



**BULLYING
AND
VIOLENCE PREVENTION POLICY
2025-26**

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Bullying

Statement of Policy:

The Jefferson Parish School Board ("Board") strictly prohibits bullying and/or harassment, as defined herein. The Board shall take reasonable steps to end bullying/harassment, to prevent its future recurrence and to prevent retaliation against any individual who reports allegations of bullying/harassment or cooperates in the investigation of an alleged violation of this policy. This policy applies to students on school grounds, while traveling to and from school, or a school-sponsored activity, and during school-sponsored events.

Definition:

Bullying/Harassment: Bullying and harassment may take many forms, including, but not limited to the following:

1. Hurtful name-calling, teasing, gossiping, threats, intimidation, humiliation, making rude noises or gestures, or spreading hurtful rumors.
2. Written, electronic, or verbal communication such as name-calling, threatening harm, taunting, malicious teasing, or spreading rumors.
3. Physical acts such as hitting, kicking, pushing, tripping, choking, damaging personal property, or unauthorized use of personal property.
4. Purposefully shunning or excluding from activities.

Bullying/harassment need not include intent to harm, be directed at a specific target, or involve repeated incidents. Bullying/harassment creates a hostile environment when the conduct is sufficiently severe, pervasive, or persistent so as to interfere with or limit a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or opportunities offered by the school. When bullying or harassment is based on race, religion, gender, age, national origin, color, disability, genetics, marital status, or sexual orientation, such conduct violates the victim's civil rights and District anti-discrimination policy.

Bullying Prevention:

5. Students in grades 3-12 must receive and acknowledge receipt of age-appropriate Anti-Bullying Training by October 31 of each school year.
 - Student training shall consist of a total of one (1) hour of training conducted by the school. The training shall include defining bullying, skills to prevent bullying, reporting bullying, and overcoming bullying.
6. JPS will acknowledge October of each school year as National Bullying Prevention Month. Schools must have at least one school-wide activity educating students, parents, and employees on bullying prevention strategies. Parents will receive Bullying Prevention Strategies via school and district newsletters.
7. All schools with grades 6-12 must have a designated area on campus for anonymous reporting of bullying allegations.
8. Based on the severity of the offense, a student may receive a more serious consequence, even if it is the first offense.

Complaint Procedures

Reports of bullying/harassment by the victim, a witness or anyone else who has credible information that an act of bullying/harassment has occurred shall be handled in accordance with these procedures.

1. Conduct in violation of this policy must be promptly reported to the school principal or designee, preferably in writing. Verbal reports will be recorded by the receiving official at the time of the report.
2. All school employees and parents chaperoning or supervising school sponsored functions and events are required to report alleged violations of this policy to the principal/designee.
3. The principal/designee shall initiate a prompt, thorough and impartial investigation which shall include:
 - a. Interview of the reporter, the alleged victim(s), the alleged offender(s) and all witnesses or others with relevant information.
 - b. The interviews will be reduced to writing, signed and dated by the interviewee and interviewer.

- c. Collection and review of any physical evidence such as photographs or audio-visual evidence. All bullying allegations must be documented in the district's Student Information System. The School based mental health professional will not be involved in any bullying investigations but can assist with counseling students who as the result of the principal or designated administrators investigation has determined to have been bullied or have bullied another student.
- 4. The parent or legal guardian of the alleged victim(s) and alleged offender(s) must be notified and given the opportunity to attend the interview. Notification shall be consistent with the student privacy rights under the applicable provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA).
- 5. Interviews shall be conducted privately, separately, and confidentially. At no time will the alleged offender and victim be interviewed together.
- 6. The parents or legal guardian of the alleged victim(s) and alleged offender(s) shall be informed of the potential consequences, penalties, or other remedial actions that the school may take.
- 7. The principal/designee will make reasonable efforts to complete the investigation promptly after receiving notice of the harassment/bullying, and shall take interim measures as necessary while the investigation is pending to prevent further harassment/bullying. Resolution of the Investigation
 - a. Upon completion of the investigation, the principal/designee shall complete an investigation report which shall include pertinent facts, findings and recommended remedial action, if any.
 - b. If there is finding of a disciplinary code violation, school officials shall take prompt and appropriate disciplinary action pursuant to La. R.S. 17:416 and 17:416.1. Criminal conduct will be reported to law enforcement.
 - c. The school may take other remedial action, as deemed appropriate under the circumstances, to end prohibited conduct and prevent its recurrence. The appropriate remedial action will depend on the particular circumstances, but may include the following:
 - Taking steps to end bullying/harassment such as separating the accused harasser and the target, providing counseling for the target and/or harasser, or taking disciplinary action against the harasser.
 - Provide training or other interventions to ensure that students, their families, and school staff can recognize harassment/bullying if it occurs and know how to respond.
- iii. Provide additional services to the victim in order to address the effects of the bullying or harassment.
- iv. Issuance of new policies prohibiting harassment/bullying and new procedures by which students, parents, and employees may report allegations of harassment/bullying.
- v. Dissemination of existing policies and procedure and notice of the District's Title IX and Section 504/Title II coordinators.
- d. The principal/designee shall notify the complainant, victim and offender of the findings and remedial action, to the extent allowed under FERPA. After completion of the investigation, the school shall continue to take steps to prevent further bullying or harassment and to prevent any retaliation against the complainant or any person who cooperated in the investigation of a complaint.

Consequences for students found guilty of bullying:

1. **1st offense** - Parent Conference or Detention- as determined by the Principal. The student must also complete a consultation with the counselor or social worker on campus. A consent form in the parents dominant language must be signed giving the counselor or social worker permission for said consultation..
2. **2nd offense** - 2 day In-School Suspension (character education and assessment completed) and student must attend Bullying and Violence Prevention Program*

* Students in grades 4-12 who are guilty of bullying for a second time as determined by the school administrators will be required to undergo conflict resolution training with the parent/legal guardian before being readmitted to school. The student shall not be allowed to participate in any sports or extra-curricular activities during the suspension period. The student shall be required to complete four (4) hours of community service. The four (4) hours of community service will be scheduled and supervised by an

administrator/teacher at the designated school site. The two (2) hour conflict resolution session is held on Saturdays or evenings at a designated site/virtual. The student or parent/legal guardian will pay \$75.00 for the cost of the Bullying and Violence Prevention Program at the time of enrollment in the program. Cash or money order will be accepted. School Cash Online can be used to make an online payment. The student must attend the Bullying and Violence Prevention Program in his/her full school uniform. Failure to complete all components of the Bullying and Violence Prevention Program may result in a referral to Juvenile Court.

- 3rd offense** - 3 day In-School Suspension (character education and assessment completed) and student must attend Bullying and Violence Prevention Program*

If the bullying act is against the same person(s), the student may be reassigned to another JPS school for the remainder of the school year. (All district, state, and federal Special Education regulations will be followed)

- 4th offense** - Suspension to alternative site recommended (grades 4-12). Length of stay determined by the district's Hearing Officer.

Violence and Bullying Prevention Program

School principals will have the authority to call the appropriate law enforcement authorities if students are involved in a group fight, or a fight resulting in serious injuries.


All students involved in a fight at school will be subject to suspension or expulsion.

In addition to a disciplinary consequence, students in grades 4-12 school level who are suspended for fighting as determined by the school administrators will be required to undergo conflict resolution training with the parent/legal guardian before being readmitted to school. The student shall not be allowed to participate in any sports or extra-curricular activities during the suspension period.

The parent/legal guardian will be required to attend the four (2) hour conflict resolution session on Saturday with the student for each offense as part of the Violence Prevention Program. The student or parent/legal guardian will pay \$75.00 for the cost of the Violence Prevention Program at the time of enrollment in the program. Cash or money order will be accepted. School Cash Online can be used to make an online payment. The student must attend the Violence Prevention Program in his/her full school uniform.

Students who are found guilty of bullying (2nd and 3rd offense), must attend Violence and Bullying Prevention Program.

Failure to complete all components of the Violence Prevention Program may result in a referral to Juvenile Court.

 Online Expectations		
Be Prepared	Presentation	Speaking
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be on time • Computer is charged • Find a quiet space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dress appropriately • Keep your camera on • Be on camera view • Display your name (First and last) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay on mute • Raise hand to speak or ask a question • Speak clearly • Stay on topic
Participation	Be Respectful	Use Signals
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be focused • Be attentive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be respectful with your words, actions, and content 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thumbs up = yes/ok • Thumbs down = no • ? (in chat box) = question • ! (in chat box) = comment



Bullying/Violence Prevention Class Dates

2025-2026

*If you are registering a student after 12:00 PM on Thursday of the same week a class is being held, the student will be registered to attend the next scheduled class date.

2025	2026
September 13	January 10
October 4	January 24
October 18	February-NO CLASS
November 8	March 14
December 6	March 28
	April 11
	April 25
	May 9

- **Google Classroom and fee payment link will be included in the email notification to the parent and personnel responsible for class registration.**

2025-2026 Bullying/Violence Prevention Class Dates

Students in grades 4 – 12, involved in and suspended for fighting, or have a second offense for bullying the same victim and a parent/guardian are required to attend a mandatory Jefferson Parish Bullying/Violence Prevention program.

School Admin or designee will register student and parent/guardian through Google Forms and submit to the Department of School Safety. The Department of School Safety assigns the date and time to attend and will send an email notification containing class information to the parent/guardian and school. **Any student registration received after 12:00 PM on the Thursday of the same week as the scheduled Saturday class will be registered for the following scheduled class date.**

If unable to attend the assigned class date, parent/guardian will need to send an email to schoolsafety@jpschools.org to request a new date.

- **1st offense for failure to attend** – School Discipline will need to request the Department of School Safety to reschedule. Please send request to schoolsafety@jpschools.org
- **2nd offense for failure to attend** will result in the school reporting student and parent/guardian to the Department of School Safety and Families in Need of Services (FINS), which could result in having to appear in Juvenile Court.

School principals have the authority to call the appropriate law enforcement agency, if students are involved in a serious fight/group fight.

One or more of the following actions may result in a recommendation of:

- Student(s) will be disciplined;
- Release the student to a parent/guardian with the agreement that both will appear in Juvenile Court; or
- Student may be arrested

All students involved in fighting will be subject to suspension or expulsion and are required to comply with the following:

- With his/her parent/guardian, student is required to attend a mandatory two (2) hour conflict resolution class on a scheduled Saturday. Student is required to wear a uniform shirt with appropriate bottoms when attending a virtual class. No other siblings/relative permitted to attend class. **Parent and student must remain in class and online with student for the duration of the class. Virtual Class held from 8:00 AM to 10:00 for grades 4th - 7th and from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM for grades 8th - 12th.** A contact cell phone number that is able to receive text and email address for parent/guardian is required to notify the parent/guardian of any changes to the scheduled class. **Do not use the student's JCampus email as contact for the parent/guardian.**

- A class attendance fee is issued to **all students** registered to attend Bullying/Violence Prevention. The fee of \$75.00 is made online through payment link provided in email notification to parent/guardian and school personnel responsible for registering student. **All/any outstanding class fee will be added to student JCampus record.**
- **Will perform** four (4) hours of community service at the school site within one month of the suspension.
- **Will not be permitted to attend or participate in any** extra-curricular activity or any Jefferson Parish school/facility **(This includes all athletic events held at Jefferson Parish Schools stadiums. (Hoss Memtsas on Westbank at West Jefferson High School and Joseph Yenni on the Eastbank at East Jefferson High School)** until all components of the Bullying/Violence Prevention requirements have been completed.

Failure to complete all components of the Violence Prevention Program may result in a re-suspension and/or a referral to Juvenile Court.

Payment of Class Fee

If parent/guardian is unable to pay class fee in full, the online link provided in parent/guardian email notification does accept partial payments. Also, if parent/guardian is unable to access the online payment link, they should either send a money order payment or bring exact cash payment for the full amount of the \$75.00 class fee to:

**JP School Department of School Safety
4600 River Rd. 3rd Floor
Marrero, LA 70072**

(Checks are not an acceptable form of payment. Cash payment must be for exact amount of \$75.00 class fee. This office does not have cash on hand.)