

BULLYING

Background

The Division believes that every student has the right to attend school and school related activities free from bullying, intimidation, threats or sexual harassment. The Division condemns all forms of bullying and harassment and expects its teachers, employees, students and any other individuals on school premises or at school sponsored events neither to participate in nor to condone such behavior.

Bullying generally involves a real or perceived imbalance of power with the more hurtful child or adult using some form of aggression against those who are less powerful. It includes an assortment of acts carried out over a period of time generally away from the presence of adults or in the presence of adults who fail to intercede. Bullying can be overt, subtle, or indirect and anonymous.

Bullying, intimidation, threats and harassment will not be tolerated. Any student found to have engaged in such conduct will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the schools of the Division. Further to these provisions and remedies, the Criminal Code and the Youth Criminal Justice Act may be applied.

Regulations

Procedures

1. Each Principal, in consultation with school staff, shall develop anti-bullying strategies and a prevention program which will include:
 - 1.1 Taking steps to ensure that students understand the above definition of bullying. This includes publishing the definition in student handbooks and newsletters or other school publications.
 - 1.2 Developing policy and procedures for the confidential reporting of bullying behavior.
 - 1.3 Documenting reports of bullying and the action taken.
 - 1.4 Increasing supervision in those areas where bullying is most evident.
 - 1.5 Working toward a school culture that values peacefulness, respect, care and safety.
2. These internal policies shall be reviewed annually by the Principal and a copy shall be forwarded to the Director.

3. All members of the school community including students, school staff, bus drivers, parents and community members have a responsibility to report any act of bullying directly to the Principal or immediate supervisor. An immediate investigation by school authorities must take place with proper emphasis for the safety of those concerned.
4. Please refer to Administrative Procedure 352 Appendix A Saskatchewan's Action Plan to Address Bullying and Cyberbullying and Administrative Procedure 352 Appendix B Saskatchewan's Action Plan to Address Bullying and Cyberbullying (November 2013) for further information.

Reference: Sections 148, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 175, 231
Education Act
Board Policy 13

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