ILCS 110/3.10