



Dear Parent/Caregiver,

Children learn best when they feel safe, respected, and cared for. In our continuing effort to create a safe and positive learning environment, Florence One Schools has made a commitment to a standard of respect for all students. Our staff believes that everybody should enjoy school equally, and feel safe, secure, and accepted regardless of color, race, gender, popularity, athletic ability, intelligence, religion, and nationality.

The Board of Trustees for Florence One Schools has developed a policy regarding bullying. According to this policy, "bullying is defined as a gesture, electronic communication, or a written, verbal, physical or sexual act reasonably perceived to have the effect of harming a student physically or emotionally or insulting a student or group of students causing substantial disruption in the operation of the school." In other words, **bullying is repeated behavior that is meant to hurt someone physically, emotionally, or socially. It is also unfair and one-sided, intentional, and there is an imbalance of power. Some examples of bullying include, exclusion of others, physically hurting someone, teasing, name calling, spreading rumors, making threats to others, taking things from others, sending mean notes or email, getting someone else to do these bullying behaviors for or with you.**

The Board of Trustees expects students to conduct themselves in an orderly, courteous, dignified and respectful manner. Bullying will not be acceptable behavior in any schools or at any school related events.

Our district has developed an anti-bullying policy and specific procedures for responding to bullying reports. Each school will be participating in this program. Students will be discussing bullying and how to deal with bullying at school. Parent involvement is an important part of creating and maintaining a safe and positive school environment. Please talk to your student about what we are doing at school.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard O'Malley', is written over a white background.

Richard O'Malley, Ed.D.  
Superintendent