

**UNIONVILLE-
CHADDS FORD
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: BULLYING

ADOPTED: December 15, 2008
**(Reviewed – 2012);
Reviewed – 5-18-15)**

	<p style="text-align: center;">249. BULLYING</p> <p>1. <u>Purpose</u> The Board is committed to providing a safe, positive educational experience for District students. The Board recognizes that bullying creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, detracts from the environment necessary for student learning, and creates the possibility of additional serious incidents.</p> <p>2. <u>Prohibition</u> The Board prohibits bullying by District students in a school setting or outside a school setting, as defined by this Policy.</p> <p>3. <u>Definitions</u> "Bullying" - an intentional electronic, written, verbal, or physical act or a series of acts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) directed at another student or students; (b) which occurs in a school setting or outside a school setting; (c) that is severe, persistent or pervasive; and (d) that has the effect of doing any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) substantially interfering with a student's education; (ii) creating a threatening environment; or (iii) substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school. <p>"Outside a school setting" - This definition shall pertain to acts that do not occur in a school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop, or at any activity sponsored, supervised, or sanctioned by the District or a school, but which have the effect of substantial disruption or interference with the operation of a school or with another student's rights.</p> <p>"School setting" - This definition shall pertain to acts that occur in a school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop, or at any activity sponsored, supervised, or sanctioned by the District or a school.</p>
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4. Reports of Bullying

The Board encourages students who have been bullied to promptly report such incidents to the building principals, guidance counselors, teachers, bus drivers, or any District employee. Any District employee who receives a report of bullying shall notify the Superintendent.

The Board directs that reports of bullying be investigated promptly and corrective action taken if such reports are verified. The District shall maintain the confidentiality of all parties, as consistent with legal and investigative obligations. No reprisals or retaliation shall occur as a result of good faith reports of bullying.

5. Discipline

A student who violates this Policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, which may include:

- (a) Parental conference.
- (b) Counseling within a school.
- (c) Counseling outside of school.
- (d) Loss of school privileges and exclusion from school-sponsored activities.
- (e) Transfer to another school building or alternative setting, classroom, or school bus.
- (f) Detention.
- (g) Suspension.
- (h) Expulsion.
- (i) Referral to law enforcement officials.

6. Notice and Availability of Policy

The District shall make this Policy available on the District's website and in every classroom and shall post a copy of the Policy at a prominent location within each school building where such notices are usually posted. The District shall insure that this Policy and the procedures for reporting bullying incidents will be reviewed with students within 90 days of the adoption of this Policy and thereafter at least once each school year.

7. Incorporation of Policy into Code of Student Conduct

This Policy shall be incorporated into the District's Code of Student Conduct as set forth by Policy 218.

8. Implementation

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to develop procedures to implement this Policy, including prevention, intervention, and education programs concerning bullying.

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9. Report to Office of Safe Schools

The District shall annually provide the Office of Safe Schools with a copy of this Policy and information related to the development and implementation of any bullying prevention, intervention, and education programs. The information required under this section shall be attached to or made part of the annual report required by 24 P.S. Sec. 13-1303(A)(b).

10. Review of Policy by District

The District shall review this Policy every three years.

11. Authority

SC § 1303.1-A (24 P.S. § 13-1303.1-A)
22 Pa. Code §§ 12.3(c), 12.6