

SUMAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BULLYING POLICY

I have reviewed the Sumas Elementary rules against bullying with my child. In accordance with the State of Washington RCW 28.600.040, I understand the rules and regulations established by the Nooksack Valley School District.

Bullying behaviors are

- 1) **Intentional (done on purpose)**
- 2) **Repeated (happens more than once)**
- 3) **Could be using an imbalance of power (5th grader teasing a 1st grader, for example).**

These Could Be:

- *Physical bullying – an action using one’s body or harming another’s body*
- *Verbal bullying – using words (or gestures) to intentionally hurt someone’s feelings*
- *Friendship/Leaving Out bullying – excluding someone on purpose or controlling one’s friendships*
- *Cyber-bullying – bullying done through the internet, cell phones, or video games*

Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying means hurting another student on purpose with your words, actions, writing, or technology that is motivated by:

- What they look like, sound like, smell like
- What they believe or think
- Who they love or spend time with
- Who their family is or where their family lives/is from
- What they can or cannot do (skills or abilities they have or do not have)
- What resources their family does or does not have
- Any other characteristic not specified

When the intentional written, verbal or physical act:

- Hurts a student’s body, property, or wellbeing or;
- Interferes with a student’s learning or;
- Creates an unsafe environment or;
- Disrupts the school’s operation

Harassment, intimidation or bullying will not be allowed. The following discipline steps will be followed for any incident that meets the criteria for harassment, intimidation or bullying. Each step includes policy review and clarification.

Date: _____ Policy review and clarification

Date: _____ 1st Offense: Review bullying definition and policy, verbal warning, restoration, incident documented and **parent notification**

Date: _____ 2nd Offense: Consequences given which may include loss of privileges, school counselor intervention, restoration, and **parent notification**

Date: _____ 3rd Offense: Intervention aimed at changing bullying behaviors, repairing damage caused, and teaching of skills, which may include counselor referral, additional loss of privileges or consequences, restoration, incident documented, **parent notification and possible meeting**

Date: _____ 4th Offense: Intervention which may include in-house detention, incident documented, and **parent meeting**

Date: _____ 5th Offense: Intervention which may include short-term suspension, incident documented, and **parent meeting**

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By signing below, I agree to follow Sumas Elementary's Bullying Policy. I understand that if I engage in any act of Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying during school hours, with school equipment, or on school property, I will be subject to the discipline steps outlined above:

PARENT SIGNATURE

DATE

STUDENT SIGNATURE

DATE

COUNSELOR/ADMINISTRATOR

DATE

To report an incident of bullying to Sumas Elementary contact the School Counselor, Heather Taylor at heather.taylor@nv.k12.wa.us or 360.988.9423 ext. 2307