



The Northeastern Local School District

Preparing students for their NExt success!

Superintendent Mr. Jack Fisher
Treasurer Mr. Dale Miller
Assistant Superintendent Mr. Shawn Blazer
Director of Pupil Services Mr. Steve Linson

To Northeastern Local Board of Education
From HIB District Coordinator(s) Melissa Jewell and Steve Linson
RE: Second Semester Semi-Annual Report
Date: June 2026

Under O.R.C. Section 3313.666 (B) (10), the semiannual report to the Northeastern Local Board of Education is below. This report is being posted on the district's website to the extent permitted by ORC Section 2219.321 and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974.

What is an Allegation?

Any student, staff member, or parent can make a formal allegation of harassment, intimidation, bullying, or retaliation via Google Form, the Safety Bully Line, or by reporting it to an administrator. Once an allegation has been made, board policy requires that the Building HIB coordinator complete an investigation and submit all findings to the District HIB Coordinators. After the investigation, a determination must be made based on the evidence of whether the allegation was verified or a non-verified.

Total Number of Allegations- Second Semester	Building
<i>Kenton Ridge Elementary</i>	5
<i>Kenton Ridge Middle/High School</i>	10
<i>Northeastern Elementary</i>	2
<i>Northeastern Middle/High School</i>	0
<i>Transportation</i>	0
TOTAL	17

What determines if a case of HIB is verified?

The District has to maintain the burden of proof to be classified as a confirmed/verified case of Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying, and Retaliation. The burden of proof is determined if an incident was more likely to have occurred than not.

Verified Cases of Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying, or Retaliation – Second Semester

Verified Harassment	8 Total (Racial -4) (Sexual - 3) (Religion - 1)
Verified Intimidation	1
Verified Bullying	2
Verified Retaliation	0
Non-Verified	6

Summary / Second Semester:

- **Number of Investigations by Grade Band (District)**
 - **High School/Middle School (12), and Elementary (5)**
- **64.7% of all investigations are verified/confirmed**

The Year In Review

DOMAIN	22/23	23/24	24/25	2025/26
Total Number of Allegations/Investigations	60	63 (↑ 3)	51 (↓ 12)	34 (↓ 17)
Verified Harassment	32	26 (↓ 6)	22 (↓ 4)	17 (↓ 5)
Verified Intimidation	2	2 (=)	3 (↑ 1)	2 (↓)
Verified Bullying	5	8 (↑ 3)	5 (↓ 3)	5 (=)
Verified Retaliation	0	0 (=)	0 (=)	0 (=)
Non-Verified	21	27 (↑ 6)	21 (↓ 6)	10 (↓ 11)

- 29 online referrals/Year (↓ 11 from 40 in 2024/25)

Ongoing Reinforcement /Training for 2026/27

Even though there has been a substantial decline in allegations, harassment, and intimidation over the past three years, ongoing reinforcement is crucial to maintaining safe and supportive environments for our students and staff. Students, staff, and parents must be aware of the reporting process and who to contact if they suspect HIB in the schools and/or workplace, and the process to conduct an investigation. It is also imperative that our administrators understand the policy and how to conduct an investigation if any allegation is made. Mr. Jake Buchholtz will be the new HIB Coordinator at Northeastern Local, and listed below are some strategies the District will need to utilize for the upcoming school year:

Continue to Establish and Communicate Clear Policies

- Establish and communicate clear policies for staff and students that define harassment, intimidation, bullying, and retaliation, with a focus on racial, sexual, and religious harassment.

Support Systems

- Offer support through trained mental health professionals and guidance counselors.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Jewell
HIB District Coordinator

Steve Linson
HIB District Coordinator