

## **STUDENT BULLYING**

**File: JFCE**

The Faith School District is committed to maintaining a constructive, safe school climate that is conducive to student learning and fostering an environment in which all students are treated with respect and dignity.

Persistent bullying can severely inhibit a student's ability to learn effectively. The negative effects of bullying can have an impact on a person for their entire life. We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our students so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable. If bullying does occur, students should be able to report and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively.

Bullying is a repeated and intentional harmful behavior initiated by one or more students or staff directed toward another student. Bullying is unjustified and is usually repeated and involves a power imbalance element where a bully targets a person who has difficulty defending himself or herself.

Bullying consists of physical, verbal, written or electronic conduct directed toward a student that is so severe, pervasive and objectively offensive that it:

1. has the purpose of affecting or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive academic environment, or
2. has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with a student's academic performance which deprives the student access to educational opportunities.

This policy is in effect while students are on property within the jurisdiction of the board; while students are in school-owned or school-operated vehicles; while students are attending or engaged in school-sponsored activities; and while students are away from school grounds if the misconduct directly affects the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations in accordance with this policy to protect the district's students from the harmful effects of bullying.

This policy shall not be interpreted to prohibit civil exchange of opinions or debate protected under the state or federal constitutions where the opinion expressed does not otherwise materially or substantially disrupt the education process or intrude upon the rights of others.

Cross References: ACAB, Discrimination/Harassment  
JFCC (EEACC), Student Conduct on School Buses  
JFCD, Cyber Bullying  
JFCF, Hazing  
JGD, Student Suspension and Expulsion

Adopted: July 13, 2009