

New York State Dignity for All Students Act



Fall, 2012

The Blind Brook Rye Schools are the cornerstone of our community. Our mission is to prepare our students to be active, life-long learners who have the skills and confidence necessary to achieve their highest potential. We encourage our students to be curious, compassionate and strong in their ability to face challenges.

We are committed to preparing our students to be reflective, adaptable citizens with an open world view. We aspire to instill integrity as a core value and to influence our students to be ethical and responsible members of society.



§ 10. Legislative intent.

- Afford all students in public schools an environment free of discrimination and harassment.**
- Foster civility in public schools**
- Prevent and prohibit conduct which is inconsistent with a school's educational mission.**



School



Family

Community



The Dignity Act

- ✓ **Code of Conduct**
- ✓ **Aware & Sensitive**
- ✓ **Prevent**
- ✓ **Respond**
- ✓ **Report**



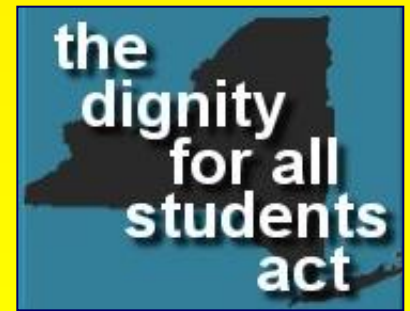
1964

2012

Title II
Title VI
Title IX
Section 504



**Non
Discrimination
Protections**



Weight

US Constitution



TITLE IX

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Title IX Protections From Bullying & Harassment in School: FAQs for Students



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



It's Not Academic

JULY 2012

TITLE VI

ENFORCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

U.S. Department of Education

Protecting Students from Harassment and Hate Crime

A Guide for Schools

U.S. Department of Education
Office for Civil Rights

National Association of Attorneys General

Endorsed by the National School Boards Association:

"Research indicates that creating a supportive school climate is the most important step in preventing harassment. A school can have policies and procedures, but these alone will not prevent harassment. This is the kind of good preventive work the field needs to help ensure that schools provide a safe and welcome environment for all students."



No person in the United States shall, on the basis of race, color, or national origin, sex or disability, be excluded from participation in, or be denied the benefits of, any program or activity receiving any Federal financial assistance.

▶ Title VI

▶ Title IX

▶ Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act

▶ US Constitution Equal Protection & Due Process



School Property

- ✓ In building/structures
- ✓ Playing fields
- ✓ Playground
- ✓ Parking lot
- ✓ Property line
- ✓ In / on school bus

School Function

- ✓ School-sponsored event or activity



“No student shall be subjected to harassment, discrimination, or bullying by employees or students.”



No student shall be subjected to discrimination based on actual or perceived:

Race

Weight/Physical

Ethnic group

Religious practice

Sexual orientation

Gender identity

Color

National origin

Religion

Disability

Sex





Harassment is the creation of a hostile environment by:

conduct, verbal threats, intimidation or abuse that has or would have the effect of unreasonably and substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities or benefits, or mental, emotional or physical well-being...





Harassment

Harassment may take place through such behaviors as conduct, verbal threats, intimidation or abuse.

- What other ways could someone be harassed or bullied?**



Federal Office of Civil Rights

School districts may violate Federal civil rights statutes and U.S.E.D. regulations when peer harassment based on **race, color, national origin, sex, or disability** is sufficiently serious that it creates a hostile environment **and** such harassment is encouraged, tolerated, not adequately addressed, **or** ignored by school staff.





Carl Walker Hoover, 11

April 2009, Springfield Mass.

Carl was a football player and Boy Scout. School bullies repeatedly called him "gay," ruthlessly teased him, despite his mother's pleas to the school to address the problem.

He hung himself in his room.



Jessica Logan, 18

OHIO: In July 2008, Jessica committed suicide. Logan's ex-boyfriend forwarded her nude picture to hundreds of girls, who allegedly harassed Logan at school, calling her a "slut" and "whore."

Jessica's parents sued, accusing the school and police of not doing enough to keep their daughter from being bullied and harassed.

Jon Carmichael, 13



Jon, of Joshua, Texas, committed suicide on March 28, 2010, after being teased by classmates because of his small size.

Jamey Rodemeyer, 14

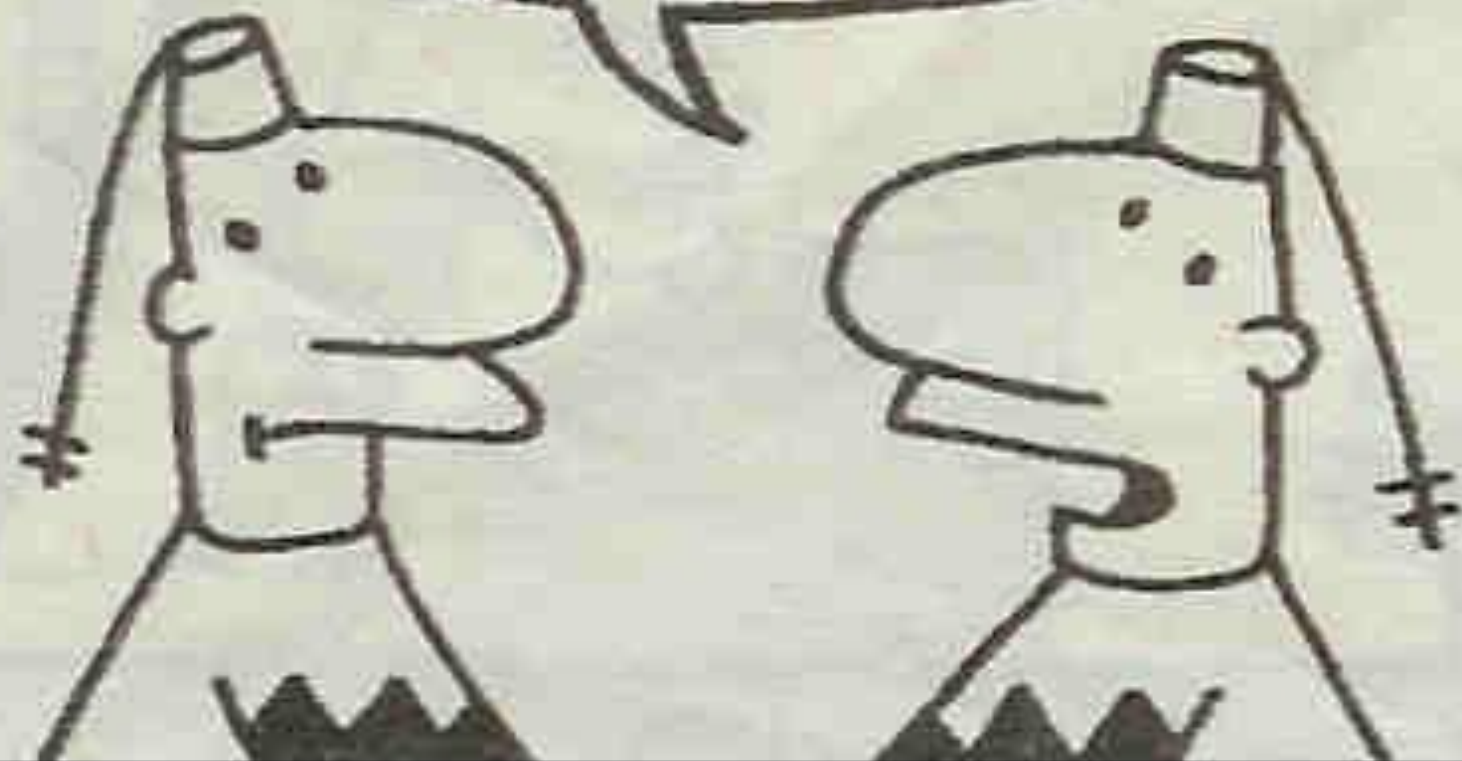


Williamsville North HS freshman took his life in Sept. 2011 after what his parents claim was years of bullying because of struggles with his sexuality.

“JAMIE IS STUPID, GAY, FAT ANND [sic] UGLY. HE MUST DIE!” one online post said.

Another said, “I wouldn't care if you died. No one would. So just do it :) It would make everyone WAY more happier.”

OF ALL THE NAMES
YOU'VE EVER BEEN
CALLED, WHICH ONES
BUG YOU THE MOST?



“Sticks and stones.....”

