

## BULLYING PREVENTION POLICY

Students are prohibited from bullying, harassing, threatening, or intimidating other students or school personnel.

Bullying means any behavior, physical acts, verbal or electronic communication directed toward a student or group of students that results in or is reasonably perceived as being done with the intent to cause negative educational or physical results for the targeted individual or group and is communicated in such a way as to disrupt or interfere with the school's educational mission or the education of any student

The following steps shall apply to the investigation of reported incidents of harassment, intimidation, bullying, or threatening behavior:

1. If any person is aware of, observes, or is a victim of bullying, harassing, threatening, or intimidating behavior or communications from a student, such person must report the behavior or communication to the school Principal.
2. The Principal will gather information deemed necessary to evaluate the incident to determine the severity of the incident and the potential for future violence.
3. After completing any necessary investigation, the Principal shall determine if the student accused of bullying, harassing, threatening, or intimidating behavior or communications engaged in prohibited conduct and, if so, shall determine the appropriate discipline.
4. Parents and guardians of both victims and perpetrator of verified bullying will be notified by site administration regarding the situation and steps taken to rectify the actions of students involved.
5. During the pendency of the investigation, the Principal may take appropriate action to ensure the safety of all students or school personnel involved.
6. If warranted, the Principal shall notify law enforcement of the reported incident and cooperate with any law enforcement investigation.
7. If the student's actions are determined to constitute harassing, intimidating, threatening, hazing, or bullying behavior or communications, the Principal may, as a condition and part of any disciplinary action that is taken, recommend that available community mental health care options be provided to the student.
8. The Principal may further require the student (if 18 or over) or the parent or guardian of the student to allow the mental health care provider to disclose any information concerning

the student who has received mental health care for conduct which indicates an explicit threat to the safety of students or school personnel as a condition of being allowed to return to school.

9. The Principal may also require that the student and the student's parent or guardian meet with the administrator, a school counselor, and/ or other appropriate school personnel before being allowed to return to school.
10. If a student is found to have falsely accused another student of harassment, intimidation, bullying, or threatening behavior as a means of retaliation, reprisal or as a means of bullying then they may be assigned disciplinary consequences as deemed appropriate by the Principal.

Definitions/Terms of this regulation:

- o "At school" means on school grounds, in school vehicles, at school-sponsored activities or at school-sanctioned events.
- o "Electronic communication" means the communication of any written, verbal, pictorial or video content by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, or mobile or cellular telephone or other wireless telecommunication device or a computer.
- o "Threatening behavior" means any pattern or behavior or isolated action, whether or not it is directed at another person, that a reasonable person would believe indicates potential for future harm to students, school personnel, or school property.
- o Appropriate school personnel consist of site administration (principal, assistant principal and/ or administrative intern), counselor, and/or teacher.

Information from this regulation shall be posted in areas deemed appropriate by the school Principal, and will be included in all student and faculty handbooks.

The Principal will conduct an annual training of preventing, identifying, responding and reporting incidents of bullying with their faculty and staff. The Principal will also provide for an educational program for students and parents in preventing, identifying, responding to and reporting incidents of bullying.

**LEGAL REFERENCE:** 70 O.S. §24-100.3; 21O.S. § 8 50.