

ALIQUIPPA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: BULLYING/
CYBERBULLYING

ADOPTED:

REVISED: July 13, 2016

249. BULLYING/CYBERBULLYING	
1. Purpose	The Board is committed to providing a safe, positive learning environment for district students. The Board recognizes that bullying creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, detracts from the safe environment necessary for student learning, and may lead to more serious violence. Therefore, the Board prohibits bullying by district students.
2. Definitions SC 1303.1-A	<p>Bullying means an intentional electronic (including, but not limited to, social media), written, verbal, mental or physical act or series of acts directed at another student or students, which occurs in and/or outside a school setting, that is severe, persistent or pervasive and has the effect of doing any of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Substantial interference with a student’s education. 2. Creation of a threatening and hostile learning environment. 3. Substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school. <p>Bullying is characterized by the following three (3) criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is intentional or deliberate aggressive behavior or harm doing, and 2. It is carried out repeatedly over time, and 4. It occurs within an interpersonal relationship where one or more students have the intent to intimidate or over power other student(s). <p>Bullying, as defined in this policy, includes cyberbullying.</p>
SC 1303.1-A	School setting means in the school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop, in transit to and from school, or at any activity sponsored, supervised or sanctioned by the school.
3. Authority	The Board prohibits all forms of bullying by district students.

<p>SC 1303.1-A</p>	<p>The Board encourages students who have been bullied to promptly report such incidents to the building principal or designee.</p> <p>The Board directs that complaints of bullying shall be investigated promptly, and corrective action shall be taken when allegations are verified. Confidentiality of all parties shall be maintained, consistent with the district’s legal and investigative obligations. No reprisals or retaliation shall occur as a result of good faith reports of bullying.</p>
<p>4. Delegation of Responsibility</p>	<p>Each student shall be responsible to respect the rights of others and to ensure an atmosphere that is conducive to learning and free from bullying.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy.</p>
<p>SC 1303.1-A</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that this policy and administrative regulations are reviewed annually with staff, students, and families.</p>
<p>SC 1303.1-A</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee, in cooperation with other appropriate administrators, shall review this policy every three (3) years and recommend necessary revisions to the Board.</p>
<p>SC 1303.1-A</p>	<p>District administration shall annually provide the following information with the Safe School Report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Board’s Bullying Policy. 2. Report of bullying incidents. 3. Information on the development and implementation of any research-based bullying prevention, intervention or education programs.
<p>5. Guidelines SC 1303.1-A Title 22 Sec. 12.3 Pol. 218</p>	<p>The Student Discipline Code, which shall contain this policy, shall be disseminated annually to students.</p> <p>This policy shall be accessible in every classroom. The policy shall be posted in a prominent location within each school building and on the district website. This policy shall be reviewed with district students during the first week of school.</p>

<p>SC 1302-A, 1303.1-A Pol. 236</p>	<p><u>Education</u></p> <p>The district may adopt and implement a research-based bullying prevention and intervention program. Such program shall provide district staff and students with appropriate training for effectively responding to, intervening in and reporting incidents of bullying. Students will be provided with instruction regarding the definition of bullying, the characteristics of a person who bullies, a person who is the target of bullying, and a bystander, and the reporting process. Schools will implement programs and activities that reduce the potential for bullying and identify those strategies in district-wide improvement plans.</p> <p>Staff will be provided training and professional development for effectively preventing, intervening in, and reporting incidents of bullying.</p>
<p>SC 1303.1-A Pol. 218, 233</p>	<p><u>Consequences For Violations</u></p> <p>A student who violates this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action consistent with the Student Discipline Code, which may include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Parental conference.2. Loss of school privileges.3. Transfer to another classroom or school bus.4. Exclusion from school-sponsored activities.5. Detention.6. Suspension.7. Expulsion.8. Referral to law enforcement officials. <p>Following a reported and validated incident, students may be referred to the school's SAP Team. Families may be referred to counseling/therapy services within or outside of the school building.</p>

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1302-A, 1303.1-A

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 12.3

Board Policy – 000, 218, 233, 236, 248