

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.**

"Bullying" as used in Policy 5401 means intentional and repeated hurtful or intimidating words, acts or other behaviors, such as name-calling, threats and/or deliberate ostracism, committed by one or more students against another student.

The District prohibits all forms of bullying of students on school property, at school functions, and on District and contracted vehicles. If a driver observes an act of bullying, or if a student informs a driver that he/she has witnessed or is the target of bullying behavior, the bus driver shall report the incident to the school principal, complete a "Bus Student Behavior Report" and provide this to the Supervisor of Transportation by the close of the school day. The Supervisor will immediately fax the information to the proper school principal and follow up with a phone call. If a driver observes an act of bullying, he/she may intervene immediately if feasible or when the bus is parked safely at its destination.

The principal will interview the students involved and thoroughly investigate. This investigation may include interviews with additional students, parents, and the driver.