

Title: Bullying Prevention

Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB)

The Jamesburg School District Board of Education prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of pupil. A safe and civil environment in school is necessary for pupils to learn and achieve high academic standards. Harassment, intimidation, or bullying like other disruptive or violent behaviors, is conduct that disrupts both a pupil's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate its pupils in a safe and disciplined environment. Since pupils learn by example, school administrator, faculty, staff and volunteers should be commended for demonstrating appropriate behavior, treating others with civility and respect, and refusing to tolerate harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

The New Jersey Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights, effective September 1, 2011, provides the following Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) definition:

- a) Under New Jersey law, "harassment, intimidation, or bullying" means any gesture, any written, verbal, or physical act or any electronic communication, whether it is a single incident or a series of incidents, that is"
- b) Reasonably perceived as being motivated by either any actual or perceived characteristic, such as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or a mental, physical or sensory disability; or
- c) By any other distinguishing characteristic, and that
- d) Takes place on school property, at any school-sponsored function, on a school bus, or off school grounds, as provided for in the N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.3, that substantially disrupts or interferes with the orderly operation of the school or the rights of other pupils: and that
- e) A reasonable person should know under the circumstances that his/her action will have the effect of physically or emotionally harming a pupil or damaging the pupil's property, or placing a pupil in reasonable fear of physical or emotional harm to his/her person or damage to his/her property
- f) Has the effect of insulting or demeaning any pupil or group of pupils; or
- g) Creates a hostile educational environment for the pupil by interfering with a pupil's education or by severely or pervasively causing physical or emotional harm to the pupil.

Prevention Programs and Initiative

- New Jersey State Bar Foundation 6 Essential Lessons "Conflict Resolution" (K-5)
- New Jersey State Bar Foundation "Peer Mediation Program (K-5)
- New Jersey State Bar Foundation "Teasing and Bullying Curriculum" (6th-8th)
- CHAMP (Caring, Honest, Accepting, Motivated, Positive) Character Education Initiative (K-5)
- "Week of Respect" Activities- 1st week in October.
- "Violence Prevention/Red Ribbon Week"- 3rd and 4th week in October.
- Grace M. Breckwedel "Respect Rally"- last Friday in May. (6th-8th)
- "Don't Laugh at Me" curriculum- by Peter Yarrow (6th grade)
- "Character Chronicles" (Live Wire Media)- (7th grade)

- “Sticks and Stone” video and lessons- Middlesex County Prosecutors Office (8th)
- Anonymous report procedure (G.M.B. middle school)
- Group and Individual counseling program (K-8)
- Staff Professional Development (New Jersey State Bar Foundation)

If you witness or your child experiences a potential bullying situation please complete the attached form and send to the G.M.B or J.F.K. main office.