



IDEA PUBLIC SCHOOLS ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Sec. 1 BULLYING PROHIBITED

IDEA Public Schools prohibits bullying, including cyberbullying, as defined by the Texas Education Code. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is prohibited.

“Bullying” means a single significant act or a pattern of acts by one or more students directed at another student that exploits an imbalance of power and involves engaging in or verbal expression, expression through electronic means, or physical conduct that satisfies the applicability requirements in Section 2 below, and that:

1. Has the effect or will have the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or of damage to the student's property;
2. Is sufficiently severe, persistent, and pervasive enough that the action or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student;
3. Materially and substantially disrupts the educational process or the orderly operation of a classroom or school;
4. Infringes on the rights of a student, including the student's use of a communication tool.

Sec. 2 APPLICABILITY OF POLICY

This policy applies to:

1. Bullying that occurs on or is delivered to school property, school site of a school activity; and
3. Cyberbullying that occurs off school property or outside of a school sponsored or school related activity if the cyberbullying
 - a. Interferes with a student's educational opportunities or
 - b. Substantially disrupts the orderly operation of a classroom, school sponsored or school related activity.

IDEA



b) *Appeal*

A parent or student who is dissatisfied with the outcome of the investigation may appeal under Board Policy Parent and Student Complaints and Grievances

Sec. 6 ASSISTANCE FROM PRINCIPAL

Any student who feels that he or she may be the victim of bullying should contact the Principal or Principal's designee to obtain assistance and intervention in response to the potential bullying.

The Principal or Principal's designee shall notify the victim, the student who engaged in bullying, and any student(s) who witnessed the bullying of available counseling options.

Sec. 7 ACCESS TO POLICY

Information regarding this policy shall be distributed annually to IDEA Public Schools employees and included in the Student Handbook. Copies of the policy shall be readily available at each campus and the IDEA Public Schools administrative offices.

Sec. 8 REPORT TO LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

A Principal or the Principal's designee may make a report to law enforcement officials if, after an investigation is completed, the Principal or Principal's designee has reasonable grounds to believe that a student engaged in conduct that constitutes an offense under Section 22.01 (Assault) or 42.07(a)(7) (Harassment) of the Texas Penal Code.

A Principal's designee may include any employee under the supervision of the Principal, other than a school counselor.

A report to local law enforcement officials may include the name and address of each student the Principal or Principal's designee believes may have participated in the conduct.