



TWIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

4851 N. Twin Valley Road · Elverson, PA 19520
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No: 248.1

SECTION(S): Pupils
TITLE: Bullying / Cyber Bullying
ADOPTED: August 21, 2006
REVISED: May 15, 2023

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2		NO. 248.1. BULLYING / CYBERBULLYING	2
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4	1. Purpose	The Board recognizes that bullying creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, detracts from the safe environment necessary for student learning, and may lead to more serious violence. Therefore, the Board prohibits bullying by District students.	4
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9	2. Definitions	<i>Bullying</i> shall mean intentional verbal, written, electronic, or physical conduct directed at a student by another student(s), which occurs in a school setting that is severe, persistent, or pervasive and has the effect of:	9
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14		1. Substantially interfering with a student's education.	14
15		2. Creating a threatening environment.	15
16		3. Substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.	16
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18		Bullying, as defined in this policy, includes cyberbullying.	18
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20	24 P.S.1303.1-A	School setting means in the school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop, or at any activity sponsored, supervised, or sanctioned by the school.	20
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24	3. Authority	The Board prohibits all forms of bullying by District students.	24
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26		The Board encourages students who believe they or others have been bullied to promptly report such incidents to the building principal or designee.	26
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30		Students are encouraged to use the District's report form, available in every building and online, or to put the complaint in writing; however, oral complaints shall be accepted and documented. The person accepting the complaint shall handle the report objectively, neutrally, and professionally, setting aside personal biases that might favor or disfavor the student filing the complaint or those accused of a violation of this policy.	30
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37		The Board directs that verbal and written complaints of bullying shall be investigated.	37
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40	2. Pol. 103	<u>Discrimination/Discriminatory Harassment</u>	40
41	3. Pol. 103.1	If, in the course of a bullying investigation, potential issues of discrimination or discriminatory harassment are identified, the Compliance Officer shall be promptly notified, and the investigation shall be conducted jointly and concurrently to address the issues of alleged discrimination as well as the incidents of alleged bullying.	41
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1	4. Delegation of Responsibility	Each student shall be responsible to respect the rights of others and to ensure an atmosphere free from bullying.	1
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4		The District expects employees who observe or become aware of an act of bullying or extortion to take immediate, appropriate steps to intervene.	4
5		If an employee believes that his/her intervention has not resolved the matter, or if the bullying or extortion persists, s/he shall report the bullying or extortion to the school principal or appropriate school administrator for further investigation. If proper reporting is not engaged in by the employee in a position to observe the conduct, the District reserves the right to impose discipline on the employee as deemed appropriate under the circumstances.	5
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14	24 P.S. 1303.1-A	The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that this policy and administrative regulations are reviewed annually with students.	14
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17		The Superintendent or designee, in cooperation with other appropriate administrators, shall review this policy every (3) years and recommend necessary revisions to the Board.	17
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20		District administration shall annually provide the following information with the Safe School Report:	20
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24		1. Board's Bullying Policy	24
25		2. Report of bullying incidents	25
26		3. Information on the development and implementation of any bullying prevention, intervention, or education programs	26
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29	5. Guidelines	<u>Education</u>	29
30		This policy shall be accessible on the District website.	30
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32		The District may will develop and implement bullying prevention and intervention programs. Such programs shall provide District staff and students with appropriate training for effectively responding to, intervening in, and reporting incidents of bullying.	32
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34	24 P.S. 1302-A		34
35	Pol. 236		35
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37		<u>Consequences/Discipline</u>	37
38		Consequences for students who are found to have bullied others may include counseling, a parent/guardian conference, detention, suspension, expulsion, a loss of school privileges, and/or exclusion from school-sponsored activities as defined in the Discipline Code. In particular situations, the building principal may also take one or more of the following appropriate steps: separating and supervising the students involved; providing employee support for students; reporting incidents to law enforcement; and the implementation of a safety plan and/or a supervision plan with parents/guardians.	38
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41	24 P.S. 1301-A		41
42	Pol. 218		42
43	Pol. 233		43
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48		Confidentiality of all parties, witnesses, the allegations, the filing of a complaint, and the investigation shall be handled in accordance with this policy and the District's legal and investigative obligations.	48
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51		<u>Reprisal</u>	51

1		Any student who retaliates against another student for reporting bullying	1
2		or for assisting or testifying in the investigation or hearing may be subject	2
3		to consequences as defined in the Discipline Code.	3
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5		1. 24 P.S. 1303.1-A	5
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7		2. Pol. 103	7
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9		3. Pol. 103.1	9
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11		4. 22 PA Code 12.3	11
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13		5. Pol. 218	13
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15		6. 20 U.S.C. 7118	15
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17		7. 24 P.S. 1302-A	17
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19		8. Pol. 236	19
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21		9. Pol. 233	21
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23		Pol. 113.1	23
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