

Harrisburg School District	NEPN Code: JFCE
Policy Manual	

STUDENT BULLYING

The Harrisburg School District is committed to providing all students with a safe and civil school environment in which all members of the school community are treated with dignity and respect. Therefore, the school district prohibits harassment or bullying.

Persistent bullying can severely inhibit a student's ability to learn and may have lasting negative effects on a student's life. Thus, bullying is strictly prohibited and shall not be tolerated.

Bullying consists of repeated physical, verbal, or non-verbal, written, electronic or any conduct directed toward a student(s) that is so pervasive, severe and objectively offensive that it:

1. Has the purpose of creating or resulting in an intimidating, hostile or offensive academic environment, or
2. Has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with a student's academic performance which deprives the student access to educational opportunities.

This policy applies while students are on school property; while in school-owned or school-operated vehicles; while attending or engaged in school-sponsored activities, while using school equipment, and while students are away from school grounds if the misconduct directly affects the good order and efficient management of the school and the welfare of the students of the District.

This policy shall not be interpreted to prohibit civil exchange of opinions or debate protected under the state or federal constitutions where the opinion expressed does not otherwise materially or substantially disrupt the education process or intrude upon the rights of others.

If, after an investigation, a student is found to be in violation of this policy, the student shall be disciplined by appropriate measures up to, and including, suspension and expulsion.

Retaliation against a person because the person has filed a bullying or harassment complaint or assisted or participated in a harassment investigation or proceeding is prohibited. Any individual who knowingly files a false harassment complaint and a person who gives false statements in an investigation shall be subject to discipline by appropriate measures, as shall a person who is found to have retaliated against another in violation of this policy. A student found to have retaliated or filed a false complaint in violation of this policy shall be subject to measures up to, and including, suspension and expulsion.

The building principal, assistant principal, school counselor or principal's designee will be responsible for investigating all complaints by students alleging bullying or harassment. All documentation associated with a complaint shall be maintained by the building principal.

Adopted:

Revised: