

**BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
RANDOLPH CENTRAL SCHOOL CORPORATION**

**STUDENTS
5620/Page 1 OF 2**

BULLYING

Pursuant to IC 20-33-8-13.5 (a) the School Board is committed to providing a safe, positive, productive, and nurturing educational environment for students, employees, volunteers, and patrons. The Board encourages the promotion of positive interpersonal relations between members of the school community.

Bullying, as defined in State law (IC 20-33-8-0.2), means overt, unwanted, repeated acts or gestures, including verbal or written communications or images transmitted in any manner (including digitally or electronically), physical acts committed, aggression, or any other behaviors that are committed by a student or group of students against another student with the intent to harass, ridicule, humiliate, intimidate, or harm the targeted student and create for the targeted student an objectively hostile school environment that (1) places the targeted student in reasonable fear of harm to the targeted student's person or property; (2) has a substantially detrimental effect on the targeted student's physical or mental health; (3) has the effect of substantially interfering with the targeted student's academic performance; or (4) has the effect of substantially interfering with the targeted student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, and privileges provided by the school. The term may not be interpreted to impose any burden or sanction on, or include in the definition of the term, the following: (1) participating in a religious event; (2) acting in an emergency involving the protection of a person or property from an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or substantial danger; (3) participating in an activity consisting of the exercise of a student's rights protected under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution or Article I, Section 31 of the Constitution of the State of Indiana, or both; (4) participating in an activity conducted by a non-profit or governmental entity that provides recreation, education, training, or other care under the supervision of one or more adults; (5) participating in an activity undertaken at the prior written direction of the student's parent; (6) engaging in interstate or international travel from a location outside Indiana to another location inside Indiana. This type of behavior is a form of harassment, although it need not be based on any of the legally protected characteristics, such as sex, race, color, national origin, and marital status, or disability. It would include, but not be limited to, such behaviors as stalking, intimidating, menacing, coercion, name-calling/slurs, taunting, threats, rumors, pranks, gestures/innuendos, drawing cartoons, physical attacks/actions, and hazing.

Each school within the Corporation shall include in its discipline rules the legal definition of bullying, a statement that bullying is prohibited, and the following: (A) provisions concerning education, parental involvement, and intervention; (B) a detailed procedure for the expedited investigation of incidents of bullying that includes (i) appropriate responses to bullying behaviors; (ii) provisions for anonymous and personal reporting of bullying to a teacher or other school staff; (iii) timetables for reporting of bullying incidents to the parents of both the targeted student and the bully, in an expedited manner; (iv) timetables for reporting of bullying incidents to school counselors, school administrators, the superintendent, or law enforcement, if it is determined that reporting the bullying incident to law enforcement is necessary; (v) discipline provisions for teachers, school staff, or school administrators who fail to initiate or conduct an investigation of a bullying incident; and (vi) discipline provisions for

Policy

**BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
RANDOLPH CENTRAL SCHOOL CORPORATION**

**STUDENTS
5620/Page 2 OF 2**

false reporting of bullying; and (C) a detailed procedure outlining the use of follow-up services that includes: (i) support services for the victim; and (ii) bullying education for the bully.

The discipline rules described in the previous paragraph may be applied regardless of the physical location in which the bullying behavior occurred; whenever: (1) the individual committing the bullying behavior and any of the intended targets of the bullying behavior are students attending a school within the corporation; (2) disciplinary action is reasonably necessary to avoid substantial interference with school discipline or prevent an unreasonable threat to the rights of others to a safe and peaceful learning environment. The discipline rules described in the previous paragraph must prohibit bullying through the use of data or computer software that is accessed through a: (1) computer; (2) computer system; or (3) computer network.

According to IC 20-33-8-13.5, this policy may not be construed to give rise to a cause of action against a person or school corporation based on an allegation of noncompliance with this section. Noncompliance with this section may not be used as evidence against a school corporation in a cause of action.

A record made of an investigation, a disciplinary action, or a follow-up action performed under this policy is not a public record under IC 5-14-3.

Adopted 12/5/2005
Amended, 7/9/2013