

Bullying means intimidation, unwanted aggressive behavior, or harassment that is repetitive or likely to be repeated and causes a reasonable student to fear for his or her physical safety or property; substantially interferes with the educational performance, opportunities, or benefits of any student; or substantially disrupts the orderly operation of the school.

Bullying may consist of physical actions, gestures, oral or written communication, or any threat of retaliation for reporting acts of bullying. Bullying also includes cyberbullying which is transmission of a communication including, but not limited to, a message, text, sound or image by means of any electronic device.

Students and staff who witness acts of bullying are required to report such acts to building or district administration. Reports may be made in person to building or district administration or through the Bullying Report Form which can be found on the district website and each building website. When a report is filed via this form, building and district administration are alerted via email so an investigation may be conducted. All reports of bullying will be investigated according to Smithville School District Policy JFCF.

Bullying that includes harassment based upon race, color, religion, sex, disability, ancestry, country of origin or age will also be investigated as a potential violation of Smithville School District Policy AC which prohibits discrimination, harassment and retaliation based upon a federally protected class.

When required by law, information gathered through bullying investigations will be shared with law enforcement. Consequences for bullying include detention, in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, or expulsion. Depending on the severity of the incident, any of these consequences can be used whether it is the first or subsequent offense.