



NEBO SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SECTION: J - Students
POLICY TITLE: Prohibition of Bullying
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY
 2. DEFINITIONS
 3. PROHIBITIONS OF BULLYING
 4. EDUCATION AND TRAINING
 5. COMPLAINTS
 6. INVESTIGATION
 7. DISCIPLINE
 8. DISSEMINATION OF POLICY
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1. PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY

The Board of Education is committed to provide all students with a safe and secure learning environment. Bullying reduces a student's ability to achieve academically. In addition, bullying can directly affect a student's health and well-being, and may contribute to excessive absences from school, physical illness, mental and emotional anguish, and long-term social and psychological consequences. The Board encourages educators, students, and parents to develop procedures to stop and prevent bullying in Nebo School District.

2. DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 "Bullying"** means aggressive behavior that is intended to cause harm or distress, exists in a relationship in which there is an imbalance of power or strength, and may be repeated over time. Bullying may be physical, verbal/written, or psychological.
- 2.2 "Physical Bullying"** includes, but is not limited to, pushing, grabbing, pinching, shoving, poking, tripping, kicking, hitting, and destroying property.
- 2.3 "Verbal/Written Bullying"** includes, but is not limited to, name calling, mean teasing, spreading false rumors, intimidation, sexual comments, harassing, and threatening comments and behavior that is communicated verbally or in writing, including the use of electronic media (i.e., "cyber bullying").
 - 2.3.1 "Cyber Bullying"** means using e-mail, web pages, text messaging, blogs, instant messaging, three-way calling or messaging, or any other electronic means for aggression, intimidation, or harassment against another person. Examples include, but are not limited to, sending mean, vulgar, or threatening messages or images; posting inappropriate pictures of or sensitive, private information about the victim; pretending to be someone else to hurt that person; rude comments; lies; stalking; threats; extortion; harassment; and transmission of unflattering or embarrassing photographs.

2.4 “**Psychological Bullying**” includes, but is not limited to, socially isolating an individual, demeaning or sarcastic comments, gestures, and threatening comments and behavior.

3. PROHIBITION OF BULLYING

Nebo School District prohibits bullying of students by other students at school or at school-related activities and events. The District encourages all victims of bullying, and all persons with knowledge of bullying, to report the incident(s) immediately.

4. EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Nebo School District recognizes the importance of educating its employees and students regarding the prevention of bullying. To these ends, the District will provide ongoing training and education in this area. Notice of this policy will be distributed and training will be conducted for employees and students of the District.

5. COMPLAINTS

A student who is a victim of bullying should inform his/her teacher or any of his/her school’s administrators. A parent, teacher, or any other individual who is aware of bullying should inform school administration. A school teacher or administrator to whom a complaint is made shall, as soon as is reasonably possible after receiving the complaint, report it to the principal or his/her designee.

6. INVESTIGATION

The principal or designee to whom a complaint of bullying is reported shall promptly investigate the complaint. In the event the principal or designee finds that bullying has occurred, he/she shall take prompt, appropriate action to end the bullying and address its effects on the victim.

7. DISCIPLINE

Any student who engages in bullying of anyone at school or at any school-related activity or event is in violation of this policy and shall be subject to disciplinary action. Consequences should be firm and fair and correspond to the severity of the infraction. A continuum of consequences should be utilized. Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to, suspension, expulsion, exclusion or loss of extracurricular activities, probation, or alternate educational placement. In imposing such discipline, all facts and circumstances of the incident(s) shall be taken into account.

8. DISSEMINATION OF POLICY

This policy may be posted on the District’s website and published in student registration materials, student and employee handbooks, parent information guides, and other appropriate school publications as directed by the District.

EXHIBITS

NONE

REFERENCES

S.C.R. 1 (2006) Resolution Encouraging School Boards to Adopt Policy Prohibiting Bullying
Nebo School District Policy No. JDC - Student Discrimination and Harassment Policy
Nebo School District Policy No. JFCJA/EC – Safe School Environment

FORMS

None
