

West Bonner County School District

STUDENTS

3295

Hazing, Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying, Cyber Bullying, Menacing

The Board is committed to providing a positive and productive learning and working environment. Hazing, harassment, intimidation, bullying, cyber bullying, or menacing by students or third parties is strictly prohibited and shall not be tolerated in the district. This includes actions on school grounds, school property, school buses, at school bus stops, at school sponsored events and activities, and through the use of electronic technology or electronic communication equipment on school computers, networks, forums, or mailing lists and actions at locations outside of those listed above that can be reasonably expected to materially and substantially interfere with or disrupt the educational environment of the school or impinge on the rights of other students.

The Board expects all students to treat each other with civility and respect and not to engage in behavior that is harmful to another student or the property of another student. The Board expects students to conduct themselves in keeping with their age appropriateness, with a proper regard for the rights and welfare of other students, for school personnel, and for the educational purpose underlying all school activities.

Students attending schools in this district are prohibited from engaging in the following behaviors:

1. Physical abuse against a student, including but not limited to, hitting, pushing, tripping, kicking, or restraining another's movements; sexual misconduct; causing damage to another's clothing or possessions; and taking another's belongings.
2. Verbal comments or threats against a student, including but not limited to, name calling, threatening, sexual comments, taunting, and malicious teasing.
3. Psychological abuse against a student, including but not limited to, spreading harmful or inappropriate rumors regarding another, drawing inappropriate pictures, or writing inappropriate statements regarding another, and intentionally excluding another from groups, or similar activities.

Investigation

The school administrator or designee will investigate any allegations of misconduct that are reasonably characterized as bullying or intimidation. At the discretion of the school principal, his/her designee, and/or superintendent, the alleged perpetrator(s) may be suspended pending the outcome of the investigation. When deemed appropriate, legal authorities will be notified to investigate when the bullying and/or intimidation behaviors appears to be severe and/or continual.

Discipline

Students whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to discipline and graduated consequences, up to and including expulsion consistent with the Board's policy on student discipline. Third parties whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to appropriate sanctions as determined and imposed by the superintendent or Board.

Students or third parties may also be referred to law enforcement officials.

Notification

Information on the District's bullying policy and relevant procedures shall be provided in writing at the beginning of each school year to school personnel, parents, and students in the District and included in student handbooks. Information provided to students shall be provided in a manner appropriate to the student's age, grade, and level of academic achievement.

Procedures

The superintendent is directed to develop administrative procedures to implement this policy. Procedures shall include descriptions of prohibited conduct, reporting and investigative procedures, and provisions to ensure notice of this policy is provided to students, and third parties.

Reporting

The District shall annually report bullying incidents to, and in the manner on the form provided by, the State Department of Education.

Cross Reference: 3330	Student Discipline
5265	Employee Responsibilities Regarding Student Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying

Legal References: I.C. § 18-917	Hazing
I.C. § 18-917A	Student Harassment – Intimidation – Bullying
I.C. § 33-205	Denial of School Attendance
I.C. § 33-512	Governance of Schools
I.C. § 33-1630	Requirements for Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Information and Professional Development
I.C. § 67-5909	Acts Prohibited
20 U.S.C. § 1681, et seq.	Title IX of the Educational Amendments
34 CFR Part 106	
I.D.A.P.A. 08.02.03.160	Safe Environment and Discipline

Policy History:

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