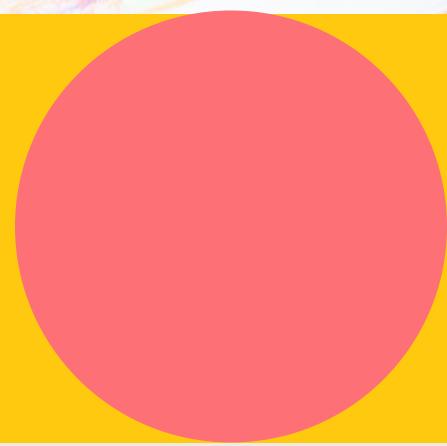


BULLYING PREVENTION



Why Address Bullying?

For students and their futures

- Mental & physical health

For a healthy school climate

- Improved academic achievement

For the larger community

- Other safe places where students feel they belong

Tennessee's General Assembly found and declared that:

- A safe and civil environment is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards;
- Bullying disrupts a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate its students in a safe environment;
- Students learn from school administrators, faculty, staff, and volunteers who demonstrate appropriate behavior and refuse to tolerate bullying;
- The use of electronics and the internet by students in a manner that is safe and secure is essential to a safe and civil learning environment.

TENNESSEE LAW





MCS DISTRICT POLICY

Harassment, Intimidation Bullying (Policy 6.304 and AD STU41)

“Harassment, intimidation, or bullying” means any act that substantially interferes with a student’s educational benefits, opportunities or performance; and:

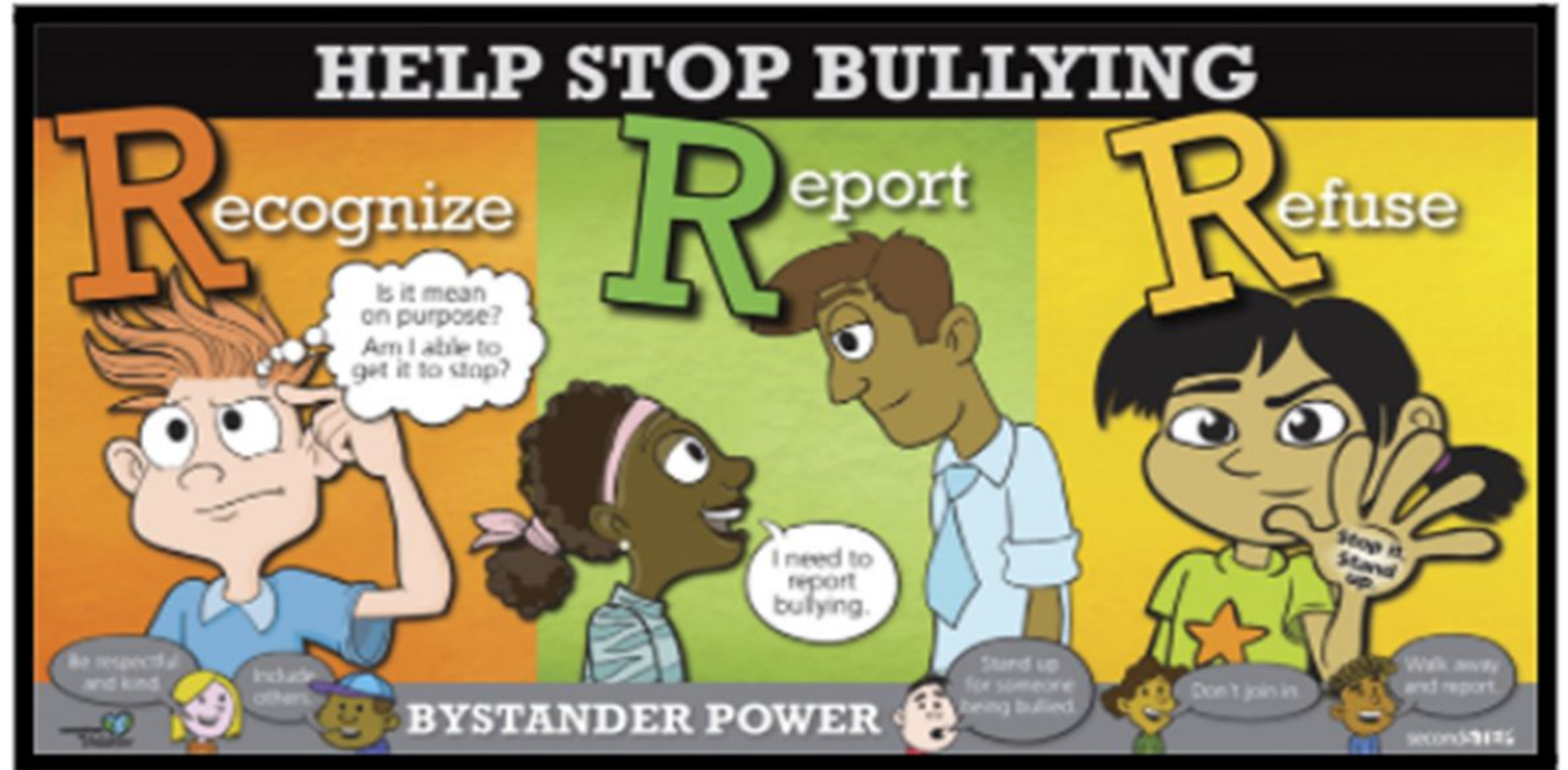
- a. If the act takes place on school grounds, at any school sponsored activity, on school-provided equipment or transportation or at any official school bus stop, the act has the effect of:
 - i. Physically harming a student or damaging a student’s property;
 - ii. Knowingly placing a student or students in reasonable fear of physical harm to the student or damage to the student’s property;
 - iii. Causing emotional distress to a student or students; or
 - iv. Creating a hostile educational environment; or
 - v. The Conduct is aimed at defining a student in a sexual manner or the conduct is impugning the character of a student based on allegations of sexual promiscuity;
- or b. If the act takes place off school property or outside of a school-sponsored activity, it is directed specifically at a student or students and has the effect of creating a hostile educational environment or otherwise creating a substantial disruption to the education environment or learning process.

AT NORTHFIELD



- We use anti-bullying education in an attempt to prevent bullying from happening.
- Should there be a bullying situation, there is a procedure in place for appropriate counseling and support services that will be enacted when deemed necessary by the principal. In this situation, the parent/guardian of students involved will be contacted.

SECOND STEP



Bullying Prevention



WHAT BULLYING IS

KID DEFINITION:

Bullying is mean or hurtful behavior that keeps happening. It is unfair and one-sided.

Bullying is aggressive behavior that:

- Is usually repeated over time**
- Occurs when there is a power imbalance**
- Is intended to cause harm or distress and/or has a harmful or distressing effect on the target**

WHAT BULLYING IS NOT

	CONFLICT	RUDE	MEAN	BULLYING
Frequency	Typically, infrequent. Can sometimes be occasional			Repeated
Intent	Typically, not planned or intentional. Most often is spontaneous	Can be intentional or non-intentional, but most often spontaneous	Usually intentional, but most often is not planned	Planned and intentional
Who is hurt?	All parties are upset	Can cause hurt feelings for one or all parties	Can deeply hurt one or all parties	The target of the bullying is upset and hurt
Cause	Most often a disagreement, argument or difference of opinion	Thoughtlessness, poor manners, narcissism, etc.	Anger, impulsive cruelty	Planned and intentional actions to gain control by the bully over the victim
Taking responsibility	All parties take responsibility for their own actions	Rude or mean person accepts responsibility and typically exhibits remorse for their behaviour and actions		The bully blames the victim
Who wants a resolution	Typically, an effort is made by all parties to find a resolution			The victim wishes the behaviour to stop, the bully does not
Resolution	Can be resolved through mediation	Most often is resolved through mediation. Progressive Discipline measures may be used by school administration.		Difficult to resolve through mediation. Often requires the use of significant intervention and support strategies for all parties along with Progressive Discipline measures.

Source: Jennifer Astles, DASA Newsletter, January 2014, TST BOCES

Source: Jennifer Astles, DASA Newsletter, January 2014, TST BOCES

DEALING WITH BULLIES

Overreacting



THINGS THAT PROBABLY WON'T WORK

Encouraging children to fight or physically attack the student who is bullying.

Encouraging a child to tell the bullying student that he or she is hurting their feelings

THINGS THAT CAN HELP

Talking with children about bullying and the characteristics that distinguish it from other problems that may occur.

Teaching kids things like self-respect, the importance of body language, and positive social skills

Look out for signs that could point to a bullying issue (e.g. increased anxiety or insecurity, depressed mood, more illnesses, student reporting repeated issues with another student).

Reporting any concerns about bullying to the school as soon as possible.



THANK YOU

**Bullying
Prevention
Presentation 2024**

