

Davisville Middle School

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2022-2023 Student Handbook



**200 School Street
North Kingstown, RI 02852**

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Be the Best You Can Be!

Mission Statement: Davisville Middle School is committed to providing our students with pathways for academic and personal success through challenging and diverse educational opportunities.

Davisville Middle School is made up of six teams that spell out the name of our team mascot, DRAGON. Eighth grade has Teams D and R, seventh grade is made up of Teams A and G, and sixth grade has Teams O and N. The students share the same academic teachers on their team.

We follow a two-day rotation schedule, Day 1 and Day 2. We also rotate morning classes and afternoon classes each day. All students have four academic subjects: ELA, mathematics, science, and social studies.

Special area classes are scheduled every other day, except Spanish classes. Not all students will participate in every special area class.

Full Year Special Area courses: Physical Education/Health, Strings, Chorus, and Band - Students who elect to take Strings, Chorus, and/or Band have made a commitment *every other day* for the entire school year. Some students in grade 8 may take Spanish *daily* for the entire year.

Semester Special Area courses: Art, Computers, Music, Robotics, Wood Technology, Language Exploration, Literacy and Math Intervention.

Advisory Block: Every student will have an Advisory Class class in the middle of the school day. During this time students will be involved in a variety of experiences including learning how to manage the challenges of adolescence, academic support, enrichment, community-based projects, social-emotional learning, silent reading, organization, review of materials, and school-wide initiatives.

Support Staff: A student may access their counselor via a Google Form requesting an appointment. The school social worker, school psychologist, behavioral specialist, and student assistance counselor are also available to students at various times during the week.

ASPEN, Progress Reports, and Report Cards: In middle school, grades range from 0-100%. 65% and above is considered passing. Report cards and Progress Notes are posted every quarter in ASPEN. You and your parents can access your report card through ASPEN on the dates specified on the school calendar. If your parent wants a paper copy of your report card, you or your parent/guardian can email your guidance counselor to ask for one.

Homework - The amount of homework will vary from teacher to teacher. However, you should expect homework in most subjects on a regular basis. The time below should include reviewing your notes from your classes during the school day.

- **Grade 6:** an average of 45 to 60 minutes/five days per week
- **Grade 7:** an average of 60 to 75 minutes/five days per week
- **Grade 8:** an average of 75 to 90 minutes/five days per week

Chromebooks, Textbooks, ELA Novels: Chromebook, textbooks, and ELA Novels are the property of the North Kingstown School Department and are loaned to students. They become the student's personal responsibility. Students will be charged for any damage or loss that occurs while in their use. Students must label their Chromebooks with their names. Notify the office immediately when a book or device is lost or damaged.

Students must have a charged Chromebook each day they attend school. Loaner Chromebooks are NOT available for students who forgot their Chromebooks or have no battery life. Loaners are reserved for students whose devices are in for repairs.

Technology Acceptable Use Policy

Internet access at school is for educational purposes only. Students may use their Chromebooks for schoolwork during the school day unless given permission from a staff member to take a break and use it for recreational reasons (i.e. play a game, play music.)

Students should not be using email, school-issued email, or personal email during class time unless given permission by a teacher. This includes emailing family, DMS staff members, and friends. Students' focus should be on classwork, not email. If there is an emergency or a need to email an adult, ask your teacher for permission before writing an email.

Students are not allowed, even when teachers give permission to use their Chromebook for recreational purposes, to use their Chromebooks to access any social media accounts. It is not allowed at all during the school day or during any after-school programs.

Cell Phones and Other Non-School Issued Electronic Equipment

-If students need to call their parent/guardian during the school day, they may ask to call from the office on a landline. They **MAY NOT** use their cell phones.

-Students may bring a cell phone into the school building, however, it must remain **OFF AND IN THE STUDENTS' LOCKERS during the entire school day.** Phones need to be turned off and put away when they enter the building.

-Students are not permitted to answer any calls or texts from anyone, including parents. Even after locker time in the afternoon, during 7th period, cell phones are to remain **OFF** and in **students' bags** until they leave the building at the end of the school day. **Students may not use cell phones inside the school.**

-Portable video games, iPods, tablets, e-readers, and cameras may not be used in school without permission.

-The school is not responsible for lost or stolen electronic equipment.

-Students who are in violation of this policy will have their phones confiscated and a parent needs to retrieve it. Consequences may be imposed for multiple offenses and/or if any devices are used during the school day for communication or recording purposes.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Honors Program

High Honors Criteria: Students must earn a cumulative average of 90 or above with no failures each quarter.

Honors Criteria: Students must earn a cumulative average of 85 or above with no failures each quarter.

Note: When both high honors and honors criteria are calculated at the end of the quarter core academic classes are given full weight, and special area classes are given half weight.

Effort Roll: A student must receive all passing grades in addition to “E1” or “E2” in all classes in the effort category on the report card. Students must receive a C3 or better in all subjects for conduct. Students who achieve High Honors or Honors status will not receive additional recognition on Effort Roll.

DMS Honor Society: Students must have an overall average of 90% or higher *by the end of third quarter*. Information on how to calculate your average for Honor Society is posted on the school website. Students must also satisfy the Service, Leadership, Character, and Citizenship criteria to be eligible for Honor Society. A separate handout that is available in the main office or on the DMS website provides an in-depth explanation of the criteria and student signature forms. ***All documentation must be submitted no later than Friday, May 12, 2023.***

Be the Best You Can Be Award: Each quarter Team teachers nominate students for academic improvement or effort or demonstrating outstanding behavior..

Recognition for Outstanding Attendance: Each quarter we will acknowledge students for minimal to no absences.

Recognition for Exemplary Behavior: Students will be acknowledged monthly by their Team teachers. These students stand out as students who model the behavior we want to see in a learning environment.

Eighth Grade Promotion Exercise and End of Year Activities: All Eighth graders are invited to attend the eighth-grade promotion exercise at the end of the school year unless they are being retained. Students who are not eligible may not attend end-of-year activities nor the ceremony. All end-of-year activities are contingent upon students’ behavioral and financial (i.e. owes books, returns Chromebook, PE locks) status.

Attendance

Excused Absence: A student will be excused in case of illness, with medical documentation, a death in the family, school related visit, or a religious holiday. *Students may not attend after-school or evening functions if they were absent during the school day.*

Unexcused Absence: Students who do not have an excused absence must be in school. Truancy is a serious violation of school attendance laws. *A student who is absent without medical documentation for more than 10% of the school year will be referred to Truancy Court.*

Tardiness: Students must be sitting in their first-period class at 8:10 am or they are considered tardy. Students who are tardy must come to the office for a late slip, even if they are in the building before 8:10 am.

- The ONLY excused tardies are students with written notes indicating a medical/mental health appointment or mandated appointment by an agency/institution.
- If a student receives five unexcused tardies he/she will receive office detention. After a student is assigned the first detention for a total of five tardies, students that continue to be tardy will receive detention ***every time they arrive late to school for the remainder of the school year.***

Emergency Closings - The Superintendent may decide to close schools due to inclement weather or another type of emergency. If this occurs you will receive an automated phone call from the school department. You can also check local news stations for updates regarding school closings. **KNOW WHERE TO GO WHEN YOUR PARENT/GUARDIAN IS NOT HOME.**

Early Dismissal: If you have an early dismissal you must bring a written note from your parent/guardian to the office. You will receive an early dismissal pass with the time you are scheduled to report to the office. Show your teacher the pass and you will be able to leave. Only adults listed in ASPEN as your emergency contact are able to pick you up from school. ***Remember to ask for the work you will miss in class. You are still expected to complete the work missed.***

Make-Up Policy: Teachers are required to provide an opportunity for students to complete work missed as a result of legitimate absences. Missed work shall include class assignments, quizzes, tests, etc. Long-term projects are excluded from this policy and are due on the original due date.

- The student is ultimately responsible to make arrangements for missing work. Students should find a responsible choice of a homework buddy. If your child is absent for one or two days, then homework may be obtained by calling the homework buddy. Teachers require a 24-hour notice for homework requested.
- Missed work must be completed within a period of time as established by the teacher. The minimum amount of time given must be twice the number of school days of a legitimate absence.
- Students who skip class, are truant from school, or are suspended from school are expected to complete any missed work. Assignments are due the day students return to class.

- If a student is going to be absent for an extended period of time, the parent must send in a note to notify the principal, team teachers, and clinic. Teachers reserve the right to provide the work upon the student's return to school. However, students are encouraged to meet with teachers in advance to create a work plan. Students must complete missed work when they return.
- Any student who fails to meet the deadline will forfeit his/her right to make up the work not completed.

Opening of School Day: DMS doors open at 7:45 am. At 7:45 am students report to their designated areas: the cafeteria for grade 6 and the gymnasium for grades 7 and 8. Students are not permitted to go to their lockers before locker time at 8:00 am unless given permission by a teacher. Students who need to see a teacher prior to 7:45 am need to *make arrangements with the teacher ahead of time and/or **check-in at the main office before reporting to the teacher's classroom.*** Students may not enter the school building before 7:45 am unless they are scheduled to meet with their teacher.

Dismissal: Students will be dismissed

Bicycles and Skateboards: Bicycles must be parked in the bike racks and locked during the school day. Remember to wear a helmet! ***Skateboards may not be brought inside the school building.***

Clinic/Medical Concerns

- The school nurse is available to students who are not feeling well during the school day.
- ***The school nurse makes the decision*** whether a student goes back to class, stays in the clinic, or calls a parent to send a student home.
- All medical plans are created and handled by the school nurse. She will either work with you and/or contact your parent/guardian and make the appropriate arrangements.
- The use of medication during school hours is allowed only if permission is given by a doctor or, for Tylenol or ibuprofen, permission from your parent or guardian.
- Students may not bring any medication to school. Only a parent can bring in medication to the school.

Child Abuse: Any staff member in an educational institution who hears about possible child abuse is legally bound to report it to the Department Of Children and Youth Services (DCYF) as outlined in RIGL Chapter 40-11.

Hall Passes: Students are required to sign out and back in when they leave a classroom. Students must have a teacher/hall pass if they leave the classroom during a non-passing time.

Lockers – Responsibility for Personal Property

Students are responsible for keeping personal belongings such as clothing, money, cell phones, iPods, and books safely locked in their locker. Students must purchase a lock from school at the beginning of the school year. Students' lock combinations should not be shared with other students. *The student, **not the school**, will be responsible for lost or stolen books or materials.* Student locks can be stolen when locks are not properly secured or when locker combinations are shared. Therefore, stolen locks must be replaced at the student's expense.

Dress Code

Clothing is a matter of personal taste; however, there are clothing items that are not appropriate for the school day. Students are expected to follow the guidelines below:

- Shorts and skirts should be close to fingertip length (use as a guide) and not rise, exposing one's buttocks. i.e. shorts that have a 5" inseam are appropriate for school.
- Midriff areas should not show in between tops and bottoms. If one decides to wear a cropped top, wear high-rise pants or a tank top underneath so bare midriff area does not show.
- Tank tops must have straps that cover undergarments. Our guideline is for straps to have a width of three fingers but covering undergarments is a must. It does not have to be three fingers but undergarments cannot show.
- Thin or see-through tops should have another layer of clothing underneath that covers undergarments. If pants are baggy, a belt needs to be worn to avoid pants from sagging.
- No cleavage (top or bottom) should be exposed.
- No visible undergarments are allowed. Examples are bra straps and boxers over the waistline of pants.
- No slippers or sleepwear.
- Shirts with large armholes (i.e. basketball jerseys or beach style shirts) must have another shirt underneath to ensure appropriate coverage.
- No hats, head coverings, sunglasses, handbags, or jewelry with spikes or points of any kind.
- No footwear with a pointy or block heel over one inch. Platform shoes are allowed.
- No clothes with any phrases or pictures that relate to alcohol, drugs, inappropriate language, derogatory comments towards others, or any such items that could disrupt the school environment.
- No heavy coats can be worn during the school day.

Students who do not adhere to the dress code guidelines will be given a chance to borrow clothing from someone or call home. If that is not a possibility or successful, appropriate attire will be provided for the student to wear. If a student becomes a repeat offender, then consequences will be imposed.

Media Center/Library

- The Media Center (Library) is open to students during all three lunches each day. Students may go to the media center with permission from a staff member in the cafeteria after they finish eating their lunch.
- There may be times that a teacher gives a student a pass to go to the media center when class is not in session.
- Students are allowed to borrow up to four books at a time. ***During the time a book is out, it is the student's responsibility.*** Should the student let the book out of his/her possession or allow the book to incur damage, the student remains financially liable for the book.
- Books and magazines circulate for three weeks. If, at the end of the time the student still needs the item, it may be renewed unless there are pending holds on it. It is necessary to bring the book or magazine to the library in order to renew it.
- Students with any overdue items or damaged items that haven't been paid for will lose borrowing privileges until the overdue/damage issue has been resolved. Students who repeatedly have overdue books or damaged items may lose library privileges.

Physical Education:

- All students are expected to participate in physical education classes.
- What to Wear: Sneakers, socks, and a change of athletic wear that adheres to the dress code (t-shirts, sweatshirts, sweatpants, shorts) No jewelry is allowed for safety reasons. If jewelry cannot be removed, then the student must cover it with tape.

Cafeteria: Students can pay for lunch in cash, with a check, or have their parents register at **www.myschoolbucks.com** to pay online. Free and reduced lunch applications, which need to be completed by the last day in September, are available online at **www.nksd.net**. Any student who receives free or reduced lunch must understand that this lunch is for him or her only. If a student forgets their lunch, they can receive lunch in the cafeteria and pay the money the next day. It is the student's responsibility to pay back what they owe to the cafeteria. If a parent drops off a student's lunch or lunch money, it will be brought to the cafeteria and set on the stage for a student to pick up.

Lost and Found: Lost clothing, books, bags, and water bottles are placed in a designated location. Money, glasses, jewelry, and electronics are placed in the office. Please check these areas before speaking to a teacher or administrator. Articles unclaimed after a reasonable amount of time will be donated to charitable organizations.

Fire/Evacuation/Lockdown Drills

- *Safety Procedures Are Serious Business. Failure To Observe Procedures May Result In Serious Injury.*
- Emergency drills such as fire drills, evacuation drills, rapid dismissals, and lockdown drills will be conducted throughout the school year.
- Teachers review all of the safety procedures with the students. Each classroom has an evacuation map.

- In order to keep all of the school community safe in case of an emergency, it is extremely important for students to follow the rules and listen to directions during each drill so everyone is prepared if an emergency does arise.

Academic Dishonesty

As per the district middle school grading policy: NSBA # IKA.1

Formative Items: At the discretion of the administrator after consultation with the teacher, a parent will be notified and the student will receive Detention or In-School Suspension and must complete the original work to proficiency at that session(s) for no credit.

Summative Items: At the discretion of the administrator after consultation with the teacher, a parent will be notified and the student will receive Detention or In-School Suspension and must complete the original work to proficiency at that session(s) for 40% credit.

- Using another person's computer work through an exchange of files or codes is considered academic dishonesty.
- Any student who aids others in cheating will be subject to disciplinary action.

Placement on Academic Probation - Davisville Middle School encourages scholarship. Students who fail to meet school and state standards are subject to Academic Probation. Any student who receives a grade of "F" (64% or below) in two (2) or more subject areas is automatically placed on academic probation. A student's report card serves as notification of this probation.

Consequences of Academic Probation: - Any student who is on academic probation may not attend or participate in special school events and activities such as, but not limited to dances, after school activities except Homework Club, and Interscholastic teams (look under Student Services for more details about eligibility)

Removal from Academic Probation - Students must have no more than one failing grade at *progress report time*. Students need to check with Ms. Eisner to verify they are off academic probation.

Summer School

The summer school program is for students who have failed one to three classes. The middle school can require any student who does not successfully complete schoolwork during the school year to attend this program for promotion. Students who fail more than three classes for the year are at risk for retention.

After School

Late buses are provided for students who attend after school programs. Students attending these programs will sign into the activity and be issued a late bus pass.

STUDENTS LEAVING SCHOOL GROUNDS MAY NOT RIDE THE LATE BUS. Late buses are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students who stay after school on Mondays, Wednesdays, or Fridays must arrange their own transportation home.

Interscholastic Sports DMS is part of RIPCOA, the middle school interscholastic sports league. Information for registration/tryouts is always included in the parent newsletters and announcements are made on the PA system in the morning. Online registration, a current physical (within 15 months of the tryout date) and a notarized Assumption of Risk form must be on file with the school **prior to tryouts**. The criteria below is used to determine interscholastic sports eligibility for North Kingstown students:

- Students passing all classes may try out and play a sport.
- Students failing one class are also eligible to try out and play a sport.
- Students failing two or more classes are ***not eligible to try out for a sport***. For instance, if a child has failed three classes on their first quarter report card, s/he cannot try out for the basketball team. However, at progress report time (designated by the principal or designee) if students have one or no failing grades, they can try out for a team at that point in the season.
- If a student is placed on academic probation during the season, they will not be able to practice or play on the team until the next progress report. If the student is passing all but one of his or her classes at that time, the student will be able to participate on the team again.

Dances

- Dances are sponsored by the DMS PTO.
- Dances are held four times a year. **You must have a ride at the end of the dance.**
- The cost of a dance ticket is \$5. Students may not buy tickets for anyone but themselves.
- Students who want to attend the dance ***cannot be on Academic Probation (failing two or more classes)***.
- Any student who receives ***two discipline referrals the week of the dance*** cannot attend the dance.
- Only DMS students can attend the dance.
- All tickets are sold during lunches the week of the dance. ***Tickets are not sold at the door.*** If a student forgot money to purchase a ticket, the student needs to see Ms. Eisner to secure a ticket and pay later.
- If a student will be late to the dance due to a prior commitment, the student will inform the parent selling dance tickets and it will be indicated in our records. A parent must walk any student late to the door of the gymnasium.
- School rules apply at school dances, including behavior, dress code, and cell phone use.
- Students who are unsafe or non-compliant at the dance will be sent home and ineligible to attend the next dance.

SAFE SCHOOL ACT STATEWIDE BULLYING POLICY

INTRODUCTION

This **Statewide Bullying Policy** is promulgated pursuant to the authority set forth in §16-21-34 of the General Laws of Rhode Island. Known as the Safe School Act, the statute recognizes that the bullying of a student creates a climate of fear and disrespect that can seriously impair the student's health and negatively affect learning. Bullying undermines the safe learning environment that students need to achieve their full potential. The purpose of the Policy is to ensure a consistent and unified statewide approach to the prohibition of bullying at school.

Nothing in this policy prohibits the North Kingstown School Department from complying with federal antidiscrimination laws.

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1. DEFINITIONS

BULLYING means the use by one or more students of a written, verbal or electronic expression or a physical act or gesture or any combination thereof directed at a student that:

- a. Causes physical or emotional harm to the student or damage to the student's property;
- b. Places the student in reasonable fear of harm to himself/herself or of damage to his/her property;
- c. Creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or abusive educational environment for the student;
- d. Infringes on the rights of the student to participate in school activities; or
- e. Materially and substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of a school.

The expression, physical act or gesture may include, but is not limited to, an incident or incidents that may be reasonably perceived as being motivated by characteristics such as:

Race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression or mental, physical, or sensory disability, intellectual ability or by any other distinguishing characteristic.

If the expression, physical act or gesture includes an incident or incidents that may be reasonably perceived as being motivated by characteristics or harassment based on race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, genetic information or testing, sex, sexual orientation, age or disability then the matter should be investigated under the District's Anti- Discrimination/Anti-Harassment Policy and Grievance Procedure.

Bullying most often occurs as repeated behavior and often is not a single incident between the bullying/cyber-bullying offender(s) and the bullying victim(s).

CYBER-BULLYING means bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication, which shall include, but not be limited to, (any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data, texting or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic, photo electronic or photo optical system, including, but not limited to, electronic mail, Internet communications, instant messages or facsimile communications.

Forms of cyber-bullying may include but are not limited to:

- a. The creation of a web page or blog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person;
- b. The knowing impersonation of another person as the author of posted content or messages; or
- c. The distribution by electronic means of a communication to more than one person or the posting of materials on an electronic medium that may be accessed by one or more persons, if the creation, impersonation, or distribution results in any of the conditions enumerated in clauses (a) to (e) of the definition of bullying.

AT SCHOOL means:

- a. On school premises,
- b. At any school-sponsored activity or event whether or not it is held on school premises,
- c. On a school-transportation vehicle,
- d. At an official school bus stop,
- e. Using property or equipment provided by the school, or
- f. Acts which create a material and substantial disruption of the education process or the orderly operation of the school.

2. SCHOOL CLIMATE

Bullying, cyber-bullying, and retaliation against any person associated with a report of bullying or the investigation thereof is prohibited in all schools that are approved for the purpose of the compulsory attendance statute (§§16-19-1 and 16-19-2). School staff shall take all reasonable measures to prevent bullying at school. Such measures may include professional development and prevention activities, parental workshops, and student assemblies among other strategies. School faculty, administration and staff, at all times, will model courteous behavior to each other, to students, and to school visitors. Abusive or humiliating language or demeanor will not be accepted. Additionally, students and their families are expected to exhibit courteous behavior to all members of the learning community in school and at school sponsored events.

3. POLICY OVERSIGHT and RESPONSIBILITY

The school principal, director, or head of school shall be responsible for the implementation and oversight of this bullying policy.

The school principal, director, or head of school shall provide the superintendent, school committee and/or school governing board with a summary report of incidents, responses, and any other bullying-related issues at least twice annually.

For public schools, the prevention of bullying shall be part of the school district strategic plan (§ 16-7.1-2(e)) and school safety plan (§16-21-24).

4. INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

The school principal, director or head of school shall ensure that students, staff, volunteers, and parents/legal guardians are provided information regarding this Policy. This information shall include methods of discouraging and preventing this type of behavior, the procedure to file a complaint, and the disciplinary action that may be taken against those who commit acts in violation of this policy.

This policy shall be:

- a. Distributed annually to students, staff, volunteers, and parents/legal guardians
- b. Included in student codes of conduct, disciplinary policies, and student handbooks
- c. A prominently posted link on the home page of the school /district website

5. REPORTING

The school principal, director or head of school shall establish, and prominently publicize to students, staff, volunteers, and parents/guardians, how a report of bullying may be filed and how this report will be acted upon (See attached sample Report Form).

The victim of bullying, anyone who witnesses an incidence of bullying, and anyone who has credible information that an act of bullying has taken place may file a report of bullying. Any student or staff member who believes he/she is being bullied should immediately report such circumstances to an appropriate staff member, teacher or administrator.

Parents/Guardians of the victim of bullying and parents/ guardians of the alleged perpetrator of the bullying shall be notified within twenty-four (24) hours of the incident report. When there is a reasonable suspicion that a child is either a bully or a victim of bullying, the parents/ guardians of the child will be notified immediately by the Principal, director or head of school.

Responsibility of Staff: School staff, including volunteers, who observe an act of bullying or who have reasonable grounds to believe that bullying is taking place must report the bullying to school authorities. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.

Responsibility of Students: Students who observe an act of bullying or who have reasonable grounds to believe that bullying is taking place must report the bullying to school authorities. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action. The victim of bullying, however, shall not be subject to discipline for failing to report the bullying. Student reports of bullying or retaliation may be made anonymously, provided, however, that no disciplinary action shall be taken against a student solely on the basis of an anonymous report.

Prohibition against Retaliation: Retaliation or threats of retaliation in any form designed to intimidate the victim of bullying, those who are witnesses to bullying, or those investigating an incident of bullying shall not be tolerated. Retaliation or threat of retaliation will result in the imposition of discipline in accordance with the school behavior code.

False Reporting/Accusations: A school employee, school volunteer or student who knowingly makes a false accusation of bullying or retaliation shall be disciplined in accordance with the school behavior code.

Reports in Good Faith: A school employee, school volunteer, student, parent/ legal guardian, or caregiver who promptly reports, in good faith, an act of bullying to the appropriate school official designated in the school's policy shall be immune from a cause of action for damages arising from reporting bullying.

6. INVESTIGATION/RESPONSE

The school principal, director or head of school shall promptly investigate all allegations of bullying, harassment, or intimidation. If the allegation is found to be credible, appropriate disciplinary actions, subject to applicable due process requirements, will be imposed. The School Resource Officer or other qualified staff may be utilized to mediate bullying situations.

The investigation will include an assessment by the school psychologist and/or social worker of what effect the bullying, harassment or intimidation has had on the victim. A student who engages in continuous and/or serious acts of bullying will also be referred to the school psychologist and/or social worker.

Police Notification: Immediate notification of the local law enforcement agency will be made when circumstances warrant the pursuit of criminal charges against the perpetrator.

Protection: If a student is the victim of serious or persistent bullying:

- a. The school Principal, director or head of school will intervene immediately to provide the student with a safe educational environment.
- b. The interventions will be developed, if possible, with input from the student, his or her parent/guardian, and staff.
- c. The parents/ guardians of a victim shall also be notified of the action taken to prevent any further acts of bullying or retaliation.

7. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

The disciplinary actions for violations of the bullying policy shall be determined by the school/district appropriate authority. Disciplinary actions for violations of the bullying policy shall balance the need for accountability with the need to teach appropriate behavior. The severity of the disciplinary action shall be aligned to the severity of the bullying behavior.

The range of disciplinary actions that may be taken against a perpetrator for bullying, cyberbullying or retaliation shall include, but not be limited to:

- a. Admonitions and warnings
- b. Parental/ Guardian notification and meetings
- c. Detention
- d. In-school suspension
- e. Loss of school-provided transportation or loss of student parking pass
- f. Loss of the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities
- g. Loss of the opportunity to participate in school social activities
- h. Loss of the opportunity to participate in graduation exercises or middle school promotional activities
- i. Police contact
- j. School suspension: No student shall be suspended from school unless it is deemed to be a necessary consequence of the violation of this Policy.

8. SOCIAL SERVICES/COUNSELING

Referral to appropriate counseling and/or social services currently being offered by schools or communities shall be provided for bullying victims, perpetrators and appropriate family members of said students.

9. SOCIAL NETWORKING

Students shall be prohibited from accessing social networking sites in school, except for educational or instructional purposes and with the prior approval from school administration.

10. OTHER REDRESS

This section does not prevent a victim of bullying, cyber-bullying or retaliation from seeking redress under any other available law, either civil or criminal. This section does not create or alter any tort liability.

11. ADOPTION OF POLICY

The North Kingstown School Committee hereby adopts this policy, in its entirety effective immediately.

First Read: 6-12-2012

Second Read: 6-26-2012

Adopted: 6-26-2012

Amended: 8-27-2013