

**NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL SELF-ASSESSMENT FOR
DETERMINING GRADES UNDER THE
ANTI-BULLYING BILL OF RIGHTS ACT**

July 1, 2024- June 30, 2025



What is the Self-Assessment?

Each school is required to evaluate its implementation of the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 by using the Self-Assessment Tool.

- 8 Core Elements that address all of the ABR requirements for schools
- Assign a rating for each indicator based on the criteria
- Ratings must align with any other data collected
 - Data submitted through the Student Safety Data System
 - Findings from monitoring under the NJ Quality Single Accountability Continuum (QSAC)
 - Findings from investigations of complaints conducted by the NJDOE County Office or the Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance
 - Other sources of information

Core Element #1: HIB Programs, Approaches or Other Initiatives

- The school annually established HIB programs, approaches or other initiatives.
- The school annually implemented and documented HIB programs, approaches, or other initiatives.
- The school annually assessed HIB programs, approaches, or other initiatives.
- The school's HIB programs, approaches or other initiatives were designed to create schoolwide conditions to prevent and address HIB.
- The school safety/school climate team (SS/SCT) identified patterns of HIB and reviewed school climate and school policies for the prevention of HIB.

Core Element #2: Training on the BOE-approved HIB Policy and Procedures

- School employees, contracted service providers, and volunteers were provided training on the HIB policy.
- The HIB policy training included instruction on preventing HIB on the basis of protected categories enumerated in the ABR and other distinguishing characteristics that may incite incidents of discrimination or HIB.
- The HIB policy was discussed with students in accordance with the district's process for these discussions.

Core Element #3: Other Staff Instruction and Training Programs

- Each teaching staff member completed at least 2 hours of instruction in suicide prevention that included information on HIB in each five-year professional development period.
- Each teaching staff member completed at least 2 hours of instruction on HIB prevention in each five-year professional development period.
- The school anti-bullying specialist (ABS) was given time during the usual school schedule to participate in in-service training in preparation to act as the ABS.
- The members of the school safety/school climate team (SS/SCT) were provided with professional development in effective practices of successful school climate programs or approaches.
- School building leaders have received information on the prevention of harassment, intimidation and bullying as part of their training on issues of school ethics, school law, and school governance.

Core Element #4: Curriculum and Instruction on HIB and Related Information and Skills

- The school provided ongoing age-appropriate instruction on preventing HIB in accordance with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.
- The school observed the “Week of Respect” during the week beginning with the first Monday in October of each year, recognizing the importance of character education by providing age-appropriate instruction focusing on HIB prevention.

Core Element #5: HIB Personnel

- The principal appointed a school anti-bullying specialist (ABS).
- The ABS met at least two times per school year with the district anti-bullying coordinator (ABC).
- The school safety/school climate team (SS/SCT) met at least two times per school year to develop, foster, and maintain a positive school climate by focusing on the ongoing, systemic process and practices in the school and to address school climate issues including HIB.

Core Element #6: School-Level HIB Incident Reporting Procedures

- The school implemented the district's procedure for reporting HIB that includes all required elements **or** the school has a process for ensuring that staff are implementing the district's procedure for reporting HIB that includes all required elements.
- The school implemented the district's procedure for reporting new information on a prior HIB report **or** the school fosters a positive school climate that encourages reports of all concerning behaviors, including HIB, and implements effective prevention strategies which resulted in no incidents of HIB.

Core Element #7: HIB Investigation Procedure

The school followed the BOE approved policy on HIB investigation procedures which provide for:

- Notification to parents of alleged offenders and alleged victims in each reported HIB incident **or** responsible staff are knowledgeable about the process to notify parents of alleged offenders and alleged victims in each reported HIB incident and how to implement the process
- Completion of the investigation within 10 school days of the written incident report **or** the school has a process in place to ensure completion of each investigation within 10 school days of the written incident report
- Preparation of a written report on the findings of each HIB investigation **or** the school has a process in place to prepare a written report on the findings of each HIB investigation
- Results of the investigation reported to the chief school administrator (CSA) within 2 school days of completion of the investigation **or** the school has a procedure for reporting the results of each investigation to the chief school administrator (CSA) within 2 school days of completion of the investigation

Core Element #8: HIB Reporting

- The school has a procedure for ensuring that staff member reports (i.e. verbal and written) include the required information for all incidents of violence, vandalism, and HIB
- The official grades received from NJDOE, for the Self Assessment from the previous reporting period, for the school and for the school district are posted on the home page of the school's website per the ABR and the requirements of the NJ DOE.

Self-Assessment for Bayberry and Valley View Schools

- Each core element indicator on the self-assessment was rated for each school based on criteria established by the DOE to determine the schools' self-assessment scores for the 2024-2025 school year.
 - Bayberry School: 76/78
 - Valley View School: 71/78
- The official grades received from the NJDOE for the Self-Assessment from the previous reporting period are posted on the school websites.
- The results will be used to guide the work of the ABSs and the SS/SCT in the areas of programs, training, and reporting.