

Springfield Public Schools

Cultivating compassionate and extraordinary learners!



Feb 3, 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We would like to inform you of some important updates in regard to Springfield's Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy put forth by the 2022 Amendments to the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights, effective July 9, 2022. You may access the full law at [this website](#). The new State law requires all school districts in the State of New Jersey to follow the provisions set forth in the following amendments to the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights.

We now require that the new, state-wide [HIB 338 Form](#) be submitted within two days of reporting potential instances of harassment, intimidation, or bullying to the building principal. If one is not provided, one will be completed by the building principal or designee within two days of the initial report, as required by state law.

First and Second HIB Offenses

- Place a copy of the results of the investigation in the perpetrator's permanent school record.
- Implement remedial actions, discipline, or both for the perpetrator.

Three or More HIB Offenses

- Place a copy of the results of the investigation in the perpetrator's permanent school record.
- Implement remedial actions, discipline, or both for the perpetrator.
- Create an individual student intervention plan for the perpetrator. This plan will be approved either by the superintendent or his/her designee.
- Require the perpetrator, accompanied by a parent or guardian, to successfully complete a class or training program to deter future harassing, intimidating, or bullying acts.

The Board of Education recently approved our updated [HIB Policy \(5512\)](#) to reflect the above provisions. As such, the district will make every effort possible to help students understand the ramifications of these changes and the consequences that occur after harassing, intimidating, or bullying events. We will continue to infuse social and emotional learning standards into our curriculum, provide character education lessons, and offer varied after-school programs to empower student agency. Family support is vital to this process, so we ask that you please discuss these changes with your child and the requirements that school districts are required to follow.

[Click here](#) to access a recorded presentation of the law's updates and its impact on our schools.

[HIB Policy Updates & Information Slides](#)

[NJ DOE Parents HIB Guide](#)

[District Anti-Bullying \(HIB\) Information](#)

Feel free to contact my office with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Dan Cocco

Dan Cocco
District Anti-Bullying Coordinator
Supervisor of School Counseling Services