

# Anti-Bullying Resources

**June 25, 2024**

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Executive Director of Teaching, Learning and  
Accountability



# Agenda/Participant Outcomes from this session

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- Review of the research - learning more about the research around bullying and students with disabilities
- Review of the project - learn how we curated and put together resources to support staff and families around anti-bullying
- Review of the Resources- access some of the resources we have available on the topic

## The impact – Bullying affects a student's ability to learn

Many students with disabilities are already addressing unique challenges in school. When they are bullied, it can directly impact their ability to learn and grow.

Bullying is not a harmless rite of childhood that everyone experiences. Research shows that bullying can negatively impact a child's access to education and lead to:

- School avoidance and higher rates of absenteeism
- Lower grades
- Inability to concentrate
- Loss of interest in academic achievement
- Increase in dropout rates

Although only ten U.S. studies have been conducted on the connection between bullying and developmental disabilities, all of these studies found that children with disabilities were two to three times more likely to be bullied than their nondisabled peers. (Disabilities: Insights from Across Fields and Around the World; Marshall, Kendall, Banks & Gover (Eds.), 2009.)

Source: <https://www.pacer.org/bullying/info/students-with-disabilities/>

## 2. The definition – Bullying based on a student's disability may be considered harassment

The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) and the Department of Justice (DOJ) have stated that bullying may also be **considered harassment** when it is based on a student's race, color, national origin, sex, **disability**, or religion.

Harassing behaviors may include:

- Unwelcome conduct, such as verbal abuse, name calling, epithets, or slurs
- Graphic or written statements
- Threats
- Physical assault
- Other conduct that may be physically threatening, harmful, or humiliating

## 3. Advocating for yourself and others has a significant impact

Parents, educators, community members, and students all have an important advocacy role to play in preventing and addressing bullying.

**Advocacy**—Providing support for students who are being bullied, are vulnerable to being hurt or harmed, or are isolated from other students.

**Self-Advocacy**—Speaking up for yourself, communicating what you need, and taking action.

## 4. Law and policy – There are legal protections and provisions for students with disabilities who are being harassed

### Federal

As a parent of a student with disabilities, it's important to know the federal laws and resources specifically designed for your child's situation. Parents have legal rights when their child with a disability is the target of bullying or harassment related to their disability. According to a 2000 Dear Colleague Letter from the Office of Civil Rights, "States and school districts also have a responsibility [...] to ensure that a free appropriate public education (FAPE) is made available to eligible students with disabilities. Disability harassment may result in a denial of FAPE under these statutes." Under these federal laws, schools are required to respond to harassment or bullying of a student with a disability. The school must provide immediate and appropriate action to investigate, communicate with targeted students regarding steps to end harassment, eliminate any hostile environment, and prevent harassment from recurring. If the school is not taking necessary action, parents may consider filing a formal grievance with the Office of Civil Rights.

For more information, visit [Rights and Policies](#).

### State

In addition to the federal laws, all states have laws that address bullying. Some have information specific to students with disabilities. Many school districts also have individual policies that address how to respond to bullying situations. Contact your local district to request a written copy of the district policy on bullying.

For a complete overview of state laws, visit [StopBullying.gov](#).

## 5. The resources – Students with disabilities have resources that are specifically designed for their situation

### Individualized Education Program (IEP)

Students with disabilities who are eligible for special education under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) will have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or a 504 Plan.

The IEP or 504 Plan can be a helpful tool as part of a bullying prevention plan. Remember, every child receiving special education is entitled to a free appropriate public education (FAPE) and bullying can become an obstacle to that education.

For more information, visit [Bullying Prevention for Children with Disabilities: Using the IEP, 504 Plan, or Creating Your Own Plan](#)

# Project



# Project

- Committee - administrators, teachers, families, students
- Developed purpose
- Reviewed Pacer resources
- Created list of resources for families/students/staff
- Created activities for Unity Day

# Resources

# Website - <https://www.ssdmo.org/BullyingResources>

## Bullying Prevention Resources

Bullying Prevention Resources >

Home > Students & Families > Bullying Prevention Resources > Bullying Prevention Resources

### Unity Day 2023

Join Special School District as we celebrate Unity Day on October 18, 2023. The goal of Unity Day is to bring together youths, families, educators, businesses, and community members across the nation to emphasize the message that bullying is not acceptable and that all students deserve to be safe in school, online, and in the community.

Join us for the following events hosted by SSD's FACE (Family and Community Engagement):

- [Lunch & Learn with The Megan Meier Foundation](#) - Oct. 5, 2023, 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
- ["Express Yourself" Art Contest](#) - entries due Oct. 13, 2023
- Wear orange on Unity Day - Oct. 18, 2023

### Bullying Prevention Resources

Special School District is committed to providing all students and staff with a safe, healthy, and welcoming learning environment. Additionally, SSD is committed to ensuring its students experience equitable educational opportunities free from bullying, harassment, discrimination, prejudice, and hate crimes. All community members are expected to treat each other with respect and appreciate the different and richly diverse personal qualities and skills of our school community.

#### Bullying means....

- intimidation, unwanted aggressive behavior, or harassment
- is repetitive or is substantially likely to be repeated
- causes a student to fear for his or her physical or personal safety or property
- substantially interferes with the educational performance, opportunities, or benefits of any student without expectation or substantially disrupts the orderly operation of the school
- is characterized by a real or perceived imbalance of physical or social power between the perpetrator and the target

#### Bullying may consist of...

- physical actions, including violence, theft, property damage, or gestures
- oral, electronic, or written communication, including name-calling, put-downs, extortion, or threats
- any threat of reprisal or retaliation for reporting such acts

### Families in Partner Districts

Students and families in partner districts should follow the policies/guidance of their partner districts.

Families with concerns about bullying issues being addressed can [contact the SSD area coordinator for their partner district](#), who will proceed to follow the chain of command.



#### Board Policy JFCF

Bullying



#### Regulation JFCF-R

Bullying



#### Let's Talk

Submit a concern about a bullying incident.

### American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Bullying Resource Center

This resource provides FAQs, facts for families, video clips, research, and other resources around the topic of bullying.

#### Article: Don't Tread on LRE When Responding to Bullying Concerns ▼▲

#### Article: Know When to Step Up IEP Services for Bullies, Targets with Disabilities ▼▲

#### Bullying Prevention and Intervention Investigation Form ▼▲

This form is used by staff in SSD schools and sent home to families after an incident. If your student receives SSD services in a partner district, please review their resources.

### Center for Parent Information and Resources

This site provides resources on bullying and what educators, families, and the community can do to prevent it.

# Lesson Planning Hub on Intranet



Teacher Hub



Lesson Planning Resources

## Lesson Planning Resources

Title

All

Format

All

Resource Type

All

Subject - Topic

SEB/SEL- Anti-Bullying

Educational Setting

All

School Level

All

Autism Friendly (see note below)

All

Submit



# Lesson Planning Hub Activities



## What is bullying?

Format: Video  
Resource: Mini-lessons  
Subject: SEB/SEL- Anti-Bullying  
Setting:  
Autism-Friendly: -



## Bullying Prevention Training Module

Format: Slides  
Resource: Professional Development  
Subject: SEB/SEL- Anti-Bullying  
Setting:  
Autism-Friendly:



## Garden of Kindness

Format: Document  
Resource: Lesson Plan  
Subject: SEB/SEL- Anti-Bullying  
Setting:  
Autism-Friendly:



## Creating an Anti-Slur Policy

Format: Document  
Resource: Lesson Plan  
Subject: SEB/SEL- Anti-Bullying  
Setting:  
Autism-Friendly:



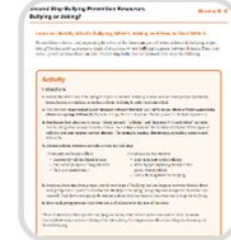
## Poetic Reactions

Format: Document  
Resource: Lesson Plan  
Subject: SEB/SEL- Anti-Bullying  
Setting:  
Autism-Friendly:



## Beauty is Skin Deep

Format: Document  
Resource: Lesson Plan  
Subject: SEB/SEL- Anti-Bullying  
Setting:  
Autism-Friendly:



## Bullying or Joking?: Activity

Format: Document  
Resource: Activities  
Subject: SEB/SEL- Anti-Bullying  
Setting:  
Autism-Friendly:



## 5 Activities to Help Bystanders to Bullying Know What to Do

Format: Document  
Resource: Activities  
Subject: SEB/SEL- Anti-Bullying  
Setting:  
Autism-Friendly:



## Name-Calling in Our Schools

Format: Document  
Resource: Lesson Plan  
Subject: SEB/SEL- Anti-Bullying  
Setting:  
Autism-Friendly:



## No Name-Calling Week Poster

Format: Document  
Resource: Posters  
Subject: SEB/SEL- Anti-Bullying  
Setting:  
Autism-Friendly:



## Challenging Assumptions

Format: Document  
Resource: Lesson Plan  
Subject: SEB/SEL- Anti-Bullying  
Setting:  
Autism-Friendly:



## What If It's Not Me? Speaking Up About Name Calling

Format: Document  
Resource: Lesson Plan  
Subject: SEB/SEL- Anti-Bullying  
Setting:  
Autism-Friendly:



## I am Me: Talking About Identity

Format: Document  
Resource: Lesson Plan  
Subject: SEB/SEL- Anti-Bullying  
Setting:  
Autism-Friendly:



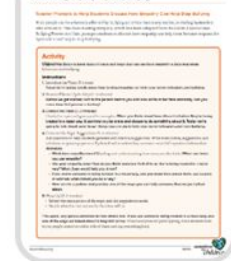
## Learning Empowerment Self-Identification

Format: Document  
Resource: Lesson Plan  
Subject: SEB/SEL- Anti-Bullying  
Setting:  
Autism-Friendly:



## Help Stop Bullying with Kindness and Respect

Format: Document  
Resource: Activities  
Subject: SEB/SEL- Anti-Bullying  
Setting:  
Autism-Friendly:



## Teacher Prompts to Help Students Discuss How Empathy Can Help Stop Bullying

Format: Document  
Resource: Activities  
Subject: SEB/SEL- Anti-Bullying  
Setting:  
Autism-Friendly:

# Other Resources

SSD's Instructional Resource Center and the FACE Resource Center offer a variety of books and resources for staff, family, and community members. Additional Resources can be found on Pacer's National Bullying Prevention Center website: <https://www.pacer.org/bullying/info/>.



Thank you **for**  
Pledging!

You { have shown that you care and are **against bullying** and united for kindness, acceptance and inclusion  
have strengthened the cause by uniting those who want everyone to feel **safe** at school, in their community and while online  
have sent the message to students who are being bullied, that they **are not alone**  
have helped to create a culture in which more people are **supportive of others**

Wendi Pendergrass

**PACER's**  
National Bullying Prevention Center.  
Create a World Without Bullying. [PACER.org/Bullying](http://PACER.org/Bullying)

## Take the Pledge

<https://www.pacer.org/bullying/pledge/>

# SPED Process Training Module

- Training video that addresses how to write supports in the IEP for students who are being bullied- this is available through our SPED process training modules.
- Promote teacher training on SSD's YouTube Channel





# Celebrated Unity Day

## UNITY DAY OCT. 18, 2023



### "Express Yourself" Student Art Contest

Submissions due Oct. 13, 2023

Choose your favorite artistic medium and create an original piece of work that aligns with the theme of "Kindness, Acceptance, and Inclusion." All artistic mediums are welcome!

Open to all students who receive services from SSD.

For more details, scan the QR code or visit:  
[tinyurl.com/SSDExpressYourselfContest](https://tinyurl.com/SSDExpressYourselfContest)



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## Unity Day for 2024 October 16, 2024

<https://www.pacer.org/bullying/nbpm/unity-day.asp>

OCT.

Speaker Tina Meier  
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM



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### Lunch & Learn with the Megan Meier Foundation

Join Tina Meier, CEO of The Megan Meier Foundation, as she shares about bullying and cyberbullying with families. The mission of the Megan Meier Foundation is to support and inspire actions to end bullying, cyberbullying, and suicide.

Learn more at [www.ssdmo.org/LunchAndLearn](http://www.ssdmo.org/LunchAndLearn)



## UNITY DAY OCT. 18, 2023



### Unity Day

Oct. 18, 2023

Wear **orange** and  
share pics on social  
media to show your  
support!



## “Express Yourself Contest” Winners - Elementary



**KeyVaun Hubert**  
5th Grade, Ackerman



**Paul Knickman**  
5th Grade, Gotsch Intermediate School



## “Express Yourself Contest” Winners - Secondary



**Anastasia Gray**

**11th Grade, McCluer High School**



**Bryan Jacson**

**9th Grade, Northview**

# “Express Yourself Contest” Winners - VSP



**Spencer Martinez**  
VSP, St. Mary's



**Jason Aston Killings**  
VSP, St. Mary's Hospital

# Questions?

# Contact Information

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