

Community Expectations

Syosset Schools 2024



PATIENCE • RESPECT • INTEGRITY • DIGNITY • EMPATHY

In Syosset... We Connect With Each Other:

- We are "**No Place for Hate**" schools.
- We embrace difference and diversity, and we are inclusive and supportive.
- If our community members make decisions that harm others, we take a stand and help them learn to do better.



We Support Dignity for All

Race
Color
Weight
National origin
Ethnic group
Religion and religious practice
Physical or mental disabilities
Sexual orientation
Gender/sex/identity



In Syosset, We Live By A Code of Character, Conduct, and Support

All School District students have the responsibility to:

- Contribute to maintaining a safe, supportive and orderly school environment that is conducive to learning.
- Show respect to other persons (peers, faculty, staff, etc.), the personal space of other persons, and the property of other persons.
- Actively participate in making the school a community free of violence, intimidation, bullying, harassment, and discrimination.

The Code of Conduct, Character, and Support

Know the Expectation

Treat others and
your surroundings
with respect.

Make Good Choices

Speak up for
others &
demonstrate
P.R.I.D.E.

Anticipate Consequences

&
**Expect to
MAKE THINGS
RIGHT.**

In Syosset, We Don't Tolerate Hate

What is Identity-Based Hate?

“Hate crimes and identity-based bullying—a form of bullying where people are targeted because of their race or ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or physical appearance—are intolerant acts that have far-reaching implications for society as a whole.”

-U.S. Department of Justice

In Syosset, We Respect Each Other & Follow The Law

- The **Dignity for All Students Act** (DASA) was established in 2012 to protect all students from harassment, bullying and discrimination.
- By law, all people in a school must demonstrate respect in all language and actions.
- DASA includes acts of identity-based hate.

See the [DASA](#) Information on our district webpage for more details.

Hate Speech, School Rules, and The Law

- When people use identity-based hate to target others, that is **hate speech**.
- **Antisemitism, Islamophobia, Anti Asian Hate, Racism, Anti LGBTQ** are forms of hate speech.
- **Hate speech** can take the form of verbal or non-verbal communications, including facial expressions, gestures, and symbols which include swastikas and nooses.
- Hate speech and hateful actions are prohibited in school
 - **By our Code of Conduct**
 - **By law**
- DOJ: "hate crime laws include crimes committed on the basis of race, color, and religion; many also include crimes committed on the basis of sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, and disability."

Potential Consequences:

- **School-based consequences**
- **Suspension**
- **Expulsion**
- **Referral to law enforcement**

Future Impact:

- **College Applications**
- **Employment**
- **Military Service**

Reflect On Your Role in Our Community:

Stop. Think. Act.

- Am I acting safely and responsibly?
- Am I showing respect for others and my surroundings?
- What do my actions and look like to others?
- Where can I improve?
- When I am expected to speak up?

Learning About Hate by Learning About Anti-Semitism

What is antisemitism?

Anti-Semitism is anti-Jewish prejudice, discrimination, hatred, hostility, violence, or oppression.

What can antisemitism look like?

Because society often blames groups of people for tragedies or changes we can't explain or control, antisemitism is constantly repackaged. It can look like an anti-Jewish bullying incident in school, it can show up as memes/tropes online and in the media, and it can be seen in hate organizations and movements. How antisemitism looks changes over time, but the attitudes underneath the packaging and the harm they cause remain the same.

When did antisemitism start?

Many people associate antisemitism with World War II and the Holocaust, but it did not begin in the 1930s or end in 1945 when the Nazis were defeated. Jews have been stereotyped, exiled, and violently assaulted based on a wide range of false accusations and assumptions for thousands of years.

Antisemitism and Identity-Based Hate

- **Antisemitic attacks**, and other identity-based hate crimes, have increased in recent years both online and in person.
 - Hate crimes that target Jewish communities made up **more than half** of the reported religious-based crimes in 2021.
 - Antisemitism relies on “**tropes**,” widely shared ideas, stereotypes, phrases, images or stories.
- On **TikTok** alone, antisemitic comments increased 912 percent from 2020 to 2021.
 - The New York police department has reported a **400 percent** increase in attacks targeting Jews.
 - In 2021, American Jews, both adults and children, were punched, stabbed, bludgeoned, shot, burned by fireworks, verbally assaulted, and spit upon while going about their daily lives in their communities.

- Identity-based hate is a result of the aggressor's bias, NOT the victim's identity.
- It is verbal or physical attacks rooted in discrimination.
- Can target more than one part of someone's identity.
- Can be in person or online.
- **Biased attitudes, acts of hate and discrimination, and violence towards others based on their identity have the power to harm entire communities and societies.**



Federal and state laws make identity-based hate a crime.

Know Your Rights

In Syosset, all students have the right to . . .

- Participate in all School District activities on an EQUAL basis regardless of their actual or perceived race, weight, color, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, gender, sex, sexual orientation or identity, or disability.
- Seek help when rights have been obstructed.
- Express their opinions as long as it is done in a respectful way, and does not contain hateful or hurtful speech.
- Have access to school policies, regulations and rules, and their meanings.

Repairing the Harm of Hate

- In addition to disciplinary consequences, students are expected to learn from their mistakes and understand why their behavior was unacceptable.
- Students acknowledge the harm caused or negative impact of their actions.
- Students understand what could have been done differently.
- Students take responsibility for their actions.
- Students learn strategies that promote positive interactions.

Reflect On Your Role:

Stop. Think. Act.

- If I take the issue of identity- based hate seriously, what are the day-to-day implications for how I live my life?
- What might my personal actions and behaviors look like?
- What might I choose to do differently?
- When and where might I find myself speaking out?



Syosset
P.R.I.D.E.

Patience
Respect
Integrity
Dignity
Empathy

Sources

- <https://www.facinghistory.org/>
- <https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/programs/preventing-youth-hate-crimes-bullying-initiative>
- <https://www.adl.org/>
- <https://www.apa.org/ed/schools/primer/race-hate.pdf>

Cell Phones

- Off and Away During the Day.
- The best place for your phone is in your locker.
- Classroom phone holders should be used in every class if your phone is present.
- Hallway use is not permitted.
- If students use cell phones during lunch, responsible use is required. No picture taking or video and no social media use.

Safety is Our Priority

- Everyone is part of keeping us safe.
 - Fencing, outside doors and alarms, security cameras and classroom doors.
 - Drills
 - Lockdown
 - Lockout
 - Hold In Place
 - Evacuation (Fire)
 - We will practice so we are prepared.
 - Notification

Key Supporters:

Principals

- Mr. Bonanno, Mr. Harrigan, Mr. Naraine, Ms. Waters

Guidance and Wellness

- Ms. Correia/ *Guidance Counselor*
- Ms. Faust/ *Guidance Counselor*
- Mr. McAleer/ *Guidance Counselor*
- Ms. Mills Carroll/ *Guidance Counselor*
- Dr. Rodriguez/ *School Psychologist*
- Ms. Zash/ *School Psychologist*
- Ms. Chan/ *Social Worker*

DASA Coordinators

- Mr. McAleer and Ms. Mills Carroll

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Acknowledgement