

Northgate School District

Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Bullying/Cyberbullying
Code	249 Vol I 2025
Status	First Reading
Adopted	November 17, 2008
Last Revised	January 18, 2022
Prior Revised Dates	8/20/2012, 6/17/2019, 9/21/2020

249

Purpose

The Board is committed to providing a safe, positive learning environment for district students. The Board recognizes that bullying creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, detracts from the safe environment necessary for student learning and may lead to more serious violence. Therefore, the Board prohibits bullying by district students.

Definitions

Bullying means an intentional electronic, written, verbal or physical act or series of acts directed at another student or students, which occurs in a school setting and/or outside a school setting, that is severe, persistent or pervasive and has the effect of doing any of the following:

[\[1\]](#)

1. Substantially interfering with a student's education.
2. Creating a threatening environment.
3. Substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

Bullying, as defined in this policy, includes cyberbullying.

School setting means in the school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop or at any activity sponsored, supervised or sanctioned by the school.[\[1\]](#)

Authority

The Board prohibits all forms of bullying by district students.^[1]

The Board encourages students who believe they or others have been bullied to promptly report such incidents to the building principal or designee.

Students are encouraged to use the district's report form, available from the building principal, or to put the complaint in writing; however, oral complaints shall be accepted and documented. The person accepting the complaint shall handle the report objectively, neutrally and professionally, setting aside personal biases that might favor or disfavor the student filing the complaint or those accused of a violation of this policy.

The Board directs that verbal and written complaints of bullying shall be investigated promptly, and appropriate corrective or preventative action be taken when allegations are substantiated. The Board directs that any complaint of bullying brought pursuant to this policy shall also be reviewed for conduct which may not be proven to be bullying under this policy but merits review and possible action under other Board policies.

When a student's behavior indicates a threat to the safety of the student, other students, school employees, school facilities, the community or others, district staff shall report the student to the threat assessment team, in accordance with applicable law and Board policy.^[2]^[3]

Discrimination/Harassment

Every report of alleged bullying that can be interpreted at the outset to fall within the provisions of policies addressing potential violations of laws against discrimination or harassment shall be handled as a joint, concurrent investigation into all allegations and coordinated with the full participation of the Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator. If, in the course of a bullying investigation, potential issues of discrimination or harassment are identified, the Title IX Coordinator shall be promptly notified, and the investigation shall be conducted jointly and concurrently to address the issues of alleged discrimination or harassment as well as the incidents of alleged bullying.^[4]^[5]

Confidentiality

Confidentiality of all parties, witnesses, the allegations, the filing of a complaint and the investigation shall be handled in accordance with applicable law, regulations, this policy and the district's legal and investigative obligations.

Retaliation

Reprisal or retaliation relating to reports of bullying or participation in an investigation of allegations of bullying is prohibited and shall be subject to disciplinary action.

Delegation of Responsibility

Each student shall be responsible to respect the rights of others and to ensure an atmosphere free from bullying.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop guidelines to implement this policy.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that this policy and expectations are reviewed annually with students.[\[1\]](#)

The Superintendent or designee, in cooperation with other appropriate administrators, shall review this policy every three (3) years and recommend necessary revisions to the Board.[\[1\]](#)

District administration shall annually provide the following information with the school safety and security incident report:[\[1\]](#)[\[6\]](#)

1. Board's Bullying Policy.
2. Report of bullying incidents.
3. Information on the development and implementation of any bullying prevention, intervention or education programs.

Guidelines

The Code of Student Conduct, which shall contain this policy, shall be disseminated annually to students.[\[1\]](#)[\[7\]](#)[\[8\]](#)

This policy shall be accessible in every classroom. The policy is available on the district website.[\[1\]](#)

Education

The district may develop, implement and evaluate bullying prevention and intervention programs and activities. Programs and activities shall provide district staff and students with appropriate training for effectively responding to, intervening in and reporting incidents of bullying.[\[1\]](#)[\[9\]](#)[\[10\]](#)
[\[11\]](#)

Consequences for Violations

A student who violates this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action consistent with the Code of Student Conduct, which may include:[\[1\]](#)[\[7\]](#)[\[12\]](#)

1. Counseling within the school.
2. Parental conference.
3. Loss of school privileges.

4. Exclusion from school-sponsored activities.
5. Detention.
6. Suspension.
7. Expulsion.
8. Referral to law enforcement officials.

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Legal

[1. 24 P.S. 1303.1-A](#)

[2. 24 P.S. 1302-E](#)

3. Pol. 236.1

4. Pol. 103

5. Pol. 103.1

6. Pol. 805.1

7. Pol. 218

[8. 22 PA Code 12.3](#)

[9. 20 U.S.C. 7118](#)

[10. 24 P.S. 1302-A](#)

11. Pol. 236

12. Pol. 233

Pol. 113.1

[249-Attach 1 Report Form.pdf \(421 KB\)](#)

Northgate School District

Book	Policy Manual
Section	800 Operations
Title	Opening Exercises/Moment of Silence/Flag Displays
Code	807 Vol IV 2024
Status	First Reading
Adopted	September 15, 2008

807

Purpose

The Board adopts this policy to ensure that all district schools comply with state and federal laws concerning flag displays, opening exercises **and the moment of silence on the anniversary of September 11**, while respecting the rights of individuals.

Authority

A United States flag shall be displayed in classrooms and on or near each school building during school hours, in clement weather and at other times determined by the Board.[1]

District schools shall provide opening exercises that include a salute to the flag and/or recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance or the National Anthem.[1]

Students may decline to recite the Pledge of Allegiance or National Anthem and to salute the flag on the basis of personal belief or religious conviction. Students who choose to refrain from such participation shall respect the rights and interests of classmates who do participate.[1][2]

The Board shall direct professional employees to conduct a brief period of silent prayer or meditation as part of daily opening exercises. Silent prayer or meditation shall not be conducted as a religious service or exercise.[3]

The Board directs the district to annually provide, during instructional hours, a moment of silence for students and staff to observe the anniversary of September 11, 2001.[4]