



KEANSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

HIB Self-Assessment and Grade Report

2025-2026 School Year | Presented for Board of Education Approval

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District Anti-Bullying Coordinator

AGENDA

What we will cover tonight

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|-----------|--|-----------|--|
| 01 | What constitutes HIB | 02 | The self-assessment and Board approval process |
| 03 | District and school grades, 2025-2026 | 04 | School-by-school score breakdown |
| 05 | Reporting procedures and incident activity | 06 | Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights implementation |
| 07 | Next steps | 08 | Resources and contacts |

What constitutes HIB?

Under N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14, HIB means any of the following, whether a single incident or a series of incidents:

- A gesture
- A written, verbal or physical act
- An electronic communication

Reasonably perceived as motivated by an actual or perceived characteristic, including:

- Race
- Color
- Religion
- Ancestry
- National origin
- Gender
- Gender identity/expression
- Disability
- Any other distinguishing characteristic

What constitutes HIB? (continued)

To meet the legal definition, the conduct above must also take place on school property, at a school-sponsored function, on a school bus, or off school grounds, and must substantially disrupt the orderly operation of the school or the rights of other students. It must also have one of the following effects:

1

Physical or emotional harm

A reasonable person would know it will physically harm a student or damage property, or place a student in reasonable fear of harm.

2

Insult or demeaning treatment

The conduct has the effect of insulting or demeaning a student or group of students.

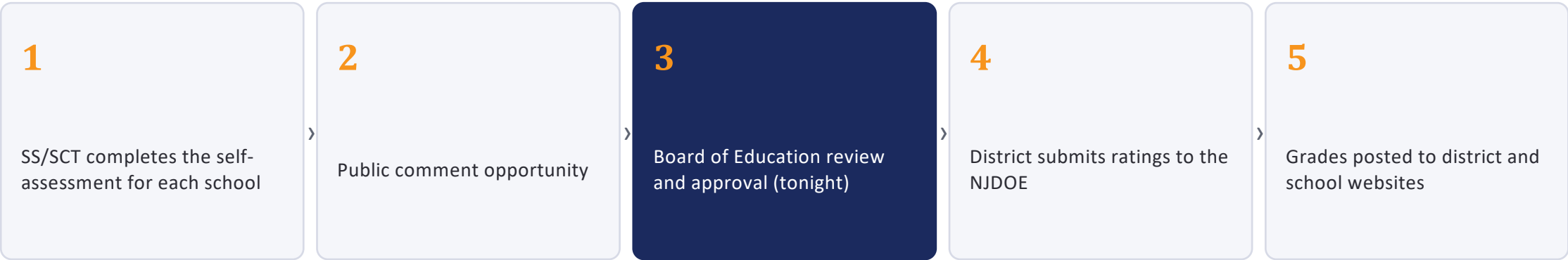
3

Hostile educational environment

The conduct interferes with a student's education, or severely or pervasively causes physical or emotional harm.

The self-assessment and Board approval process

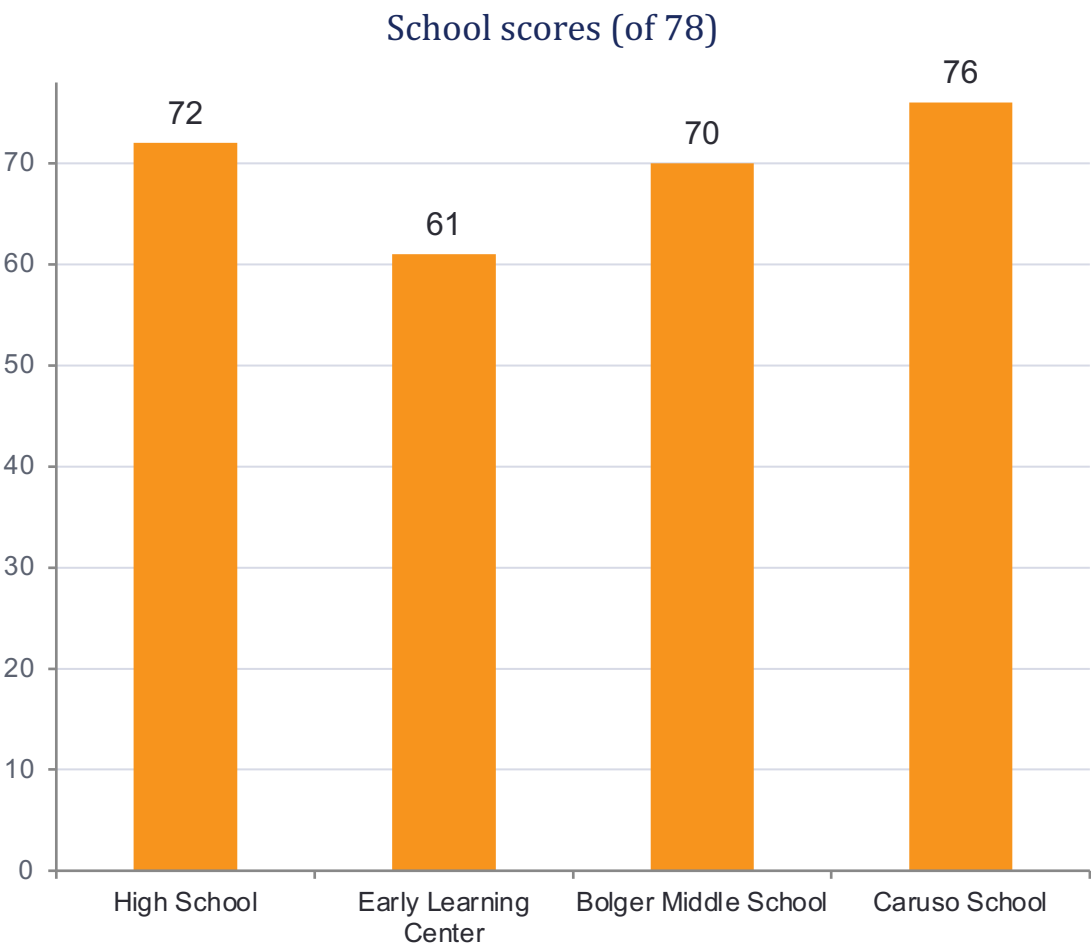
Each year, the School Safety/School Climate Team at every school completes the NJDOE School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, covering July 1 through June 30. Ratings are entered by indicator across eight core elements, for a possible 78 points per school, and the district grade is the average of all school totals. State law (N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46) requires the chief school administrator to present the completed self-assessment at a public Board meeting for comment and approval before it is submitted to the NJDOE.



District and school grades, 2025-2026

School	Score	Possible
Keansburg High School	72	78
Keansburg Early Learning Center	61	78
Joseph R. Bolger Middle School	70	78
Joseph C. Caruso School	76	78
District average	69.75	78

The school grade is the raw sum of ratings across the eight core elements of the self-assessment (maximum 78 points). The district grade is the average of all school totals. The NJDOE does not convert this score to a letter grade.



Keansburg High School

School code 010

Core element	Possible	Score
1. HIB Programs, Approaches or Other Initiatives	15	13
2. Training on the BOE-Approved HIB Policy	9	8
3. Other Staff Instruction and Training Programs	15	13
4. Curriculum and Instruction on HIB	6	5
5. HIB Personnel	9	9
6. School-Level HIB Incident Reporting Procedure	6	6
7. HIB Investigation Procedure	12	12
8. HIB Reporting	6	6
Total score	78	72

72

out of 78 points

This school received at least one HIB report during the year that required a principal-initiated investigation under Core Elements 6 and 7.

Keansburg Early Learning Center

School code 040

Core element	Possible	Score
1. HIB Programs, Approaches or Other Initiatives	15	14
2. Training on the BOE-Approved HIB Policy	9	6
3. Other Staff Instruction and Training Programs	15	11
4. Curriculum and Instruction on HIB	6	5
5. HIB Personnel	9	7
6. School-Level HIB Incident Reporting Procedure	6	4
7. HIB Investigation Procedure	12	10
8. HIB Reporting	6	4
Total score	78	61

61

out of 78 points

This school did not receive an HIB report requiring a principal-initiated investigation during the year. Its ratings for Core Elements 6 and 7 reflect prevention strategies and staff readiness.

Joseph R. Bolger Middle School

School code 030

Core element	Possible	Score
1. HIB Programs, Approaches or Other Initiatives	15	14
2. Training on the BOE-Approved HIB Policy	9	9
3. Other Staff Instruction and Training Programs	15	13
4. Curriculum and Instruction on HIB	6	5
5. HIB Personnel	9	8
6. School-Level HIB Incident Reporting Procedure	6	6
7. HIB Investigation Procedure	12	11
8. HIB Reporting	6	4
Total score	78	70

70

out of 78 points

This school received at least one HIB report during the year that required a principal-initiated investigation under Core Elements 6 and 7.

Joseph C. Caruso School

School code 050

Core element	Possible	Score
1. HIB Programs, Approaches or Other Initiatives	15	15
2. Training on the BOE-Approved HIB Policy	9	9
3. Other Staff Instruction and Training Programs	15	13
4. Curriculum and Instruction on HIB	6	6
5. HIB Personnel	9	9
6. School-Level HIB Incident Reporting Procedure	6	6
7. HIB Investigation Procedure	12	12
8. HIB Reporting	6	6
Total score	78	76

76

out of 78 points

This school received at least one HIB report during the year that required a principal-initiated investigation under Core Elements 6 and 7.

Reporting procedures and incident activity

Core Elements 6 and 7 of the self-assessment ask whether a school received at least one HIB report that required a principal-initiated investigation during the year. Schools that did rate these elements on their investigation and reporting procedures. Schools that did not rate these elements on prevention strategies and staff readiness.

Received a report requiring principal-initiated investigation

- Keansburg High School
- Joseph R. Bolger Middle School
- Joseph C. Caruso School

No report required principal-initiated investigation

- Keansburg Early Learning Center

Preliminary determination policy: for the 2025-2026 school year, district policy did not permit the use of a preliminary determination at any school. Every report received at every school proceeded to a full HIB investigation.

Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights implementation

The self-assessment scores reflect implementation efforts already underway across the district, including:

HIB policy training

Staff, contracted service providers and volunteers received training on the Board-approved HIB policy, including prevention on the basis of protected categories.

School-level reporting procedures

Each school maintains a documented process for reporting HIB and for reporting new information on prior reports.

Programs and prevention initiatives

Each School Safety/School Climate Team established, implemented and assessed HIB programs and approaches designed to create school-wide conditions that prevent and address HIB.

Curriculum and Week of Respect

Age-appropriate instruction on preventing HIB was provided in accordance with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards, including observance of the Week of Respect.

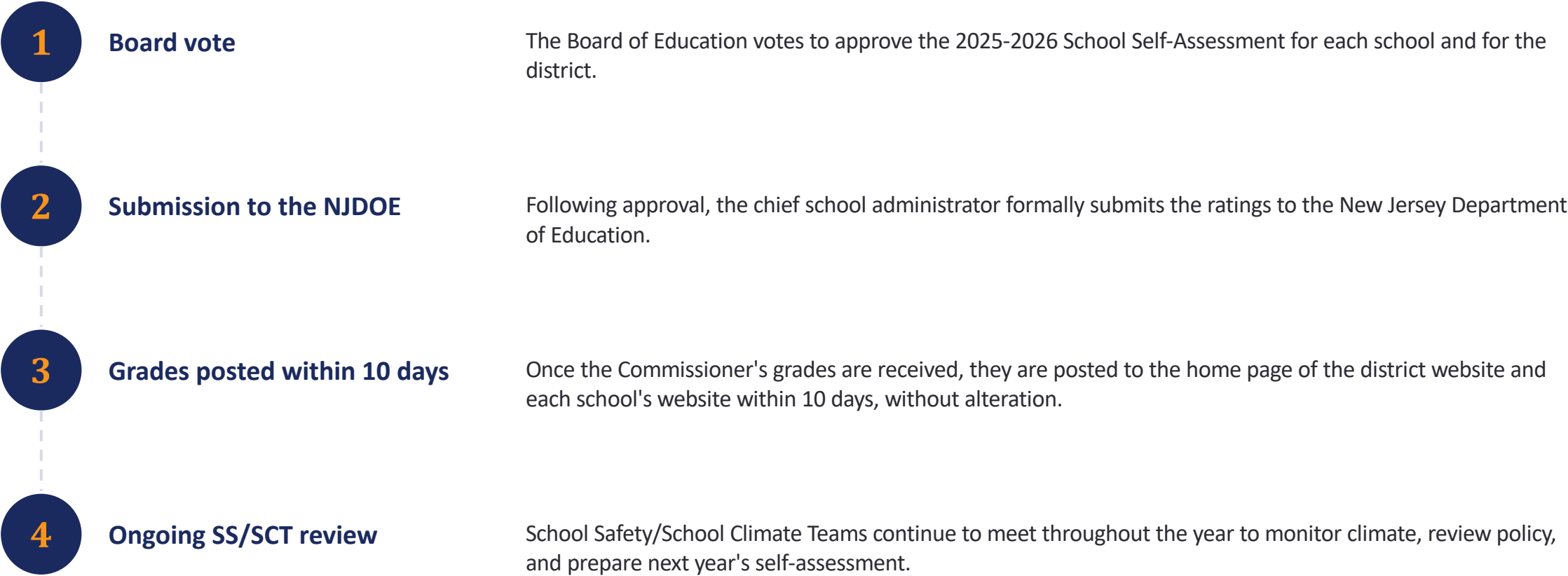
School Safety/School Climate Team meetings

Each team met at least twice during the year to review school climate and address HIB-related policies and practices.

Investigation and reporting timelines

Reported incidents were investigated within 10 school days, with written findings reported to the chief school administrator within 2 school days of completion.

Next steps following tonight's presentation



Resources and contacts

Anti-Bullying Specialists by school

John Bird	District Anti-Bullying Coordinator	jbird@keansburg.k12.nj.us	732-787-2007 x4252
Kelly King	Anti-Bullying Specialist, KHS	kking@keansburg.k12.nj.us	732-787-2007 x4231
Stefania Kohler	Anti-Bullying Specialist, JRB	skohler@keansburg.k12.nj.us	732-787-2007 x2241
Dana Florio	Anti-Bullying Specialist, JCCS	dflorio@keansburg.k12.nj.us	732-787-2007 x6111
Anne Hazeldine	Anti-Bullying Specialist, ELC	ahazeldine@keansburg.k12.nj.us	732-787-2007 x5000

Questions may be directed to the District Anti-Bullying Coordinator at any time.