

Bullying, Harassment, & Sexting

**Boerne ISD - 2024-2025
6th & 7th Campus Presentation**





BLAH

BLAH

BLAH

BLAH

What is Bullying?



Bullying

Bullying is

- an intentional act
- effects are devastating
- most often takes place during junior high and high school

Bullying is against the law!

Texas Education Code Section 37.0832 is the law passed by the legislature about bullying. It says:

“Bullying” means:

- single significant act or a pattern of acts by one or more students directed at another student
- imbalance of power
- written or verbal expression,
- has the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student’s property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm
- is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive enough that the action or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student;
- disrupts the educational process or the orderly operation of a classroom or school; or
- infringes on the rights of the victim at school; and,
- includes cyber bullying.

Cyberbullies

Cyberbullies can be an individual or a group of people that prey on others to humiliate, embarrass, and insult them for their own gain.

Bullying is against the law!

- Cyber bullying is defined by the **Texas Education Code Section 37.0832** as follows:
 - bullying that is done through the use of any electronic communication device, including through the use of a cellular or other type of telephone, a computer, a camera, electronic mail, instant messaging, text messaging, social media application, an Internet website, or any other Internet-based communication tool.
- Cyber bullying includes
 - bullying that occurs on or is delivered to school property or to the site of a school sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property;
 - bullying that occurs on a publicly or privately owned school bus or vehicle being used for transportation of students to or from school or a school sponsored or school-related activity; and,
 - cyber bullying that occurs off school property or outside of school sponsored or school-related activity if the cyber bullying
 - interferes with the student's educational opportunities; or,
 - substantially disrupts the orderly operation of a classroom, school, or school sponsored or school-related activity.

Why does bullying happen?

The bully wants to be perceived as:

- Popular
- Smart
- Pretty
- Handsome
- Funny

Types of bullying:

- **Cyber**: Using the internet, social media, or technology to threaten, harass, or hurt others.
- **Verbal**: Using words to bully, such as name calling, insulting or demeaning comments, taunting, threatening, or embarrassing others.
- **Social**: Using social standing to indirectly bully someone, such as purposely leaving one person out of the group, turning others against them, or spreading rumors and hurtful gossip.
- **Physical**: Using physical interactions to bully, such as hitting, kicking, pinching, spitting, tripping, pushing, taking or breaking property, or making rude gestures.

The law now says bullying:

- Includes communication (direct, indirect, cyberbullying fake profiles, photoshopping photos, fake profiles, or photos).
- Includes off-campus actions and communications that that interfere with a student's educational opportunities, or significantly disrupts the school environment.
- No longer has to be a pattern, can be one singular significant act.
- Authorities (law enforcement) may be notified, and all students' parents or guardians must be notified.

Check for Understanding



Bullying and Cyberbullying are against the law.

TRUE

You can only get in trouble for bullying if you pick on someone over and over.

FALSE

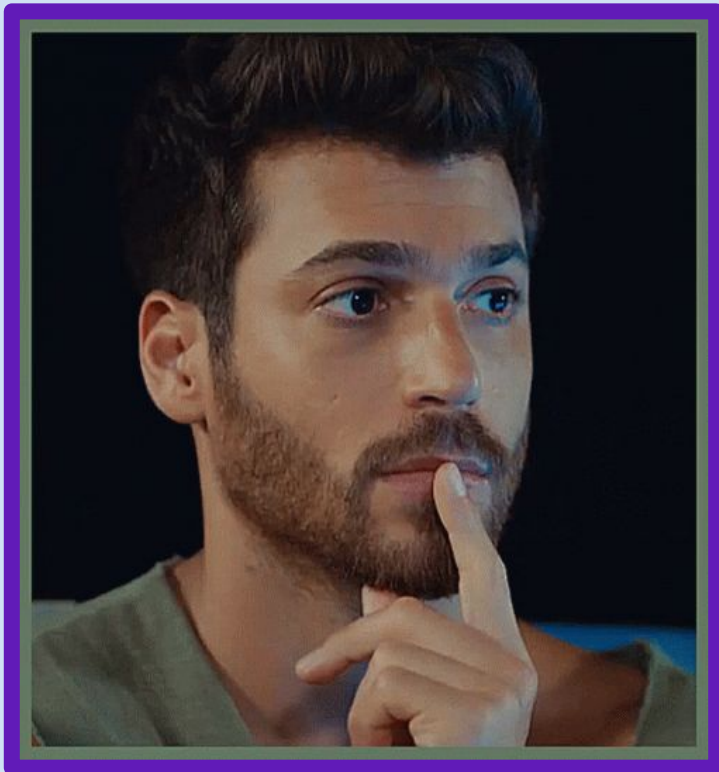
Purposely leaving one person out of the group, turning others against them, or spreading rumors and hurtful gossip is a type of bullying.

TRUE

I can't get in trouble for bullying someone outside of school.

FALSE

What is harassment?



In Texas public schools, harassment can include threats to cause harm or bodily injury, intimidating conduct, damaging someone's property, physically confining or restraining someone, or other malicious acts like name-calling that are severe enough to substantially harm a person's physical or emotional health or safety.

The intent of harassment is to:

- Annoy
- Alarm
- Abuse
- Torment
- Embarrass
- Offend

Examples of harassment include:

- Threatening harm to another person, family members, or property.
- Calling or sending messages in an annoying, threatening, or abusive manner.
- Requesting an obscene activity, such as inappropriate pictures or video, even if the person being asked has already refused.
- Direct messaging a person to hurt or kill themselves on their Instagram or social media account.

Consequences for Bullying and Harassment

- Detention
- ISS
- OSS
- DAEP
- Criminal Charges

Consequences can also include a classroom change, school change, loss of privileges, loss of transportation, restricted participation in extracurricular activities, etc.

Check for Understanding



One of the reasons people harass others is to annoy them.

TRUE

There are no consequences for harassment.

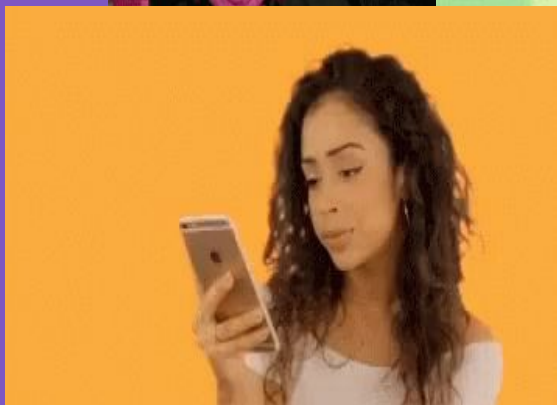
FALSE

Messaging someone to hurt themselves is a form of harassment.

TRUE

I can't get in trouble for harassing someone outside of school.

FALSE



There is **NO DELETE OR ANONYMOUS** on the internet!

Every search, comment, purchase, picture, tweet, share, snap, like, and call is recorded in your digital profile and becomes a part of big data.

Everything associated with your name, cell number, email, and IP addresses, is saved forever and cannot be deleted. Even if you “delete” them, they are still stored somewhere on the Internet or in a storage cloud which means it can be found.

Remember:

Comments that you make on social media in middle or high school may lead to you not getting into the military, not getting into the college you want to attend, or not getting the job you set your heart on.



What can you do when you have knowledge of bullying, cyberbullying or harassment?



Direct Intervention - includes things like calling out bullying when you see it occurring. For example, “Stacy, do not say that about her. It is not true. If you continue to spread rumors about her, I will be forced to tell someone.”

Indirect Intervention - includes things like using an anonymous reporting system, but it also includes speaking to the person being bullied and saying, “I saw what he did. Do you want me to tell someone?”

Other indirect interventions include sitting with the person being bullied at lunch, walking with them in the hallways, or wherever it is they are being bullied.

You should tell your parent, teacher, or another trusted adult when you see bullying happening to a classmate on social media (cyberbullying).

Boerne ISD is here to support you!

- We have district bullying & harassment policies.
- Administrators, counselors, and teachers are available when you have a challenge, question, or need to make a report.
- You can report concerns using our P3 reporting system.
- District and campus administrators monitor all online usage through Lightspeed and Go Guardian.
- Our campus SROs (police) are on campus to keep you safe. They can take reports and also enforce laws when necessary.

Tell your parents!

You should tell your parents every time and any time you feel you are the victim of bullying or harassment. Just because you can “handle” the bullying situation, doesn’t mean you should have to.



