

Pupil Bullying

The development and maintenance of self-discipline is an integral aspect of learning. Efforts at such development are not only critical to a student's growth as a learner, but are essential to maintain a school climate that encourages learning for all students. As such, the bullying of a student by other students will not be tolerated within the Tredyffrin Easttown School District.

Board Policy and Regulation 5401, Student Discipline, provides information on the subject of bullying within the District. This policy is extended to the transportation of students to and from school. No student should be in an environment that makes him/her feel unsafe, intimidated, or abused. It is the practice of Tredyffrin Easttown School District to maintain an environment in which bullying in any form is not tolerated. **Students engaging in this behavior may be subject to disciplinary actions including but not limited to: loss of bus riding privileges, parent conference, detention, suspension, or expulsion from school, and police referral.**

Definition of Bullying

Bullying includes systematic harassment, attacks or intentional electronic, written, verbal or physical acts, perpetrated by a student or group of students, on another student or students, which meets all of the following criteria:

- d) occur during the school day, on school property, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored activity or event
- e) are severe, persistent or pervasive; and
- f) include any written, verbal, or physical act including but not limited to:
 - Written intimidating/threatening, and/or demeaning letters, notes, messages, emails and/or any other electronic means.
 - Verbally intimidating/threatening comments, slurs, innuendos, or taunting
 - Visual gestures
 - Physical hitting. slapping. kicking. and pinching. etc.
 - Making reprisals, threats of reprisal, or implied threats of reprisal, social isolation or manipulation of a student
 - Engaging in implicit or explicit coercive behavior to control, influence, or affect the health and well-being of a student
 - Any other behavior or acts which has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education, creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment, or substantially disrupts the orderly operation of the school

Bullying Procedures

Reporting Procedures

1. Each building administrator will identify a staff person responsible for receiving reports of and documenting alleged bullying and publicize that information as set forth below.
2. The staff person responsible for receiving reports of bullying will document and investigate each alleged incident and report to the building administrator.
3. Annually, the building administrator will compile a report for the District administration to be incorporated into the District safety report to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Disciplinary Consequences

Disciplinary consequences will be based on the seriousness and repetitiveness of the behavior and may include the following:

1. Parent conference;
2. Loss of privileges, including limitations on participation in extracurricular activities;
3. External suspension;
4. Risk assessment; and
5. Police contact.

Publicity

1. These Bullying Procedures and the definition of bullying set forth in this Regulation will be posted on a publicly accessible page of Tredyffrin/Easttown School District's website. The posting shall be as set forth in Attachments A.
2. Within 90 days of the effective date of this regulation, each school will introduce this policy to its students and explain the procedures for reporting bullying incidents.
3. Once each school year, each school will review with its students these Bullying Procedures.
4. Building administrators or designees will ensure that these Bullying Procedures and the definition of bullying set forth in this Regulation is posted in each classroom and in a prominent location within the school building. An age-appropriate summary shall be included as part of this posting. The summaries for the elementary school, middle schools and high schools are attached to the regulation as Attachments B, C and D respectively.

Review of Bullying Procedures

The Superintendent or designee, in cooperation with other appropriate administrators, shall review these Bullying Procedures every three (3) years and recommend necessary revisions to the Board.

BULLYING

What is bullying?

A person is bullied when he or she is exposed, repeatedly and over time, to negative actions on the part of one or more other persons, and he or she has difficulty defending himself or herself.

Specific forms of bullying behaviors may include:

- verbal bullying (put downs)
- social exclusion or isolation
- negative physical contact
- lies and false rumors
- having money or other things taken or damaged
- threats
- being forced to do things
- cyber bullying (technological communications)

What should you do if you are being bullied?

If you know that you or someone is being bullied, you should tell an adult at home and an adult at school.

What will the school do?

The school will follow the Code of Conduct in assigning appropriate consequences to students who bully. Meetings with parents, counselors, and teachers may also take place.

What are Our School's Anti-Bullying Rules?

1. We will not bully others.
2. We will try to help students who are bullied.
3. We will try to include students who are left out.
4. If we know that someone is being bullied, we will tell an adult at school and an adult at home.

Information taken from the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program, ©2007

BULLYING

What is Bullying?

Sometimes a student can be a bully because of his or her words and sometimes a student can be a bully because of his or her actions. A student is being a bully if he or she...

Says hurtful, demeaning things to you or calls you names.

Says scary things to you a lot because they want to make you feel frightened.

Tells you they are going to hurt you or threatens you.

Teases or taunts you a lot, especially if you asked the student to stop.

Tells other people bad things about you.

Tells other students not to play with you, talk to you, be around you, or include you.

Writes you a lot of mean, threatening, demeaning letters, text messages or email messages.

Makes cruel faces at you on purpose.

Hits, kicks, slaps, punches, or pinches you on purpose.

Tries to hurt your body in any way.

Forces you or somehow gets you to do something that you do not want to do.

Tells you lies a lot that make you feel upset.

Makes you feel like you do not want to come to school or like you cannot concentrate in school.

What Should You Do if You are Being Bullied?

If you think that someone is bullying you, you should tell your teacher or an adult at school immediately.

What Will the School Do?

Sometimes the school will decide to have a meeting with the bully's parents.

Sometimes the school will take privileges away from the bully including school activities.

Sometimes the bully will be suspended from school.

Sometimes the police will need to talk to the bully, especially if the bully threatened someone or tried to hurt someone.

BULLYING

Definition of Bullying

Bullying is when a student or a group of students intentionally and repeatedly uses hurtful or intimidating words, actions or other behaviors against another student.

A student is bullying you if he or she does any of the following things **intentionally** and **repeatedly**:

Says unkind, harsh, demeaning, or abusive things to you or calls you names.

Threatens or intimidates you in writing, email, notes, messages, to you in person, or by any electronic means.

Teases, taunts, or harasses you.

Makes negative comments, slurs, or innuendos towards you.

Tells other people offensive or insulting things about you.

Ostracizes you, isolates you or tells other students not to talk to you, involve you, or be around you.

Writes threatening, demeaning, or intimidating letters or email messages to you.

Makes cruel faces or physical gestures at you.

Physically hits, kicks, slaps, punches, pinches or purposely assaults you in any way.

Forces, coerces, influences or manipulates you do something that you do not want to do.

Frequently tells you lies that make you feel upset or that affect you in a negative manner.

Makes you feel like uncomfortable to attend school or disrupts your concentration at school.

What Should You Do if You are Being Bullied?

If you think that someone is bullying you during the school day, on school property, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored activity, you should tell your teacher or an adult at school immediately.

What Happens if You Report a Bully?

The school will investigate the situation.

The school may decide to have a conference with the bully's parents.

Bullying Attachment D

The school may take privileges away from the bully, including participation in extracurricular activities.

The bully may be suspended from school.

The police and law enforcement may need to be contacted, especially if the bully threatened someone or tried to hurt someone.