

## BULLYING

Every student has the right to be safe in and around school. Bullying makes students fearful, can lead to more serious violence and interferes with a student's ability to concentrate and learn and is thus prohibited.

Bullying is a pattern of abuse over time in which a student or students pick on another student or students. Bullying includes, but is not limited to, physical intimidation or assault; extortion; threats and threatening gestures; put downs; name-calling; cruel rumors; false accusations; social isolation and similar acts.

Staff members who become aware of an act of bullying are to intervene immediately and must report this in writing to the building principal who will send a copy of the report to the divisional assistant superintendent. The building principal or designee will investigate and contact parents of all parties. Follow up may include developing a safety plan; separating and supervising the students; discipline as provided in the code of conduct; providing staff support; and reporting incidents to law enforcement, if appropriate. The results of the investigation and follow-up will be reported by the principal or designee to the assistant superintendent.

Students and parents who become aware of an act of bullying should report this to the building principal or designee. Forms will be available to fill out in order to file a complaint about bullying. Such forms will be available in the main office of each building. A student who retaliates against a reporter will be subject to discipline.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy and ensure that it appears in student handbooks.

Date Adopted: 12/7/04