Bullying Information

Bullying

The Wausau School District prohibits bullying, hazing, discrimination and harassment or the threat of such activities by a student or group of students against other students or personnel in any form it may take. The Board of Education considers these actions to be a violation of its obligation and Shared Key Interest to provide safe, secure, flexible, inviting, and well-maintained environments that nurture student well-being and enhance teaching and learning, and determines them to be disruptive to the academic atmosphere. All reports of bullying will be taken seriously.

Policy 5706

What is Bullying?

Bullying is defined as the unwanted, aggressive behavior among school-age children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is reasonably perceived as being de-humanizing, intimidating, hostile, humiliating, threatening, or otherwise likely to evoke fear of physical harm or emotional distress. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time.

CONFLICT	RUDE	MEAN	BULLYING
Two-Sided	One-Sided or Two-Sided	One-Sided or Two-Sided	One-Sided
Regularly	Occasionally	Once or Twice	Is Repeated
Can occur when there is a difference in opinions	Spontaneous: Unintentional	Typically Intentional	Is planned and done on purpose; malicious
Neither party has hard feelings	Can cause hurt feelings; upset	Can be very hurtful	The target of the bullying can be hurt deeply
Based on both parties striving for an agreement or agreeing to disagree	Based on thoughtlessness, poor manners or selfishness	Based on anger and/or aggression; impulsive cruelty	The bully is attempting to gain control over the target; vicious
Both parties accept equal responsibility without a need to forgive	The offender accepts responsibility and the offended can easily forgive the offender. If two-sided, one or both may take responsibility and/or forgive	The offender may regret the behavior while the offended may have difficulty forgiving the offender. If two-sided, one or both may have regret and difficulty forgiving	The bully blames the target, while the target wants the bully to stop and may suffer damage that will take much healing to repair
Often can easily be resolved without intervention/mediation. Ongoing conflict that escalates to include rude and/or mean behaviors may need mediation through the talking circle process.	Intervention/mediation may be needed. Social skill building could be beneficial. Talking circle process may also be used if both parties agree.	Needs to be addressed with intervention and should NOT be ignored. Talking circle process should be used if both parties agree.	Cannot be resolved through mediation but rather the bully must be stopped through intervention. Healing circle techniques could be used if both parties agree.

How do I report a concern regarding bullying or harassment?

Anyone can verbally report concerns about bullying and/or harassment to school staff or can access the *Student Behavior Complaint Form* online. The completed *Student Behavior Complaint Form* may be submitted to any staff member at your child's school or can be submitted online. Upon submission, school staff will promptly conduct a bullying/harassment investigation.

If you have questions regarding Wausau School District [Prohibition Against Bullying, Hazing, Discrimination and Harassment Policy](#), contact the Director of Pupil Services at 715-261-0571.

When I verbally report an act of bullying or submit a *Student Behavior Complaint Form* what follow-up communication can I expect from my student's school?

Per Wausau School District policy, you will be contacted by your student's school before the investigation is completed. Once the investigation is complete, you will be notified of whether the report was found to be bullying/harassment. Staff will immediately communicate with families about interventions and/or safety plans to support your child and check-in within a few weeks after incident.

Resources

[National Bullying Prevention Center](#)

[Stopbullying.gov](#)

[DPI Bullying Resources](#)