Bayonne Board of Education
Elementary School
Student Code of Conduct

2020-2021
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1. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT

September 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

School year 2020-2021 will start unlike any previous one in our country's history for all students and all families. We are all in this fight against Covid-19 together. We wish you a safe and healthy school year.

The mission of the Bayonne Board of Education is to provide optimum learning opportunities for all students in a safe, secure, inclusive learning environment that fosters personal and interpersonal growth, lifelong learning, and a strong sense of community.

With this vision in mind, the Bayonne Board of Elementary Student Code of Conduct is a vital part of daily student life, supporting a safe and secure learning environment, where inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. This behavior extends into the home, and we need your help to ensure the success of your child. As a parent/guardian you play an integral part in the success of this plan.

Please ensure that your child get a good night's rest and is prepared for a rigorous day of learning. A well balanced breakfast, whether eaten at home or in school, provides the nutrition for school. And finally, please make sure your child is in school each day. Good Attendance is a major predictor of future success in high school, college, and career. Making sure your child attends school regularly lets them know the value you place on education and reinforces their understanding that school is important. A missed day is a lost opportunity for students to learn.

We believe in each child's potential, their ability to learn, talents they have to share, and the contributions they can make to our schools, community and to our future as a nation. By working together each day, we can make a difference in the life of your child. Together, we really do achieve more!

Sincerely,

[Signature]

John J. Niesz
Superintendent
Bayonne Board of Education
II. Responsibilities, Rights, and Privileges

Student Responsibilities:

- Responsibility to attend school on a regular basis and to be on time
- Responsibility to complete all academic work as assigned
- Responsibility to bring the necessary supplies to class
- Responsibility to obey school rules and state and federal laws
- Responsibility to respect the rights of others
- Responsibilities of your own actions
- Responsibility to use appropriate language
- Responsibility to respect school property and the property of others
- Responsibility to vote in student body elections
- Responsibility to dress in the school uniform and to abide by the rules of modesty, safety, and cleanliness

Students Rights:

- The right to an education
- The right to due process of law in cases of expulsion
- The right to freedom of speech and expression
- The right to privacy and free association
- The right to equal protection
- The right to petition grievances
- The right to attend a safe and drug free school
- The right to not be discriminated against
- The right to not be harassed, intimidated, or bullied

Student Privileges:

- The privilege to take part in graduation exercises
- The privilege to participate in athletics
- The privilege to participate in extra-curricular activities
- The privilege to attend eighth grade parties
- The privilege to attend school dances, field trips, celebrations, and other school sponsored activities
III. Rules and Consequences

Students will contribute to maintaining a school environment that promotes learning.

**Consequence:** The following infractions will be at the discretion of the teachers and school administrators.

- Students not using self control and not showing respect for self, others, and property.
- Students not completing homework and class assignments.
- Students displaying inappropriate behavior.
- Students not attending classes.

**Consequence:** The following infractions will warrant detention.* The number of days will be based upon the seriousness of the infraction.

- Students not being orderly and quiet on stairs, during line up, or in the hallways between classes.
- Students not being on time for school. (three late slips)
- Students not bringing in absence notes and other forms.
- Students not covering all books.
- Students running in the street.
- Students not crossing at the corner.
- Students touching or throwing snow.
- Students wearing hats or caps in the building.
- Students wearing inappropriate clothing, hats, headwear, or foot wear.
- Students not putting litter in proper receptacles.
- Students trying to access unauthorized sites in the computer lab.
- Students bringing any of the following items to school: skateboards, water guns, hand held electronic games, iPods, or mp3 players.
- Students misbehaving during assembly programs.
- Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying towards classmates/peers.
- Students chewing gum or candy.
- Students not wearing the school uniform.
- Student spitting.
• Students using a cell phone. (Cell phones must be turned off and kept in the student’s locker or backpack)
• Students using District computers, Internet, and other technologies for non-educational purposes.
• Students engaging in the vandalism and/or theft of District computers and other technologies. (Possible Suspension)
• Students misbehaving during a Fire Drill. (Possible Suspension)
• Students misbehaving during a Lockdown Drill. (Possible Suspension)
• Students forging signatures. (Possible Suspension)
• Students cheating will receive a zero grade on test/assignment (Possible Suspension)

*A written or reading assignment may be given in detention.

DETENTION VIOLATIONS

• Late for Detention----------------------------------- one additional day
• Cut Detention -------------------------------------- one additional day
• Detention Slip Not Signed and Returned ------------- one additional day
• Ignoring 10 Detentions ----------------------------- Possible Suspension

SUSPENDABLE OFFENSES

• Disrespect for authority.
• Defacing or damaging school or personal property.
• Possession of drugs, alcohol, or cigarettes.
• Possession of a dangerous weapon.
• Fighting or physical assault.
• Any disruptive behavior, which also includes verbal assault, use of drugs, alcohol, vandalism, truancy, obscene gestures, cursing, etc.
• Passive resistance/defiance.
• Cheating and forging signatures.
• Accumulation of excessive days of detention.
• Leaving school without permission.
• Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying
• Any inappropriate behavior that disrupts the learning process.
• Using a cell phone or any other electronic communication device in school after previous warning.
These lists contain a multitude of infractions, violations of school policy, and generally unacceptable behavior. It does not, however, limit disciplinary measures to only those situations listed. Behavior/conduct that is not specifically addressed in this code will be addressed on a case-by-case basis and discipline will be determined, based on the severity of the offense, by the principal. Continued disciplinary infractions MAY result in a behavior management contract in consultation with the school’s disciplinary committee.

If a child has received a detention on the day of a school trip or extracurricular activity, he/she must fulfill the detention the morning of the assigned day in order for the child to take part in the trip or activity.

We seek your cooperation with our policies and ask that you sign and return the Bayonne Board of Education POLICY MANUAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT form located on the last page of this manual and return it to your child’s teacher. Please keep the rest of the manual for your reference.
IV. Detention Assignment Slip

To the Parents/Guardians
of __________________________ Date ___________ Home Room ________

Teacher Assigning Detention ________________________________

Your son/daughter has been assigned detention at ____________ for a period of ____ day(s),
beginning on __________________

REASON(S):

1. □ Attempting to Access Unauthorized Websites
2. □ Cheating
3. □ Chewing Gum / Candy
4. □ Disrespectful
5. □ Disrupting Class / Activities
6. □ Forging Signatures
7. □ Inappropriate Attire / Headwear / Footwear
8. □ Inappropriate Behavior
9. □ Inappropriate Language
10. □ Lack of Self-Control
11. □ Littering
12. □ Misbehavior during an Assembly
13. □ Misbehavior during a Fire Drill
14. □ Misbehavior in Hallways / Stairwells
15. □ Misbehavior during a Lockdown
16. □ Not Bringing in an Absence Note
17. □ Not Crossing at the Corners
18. □ Not Returning Forms
19. □ Not Wearing School Uniform
20. □ Running in the Street
21. □ Spitting
22. □ Tardiness
23. □ Throwing or Touching Snow
24. □ Uncovered Books
25. □ Using a Cell Phone
26. □ Wearing Caps in the Building
27. □ Other

Additional Comments: ______________________________________

________________________________________________________________

If your son/daughter does not attend or is late for the assigned detention class, a more severe
disciplinary action will be taken.

Lateness for Detention – Consequence: 1 Additional Day of Detention
Cutting Detention – Consequence: 1 Additional Day of Detention
Accumulation of 10 Days of Detention Not Served – Consequence: Suspension

Please Sign and Return to school by the next day.

Parent Signature ____________________________ Date __________
Student Signature ____________________________ Date __________
V. (A) Lunchtime Guidelines

To ensure a pleasant and relaxed lunch period, the following lunch program guidelines of courteous behavior is sent to you so that there will be no misunderstanding as the year progresses:

1. Students are to remain in their assigned seats and are not to leave the building or school at any time.
2. If your child is going home for lunch every day, you must send in a note requesting permission. Please note that when you send a note requesting permission, the permission will be granted for your child to go home for lunch every day. Your child will not be permitted to remain in school for lunch during the school year.
3. Observe good table manners, do not throw or play with food, and use proper receptacles.
4. Students are not to misbehave in bathrooms or run in the hallways, gymnasium, or schoolyard.
5. Students are to be cooperative, respectful, and follow the directions of the Lunch Supervisor, Lunch Aides, Custodians, and Lunch Staff at all times.
6. Students are to be quiet when the whistle or bell sounds so that announcements can be heard.
7. Students are not to become involved in physical or verbal disagreements.
8. No glass containers for beverages are allowed.
9. Parents are not allowed in the schoolyard or lunchroom.
10. Parents are not allowed to bring their child’s lunch to school. If a child forgets his/her lunch, we will provide your child with a school lunch.
11. Please instruct your child to dress appropriately for the weather.
VI. Mandatory School Uniform

All students in grades pre-kindergarten through eight are required to arrive at school each day well groomed and neatly dressed in a **Mandatory School Uniform**. It is the student's responsibility to dress according to the approved and reasonable regulations of the Bayonne Board of Education.

The dress students wear should be appropriate, clean within reasonable limits, avoid extremism and not in any significant way be distracting to educational activities.

With the above in mind, these specific guidelines have been developed for students in grades pre-kindergarten through eight.

**Clothing and Accessories**

1. Are to be neat, clean, worn as intended, and of proper fit.
2. Should neither expose the wearer nor others to the possibility of physical harm or injury, i.e. untied laces for shoes and sneakers and clogs, earrings, bracelets, etc.
3. Hats are not to be worn in the school building at any time.
4. Coats are not to be worn during class time.
5. Shorts, skorts, and skirts must be reasonable length.
6. Jewelry, clothing, or any items of value should **NOT** be worn to school.
7. Electronic devices including radios, video cameras, iPods, MP3 players, portable games, and headsets are not permitted in school.
8. The school district **WILL NOT** assume responsibility for any stolen or lost item(s).

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**Mandatory School Uniform**

1. **Tops:** Uniform Shirt with district logo
2. **Bottoms:** khaki or **navy blue** pants, skirt, skort, walking shorts, or capri pants
3. On the days of physical education the students may wear either the mandatory school uniforms or **navy blue** sweatpants or shorts and T-shirt with the district logo

**Note:** Sweaters/sweatshirts worn in school must be a **solid navy blue** or khaki color. *(Free of any design or commercial writing/logo).*

Sweaters/sweatshirts are not required to have a district logo on them.
Additions to the Elementary School Uniform Dress Code:

- White golf type shirt – long or short sleeves with district logo
- Long sleeve khaki or navy blue t-shirt with district logo
- Short sleeve khaki or navy blue t-shirt with district logo
- Any shirt worn under the school uniform shirt (layering) must be solid white, navy blue, or khaki (stripes and all other colors are not to be worn)
- Leggings (tights) must be solid navy blue or tan (off white). Stripes and all other colors are not to be worn
- Sweatshirts must be navy blue or khaki and free of any commercial writing or logo, the only acceptable logo is the Board of Education logo. Plain navy or khaki sweatshirts may be worn
- Solid navy blue or khaki turtleneck shirts may be worn with the Board of Education logo
- Khaki Bermuda style walking shorts or khaki cargo shorts of appropriate length may be worn to school
- Khaki jumper (dress)
- Solid navy blue pants, skirts, skorts, capris, and jumpers may be worn
- For safety reasons, no open toed or backless shoes are permitted
- Flip flops are never to be worn

Elementary School Uniform Regulations

1. New students transferring into the school system will have five school days to be in uniform. Principals would handle transfers on a case-by-case basis. Receipt from the uniform supplier indicating that a uniform(s) has been ordered would be accepted and the child would not be penalized for being in non-compliance.

2. The School Uniform Policy will be in effect on the first day of the school year in September. The consequence for a first non-compliance with the school uniform policy will be detention at lunch. Detention at lunch for being non-compliant will begin on the first full day of the school term.

3. After three consecutive days of non-compliance with the School Uniform Policy, the parent will be notified and the child will be removed from all clubs, teams and activities for the remainder of the school year.

4. During the school year, any child accumulating a total of ten or more days of non-compliance with the School Uniform Policy, the parent will be notified and the child will be removed from all clubs, teams, and activities for the remainder of the school year.

5. Once a child has been removed from all school clubs, teams, and activities as a result of non-compliance with the Elementary School Uniform Policy, the parent will have one opportunity to have the child reinstated in school clubs, teams, and activities by agreeing to comply with the Elementary School Uniform Policy and have their child(ren) wear a school uniform to school each day. The parent must schedule a meeting with the school
administrator. At the meeting, the parent will be asked to sign a form indicating that they will comply with the Elementary School Uniform Policy for the remainder of the school year. Once this letter has been signed and the child(ren) begins wearing the school uniform, they will be reinstated in all school clubs, teams, and activities. Should the child (ren) accumulate a total of five days of non-compliance or three consecutive days of non-compliance, the child(ren) will be removed from all school clubs, teams, and activities for the remainder of the school year with no option of being reinstated.

6. Students will be assigned to detention at lunch on any day when the school uniform is not worn. Students who do not eat lunch in school will be assigned to the morning or after school detention program.

7. At the discretion of the school principal, School Spirit Days may be held on one school day each month. On School Spirit Day, the children may wear school spirit clothing to school.

8. Parents will have the opportunity to donate clean, used school uniform shirts back to the school on the last day of each school year when a School Spirit Day will be held.

9. School uniforms must be worn on all field trips, in parades, and at school related activities. Students participating in athletic competitions must wear team uniforms.

Opt-Out Policy:

A student may “Opt Out” of compliance with the Uniform Policy in the following situations:

1. The policy shall not preclude a student who participates in nationally recognized youth organization (i.e. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc.) from wearing their organization uniform to school on days when the organization has a scheduled meeting.

2. Accommodation will be made when it is demonstrated that the uniform, or components of the uniform, would interfere with a student’s sincerely held religious beliefs. It will be determined on a case by case basis and is to be handled in the same manner as a request for a religious exception to the dress and grooming policy that prohibits students from wearing hats in school.

3. A student who has a medical condition that prevents them from coming into contact with the materials contained in the school uniform will be allowed to wear a uniform of alternative materials or non-uniform clothing upon presentation of proper medical documentation approved by the Chief Medical Inspector of the school district.
VII. Locker Search

School Lockers are property of the Bayonne Board of Education and are subject to Search and Seizure

Random locker checks will be conducted
# 5512 Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (M)

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A. Policy Statement

The Board of Education prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of a student. A safe and civil environment in school is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards. Harassment, intimidation, or bullying, like other disruptive or violent behaviors, is conduct that disrupts both a student’s ability to learn and a school’s ability to educate its students in a safe and disciplined environment. Harassment, intimidation, or bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior that may involve a real or perceived power imbalance. Since students learn by example, school administrators, 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.

For the purposes of this Policy, the term "parent," pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.3, means the natural parent(s) or adoptive parent(s), legal guardian(s), foster parent(s), or parent surrogate(s) of a student. Where parents are separated or divorced, "parent" means the person or agency which has legal custody of the student, as well as the natural or adoptive parent(s) of the student, provided such parental rights have not been terminated by a court of appropriate jurisdiction.

B. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Definition

“Harassment, intimidation, or bullying” means any gesture, any written, verbal or physical act, or any electronic communication, as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14, whether it be a single incident or a series of incidents that:

1. Is 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 by any other distinguishing characteristic;
2. Takes place on school property, at any school-sponsored function, on a school bus, or off school grounds, as provided for in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.3;

3. Substantially disrupts or interferes with the orderly operation of the school or the rights of other students; and that

   a. A reasonable person should know, under the circumstances, that the act(s) will have the effect of physically or emotionally harming a student or damaging the student’s property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of physical or emotional harm to his/her person or damage to his/her property; or

   b. Has the effect of insulting or demeaning any student or group of students; or

   c. Creates a hostile educational environment for the student by interfering with a student’s education or by severely or pervasively causing physical or emotional harm to the student.

Schools are required to address harassment, intimidation, and bullying occurring off school grounds, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.5.

“Electronic communication” means a communication transmitted by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to: a telephone, cellular phone, computer, or pager.

C. Student Expectations

The Board expects students to conduct themselves in keeping with their levels of development, maturity and demonstrated capabilities with proper regard for the rights and welfare of other students and school staff, the educational purpose underlying all school activities and the care of school facilities and equipment consistent with the Code of Student Conduct.

The Board believes that standards for student behavior must be set cooperatively through interaction among the students, parents, school employees, school administrators, school volunteers, and community representatives, producing an atmosphere that encourages students to grow in self-discipline. The development of this atmosphere requires respect for self and others, as well as for school district and community property on the part of students, staff, and community members.
Students are expected to behave in a way that creates a supportive learning environment. The Board believes the best discipline is self-imposed, and it is the responsibility of staff to use instances of violations of the Code of Student Conduct as opportunities to help students learn to assume and accept responsibility for their behavior and the consequences of their behavior. Staff members who interact with students shall apply best practices designed to prevent student conduct problems and foster students’ abilities to grow in self-discipline.

The Board expects that students will act in accordance with the student behavioral expectations and standards regarding harassment, intimidation, and bullying, including:

1. Student responsibilities (e.g., requirements for students to conform to reasonable standards of socially accepted behavior; respect the person, property and rights of others; obey constituted authority; and respond to those who hold that authority);
2. Appropriate recognition for positive reinforcement for good conduct, self-discipline, and good citizenship;
3. Student rights; and

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15(a) and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(a)1, the district has involved a broad-base of school and community members, including parents, students, instructional staff, student support services staff, school administrators, and school volunteers, as well as community organizations, such as faith-based, health and human service, business and law enforcement, in the development of this Policy. Based on locally determined and accepted core ethical values adopted by the Board, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(a)2, the Board must develop guidelines for student conduct pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1. These guidelines for student conduct will take into consideration the developmental ages of students, the severity of the offenses and students’ histories of inappropriate behaviors, and the mission and physical facilities of the individual school(s) in the district. This Policy requires all students in the district to adhere to the rules established by the school district and to submit to the remedial and consequential measures that are appropriately assigned for infractions of these rules.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1, the Superintendent must annually provide to students and their parents the rules of the district regarding student conduct. Provisions shall be made for informing parents whose primary language is other than English.

The district prohibits active or passive support for acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Students are encouraged to support other students who:
1. Walk away from acts of harassment, intimidation, and bullying when they see them;
2. Constructively attempt to stop acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying;
3. Provide support to students who have been subjected to harassment, intimidation, or bullying; and
4. Report acts of harassment, intimidation, and bullying to the designated school staff member.

D. Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Actions

Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Actions – Students

The Board of Education requires its school administrators to implement procedures that ensure both the appropriate consequences and remedial responses for students who commit one or more acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, consistent with the Code of Student Conduct. The following factors, at a minimum, shall be given full consideration by school administrators in the implementation of appropriate consequences and remedial measures for each act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying by students.

Appropriate remedial action for a student who commits an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying that takes into account the nature of the behavior; the nature of the student's disability, if any, and to the extent relevant; the developmental age of the student; and the student’s history of problem behaviors and performance. The appropriate remedial action may also include a behavioral assessment or evaluation including, but not limited to, a referral to the Child Study Team as appropriate; and supportive interventions and referral services, including those at N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.

Factors for Determining Consequences – Student Considerations
1. Age, developmental and maturity levels of the parties involved and their relationship to the school district;
2. Degrees of harm;
3. Surrounding circumstances;
4. Nature and severity of the behavior(s);
5. Incidences of past or continuing patterns of behavior;
6. Relationships between the parties involved; and
7. Context in which the alleged incidents occurred.
Factors for Determining Consequences – School Considerations
1. School culture, climate, and general staff management of the learning environment;
2. Social, emotional, and behavioral supports;
3. Student-staff relationships and staff behavior toward the student;
4. Family, community, and neighborhood situation; and
5. Alignment with Board policy and regulations/procedures.

Factors for Determining Remedial Measures

Personal
1. Life skill deficiencies;
2. Social relationships;
3. Strengths;
4. Talents;
5. Interests;
6. Hobbies;
7. Extra-curricular activities;
8. Classroom participation;
9. Academic performance; and
10. Relationship to students and the school district.

Environmental
1. School culture;
2. School climate;
3. Student-staff relationships and staff behavior toward the student;
4. General staff management of classrooms or other educational environments;
5. Staff ability to prevent and manage difficult or inflammatory situations;
6. Social-emotional and behavioral supports;
7. Social relationships;
8. Community activities;
9. Neighborhood situation; and
10. Family situation.

Consequences for a student who commits one or more acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying may range from positive behavioral interventions up to and including suspension or expulsion of students, as set forth in the Board’s approved Code of Student Conduct pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1. Consequences for a student who commits an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying are those that are varied and graded according
to the nature of the behavior; the nature of the student’s disability, if any, and to the extent relevant; the developmental age of the student; and the student’s history of problem behaviors and performance consistent with the Board’s approved Code of Student Conduct and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7, Student Conduct. The use of negative consequences should occur in conjunction with remediation and not be relied upon as the sole intervention approach.

Remedial measures shall be designed to correct the problem behavior, prevent another occurrence of the problem, protect and provide support for the victim of the act, and take corrective action for documented systemic problems related to harassment, intimidation, or bullying. The consequences and remedial measures may include, but are not limited to, the examples listed below:

Examples of Consequences
1. Admonishment;
2. Temporary removal from the classroom;
3. Deprivation of privileges;
4. Classroom or administrative detention;
5. Referral to disciplinarian;
6. In-school suspension;
7. Out-of-school suspension (short-term or long-term);
8. Reports to law enforcement or other legal action; or

Examples of Remedial Measures

Personal – Student Exhibiting Bullying Behavior
1. Develop a behavioral contract with the student. Ensure the student has a voice in the outcome and can identify ways he or she can solve the problem and change behaviors;
2. Meet with parents to develop a family agreement to ensure the parent and the student understand school rules and expectations;
3. Explain the long-term negative consequences of harassment, intimidation, and bullying on all involved;
4. Ensure understanding of consequences, if harassment, intimidation, and bullying behavior continues;
5. Meet with school counselor, school social worker, or school psychologist to decipher mental health issues (e.g., what is happening and why?);
6. Develop a learning plan that includes consequences and skill building;
7. Consider wrap-around support services or after-school programs or services;
8. Provide social skill training, such as impulse control, anger management, developing empathy, and problem solving;
9. Arrange for an apology, preferably written;
10. Require a reflective essay to ensure the student understands the impact of his or her actions on others;
11. Have the student research and teach a lesson to the class about bullying, empathy, or a similar topic;
12. Arrange for restitution (i.e., compensation, reimbursement, amends, repayment), particularly when personal items were damaged or stolen;
13. Explore age-appropriate restorative (i.e., healing, curative, recuperative) practices; and
14. Schedule a follow-up conference with the student.

Personal – Target/Victim
1. Meet with a trusted staff member to explore the student’s feelings about the incident;
2. Develop a plan to ensure the student’s emotional and physical safety at school;
3. Have the student meet with the school counselor or school social worker to ensure he or she does not feel responsible for the bullying behavior;
4. Ask students to log behaviors in the future;
5. Help the student develop skills and strategies for resisting bullying; and
6. Schedule a follow-up conference with the student.

Parents, Family, and Community
1. Develop a family agreement;
2. Refer the family for family counseling; and
3. Offer parent education workshops related to bullying and social-emotional learning.

Examples of Remedial Measures – Environmental (Classroom, School Building, or School District)
1. Analysis of existing data to identify bullying issues and concerns;
2. Use of findings from school surveys (e.g., school climate surveys);
3. Focus groups;
4. Mailings – postal and email;
5. Cable access television;
6. School culture change;
7. School climate improvement;
8. Increased supervision in “hot spots” (e.g., locker rooms, hallways, playgrounds, cafeterias, school perimeters, buses);
9. Adoption of evidence-based systemic bullying prevention practices and programs;
10. Training for all certificated and non-certificated staff to teach effective prevention and intervention skills and strategies;
11. Professional development plans for involved staff;
12. Participation of parents and other community members and organizations (e.g., Parent Teacher Associations, Parent Teacher Organizations) in the educational program and in problem-solving bullying issues;
13. Formation of professional learning communities to address bullying problems;
14. Small or large group presentations for fully addressing the actions and the school’s response to the actions, in the context of the acceptable student and staff member behavior and the consequences of such actions;
15. School policy and procedure revisions;
16. Modifications of schedules;
17. Adjustments in hallway traffic;
18. Examination and adoption of educational practices for actively engaging students in the learning process and in bonding students to pro-social institutions and people;
19. Modifications in student routes or patterns traveling to and from school;
20. Supervision of student victims before and after school, including school transportation;
21. Targeted use of monitors (e.g., hallway, cafeteria, locker room, playground, school perimeter, bus);
22. Targeted use of teacher aides;
23. Disciplinary action, including dismissal, for school staff who contributed to the problem;
24. Supportive institutional interventions, including participation in the Intervention and Referral Services Team, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8;
25. Parent conferences;
26. Family counseling;
27. Development of a general harassment, intimidation, and bullying response plan;
28. Behavioral expectations communicated to students and parents;
29. Participation of the entire student body in problem-solving harassment, intimidation, and bullying issues;
30. Participation in peer support groups;
31. School transfers; and
32. Involvement of law enforcement officers, including school resource officers and juvenile officers or other appropriate legal action.
Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Actions – Adults

The district will also impose appropriate consequences and remedial actions to an adult who commits an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of a student. The consequences may include, but not be limited to: verbal or written reprimand, increment withholding, legal action, disciplinary action, termination, and/or bans from providing services, participating in school district-sponsored programs, or being in school buildings or on school grounds. Remedial measures may include, but not be limited to: in or out-of-school counseling, professional development programs, and work environment modifications.

Target/Victim Support

Districts should identify a range of strategies and resources that will be available to individual victims of harassment, intimidation, and bullying, and respond in a manner that provides relief to victims and does not stigmatize victims or further their sense of persecution. The type, diversity, location, and degree of support are directly related to the student’s perception of safety.

Sufficient safety measures should be undertaken to ensure the victims’ physical and social-emotional well-being and their ability to learn in a safe, supportive, and civil educational environment.

Examples of support for student victims of harassment, intimidation, and bullying include:

1. Teacher aides;
2. Hallway and playground monitors;
3. Partnering with a school leader;
4. Provision of an adult mentor;
5. Assignment of an adult “shadow” to help protect the student;
6. Seating changes;
7. Schedule changes;
8. School transfers;
9. Before- and after-school supervision;
10. School transportation supervision;
11. Counseling.
E. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Reporting Procedure

The Board of Education requires the Principal at each school to be responsible for receiving complaints alleging violations of this Policy. All Board members, school employees, and volunteers and contracted service providers who have contact with students are required to verbally report alleged violations of this Policy to the Principal or the Principal’s designee on the same day when the individual witnessed or received reliable information regarding any such incident. All Board members, school employees, and volunteers and contracted service providers who have contact with students, also shall submit a report in writing to the Principal within two school days of the verbal report.

The Principal or designee will inform the parents of all students involved in alleged incidents, and, as appropriate, may discuss the availability of counseling and other intervention services. The Principal or designee shall take into account the circumstances of the incident when providing notification to parents of all students involved in the reported harassment, intimidation, or bullying incident and when conveying the nature of the incident, including the actual or perceived protected category motivating the alleged offense. The Principal, upon receiving a verbal or written report, may take interim measures to ensure the safety, health, and welfare of all parties pending the findings of the investigation.

Students, parents, and visitors are encouraged to report alleged violations of this Policy to the Principal on the same day when the individual witnessed or received reliable information regarding any such incident.

A person may report, verbally or in writing, an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying committed by an adult or youth against a student anonymously. The Board will not take formal disciplinary action based solely on the anonymous report.

A Board member or school employee who promptly reports an incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying and who makes this report in compliance with the procedures set forth in this Policy, is immune from a cause of action for damages arising from any failure to remedy the reported incident.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-18, the harassment, intimidation, and bullying law does not prevent a victim from seeking redress under any other available law, either civil or criminal, nor does it create or alter any tort liability.
The district may consider every mechanism available to simplify reporting, including standard reporting forms and/or web-based reporting mechanisms. For anonymous reporting, the district may consider locked boxes located in areas of a school where reports can be submitted without fear of being observed.

A school administrator who receives a report of harassment, intimidation, and bullying from a district employee, and fails to initiate or conduct an investigation, or who should have known of an incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying and fails to take sufficient action to minimize or eliminate the harassment, intimidation, or bullying, may be subject to disciplinary action.

F. Anti-Bullying Coordinator, Anti-Bullying Specialist, and School Safety/School Climate Team(s)

1. The Superintendent shall appoint a district Anti-Bullying Coordinator. The Superintendent shall make every effort to appoint an employee of the school district to this position.

   The district Anti-Bullying Coordinator shall:

   a. Be responsible for coordinating and strengthening the school district’s policies to prevent, identify, and address harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students;

   b. Collaborate with school Anti-Bullying Specialists in the district, the Board of Education, and the Superintendent to prevent, identify, and respond to harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students in the district;

   c. Provide data, in collaboration with the Superintendent, to the Department of Education regarding harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students;

   d. Execute such other duties related to school harassment, intimidation, or bullying as requested by the Superintendent; and

   e. Meet at least twice a school year with the school Anti-Bullying Specialist(s) to discuss and strengthen procedures and policies to prevent, identify, and address harassment, intimidation, and bullying in the district.

2. The Principal in each school shall appoint a school Anti-Bullying Specialist. The Anti-Bullying Specialist shall be a school counselor, school psychologist, or other
certified staff member trained to be the Anti-Bullying Specialist from among the currently employed staff in the school.

The school Anti-Bullying Specialist shall:

a. Chair the School Safety/School Climate Team as provided in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-21;
b. Lead the investigation of incidents of harassment, intimidation, or bullying in the school; and
c. Act as the primary school official responsible for preventing, identifying, and addressing incidents of harassment, intimidation, or bullying in the school.

3. A School Safety/School Climate Team shall be formed in each school in the district to develop, foster, and maintain a positive school climate by focusing on the on-going systemic operational procedures and educational practices in the school, and to address issues such as harassment, intimidation, or bullying that affect school climate and culture. Each School Safety/School Climate Team shall meet, at a minimum, two times per school year. The School Safety/School Climate Team shall consist of the Principal or the Principal’s designee who, if possible, shall be a senior administrator in the school and the following appointees of the Principal: a teacher in the school; a school Anti-Bullying Specialist; a parent of a student in the school; and other members to be determined by the Principal. The school Anti-Bullying Specialist shall serve as the chair of the School Safety/School Climate Team.

The School Safety/School Climate Team shall:

a. Receive copies of all complaints of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students that have been reported to the Principal;
b. Receive copies of all reports prepared after an investigation of an incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying;
c. Identify and address patterns of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students in the school;
d. Review and strengthen school climate and the policies of the school in order to prevent and address harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students;
e. Educate the community, including students, teachers, administrative staff, and parents, to prevent and address harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students;

f. Participate in the training required pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-13 et seq. and other training which the Principal or the district Anti-Bullying Coordinator may request. The School Safety/School Climate Team shall be provided professional development opportunities that may address effective practices of successful school climate programs or approaches; and

g. Execute such other duties related to harassment, intimidation, or bullying as requested by the Principal or district Anti-Bullying Coordinator.

Notwithstanding any provision of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-21 to the contrary, a parent who is a member of the School Safety/School Climate Team shall not participate in the activities of the team set forth in 3. a., b., or c. above or any other activities of the team which may compromise the confidentiality of a student, consistent with, at a minimum, the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (20 U.S.C. Section 1232 and 34 CFR Part 99), N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7, Student Records and N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.9, Student Records.

G. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Investigation

The Board requires a thorough and complete investigation to be conducted for each report of violations and complaints which either identify harassment, intimidation, or bullying or describe behaviors that indicate harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

However, prior to initiating the investigation, the Principal, in consultation with the Anti-Bullying Specialist, shall make a preliminary determination as to whether the reported incident or complaint, assuming all facts presented are true, is a report within the scope of the definition of harassment, intimidation, and bullying under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14. The Superintendent or designee shall sign-off on the preliminary determination.

The Principal, upon making a preliminary determination the incident or complaint is not within the scope of the definition of harassment, intimidation, and bullying, shall inform the parents of the parties involved, who may appeal the preliminary determination to the Board of Education and thereafter to the Commissioner of Education in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:3. To protect the victim, the Principal shall take into account the
circumstance of the incident when providing notification to parents and guardians of all students involved in the reported harassment, intimidation or bullying incident and when conveying the nature of the incident, including the actual or perceived protected category motivating the alleged offense.

A Board hearing shall be held within ten calendar days of receipt of the request for a Board hearing. If the preliminary determination, upon review of the facts presented in the reported incident or complaint, is to continue with the harassment, intimidation, and bullying investigation, the investigation shall be completed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.b.(6) and this Policy.

The investigation shall be initiated by the Principal or the Principal’s designee within one school day of the verbal report of the incident. The investigation shall be conducted by the school Anti-Bullying Specialist in coordination with the Principal. The Principal may appoint additional personnel who are not school Anti-Bullying Specialists to assist with the investigation. Investigations or complaints concerning adult conduct shall not be investigated by a member of the same bargaining unit as the individual who is the subject of the investigation. An investigation concerning a staff member shall not be conducted by a staff member who is supervised by the staff member being investigated or who is an administrator in the district. The Principal or designee, in consultation with the Superintendent or designee, will appoint a staff member to complete these investigations.

The investigation shall be completed and the written findings submitted to the Principal as soon as possible, but not later than ten school days from the date of the written report of the incident. Should information regarding the reported incident and the investigation be received after the end of the ten-day period, the school Anti-Bullying Specialist shall amend the original report of the results of the investigation to ensure there is an accurate and current record of the facts and activities concerning the reported incident.

The Principal shall proceed in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct, as appropriate, based on the investigation findings. The Principal shall submit the report to the Superintendent within two school days of the completion of the investigation and in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act (N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq.). As appropriate to the findings from the investigation, the Superintendent shall ensure the Code of Student Conduct has been implemented and may decide to provide intervention services, order counseling, establish training programs to reduce harassment, intimidation, or bullying and enhance school climate, impose discipline, or take or recommend other appropriate action, as necessary.
The Superintendent shall report the results of each investigation to the Board of Education no later than the date of the regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting following the completion of the investigation. The Superintendent’s report shall include information on any consequences imposed under the Code of Student Conduct, any services provided, training established, or other action taken or recommended by the Superintendent.

Parents of involved student offenders and victims shall be provided with information about the investigation, in accordance with Federal and State law and regulation. The information to be provided to parents shall include the nature of the investigation, whether the district found evidence of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, and whether consequences were imposed or services provided to address the incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. This information shall be provided in writing within five school days after the results of the investigation are reported to the Board of Education.

A parent may request a hearing before the Board of Education after receiving the written information about the investigation. Any request for such a hearing shall be filed with the Board Secretary no later than sixty calendar days after the written information is provided to the parents. The hearing shall be held within ten calendar days of the request. The Board of Education shall conduct the hearing in executive session, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 et seq.), to protect the confidentiality of the students. At the hearing, the Board may hear testimony from and consider information provided by the school Anti-Bullying Specialist and others, as appropriate, regarding the incident, the findings from the investigation of the incident, recommendations for consequences or services, and any programs instituted to reduce such incidents, prior to rendering a determination.

At the regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting following its receipt of the Superintendent’s report on the results of the investigations to the Board or following a hearing in executive session, the Board shall issue a decision, in writing, to affirm, reject, or modify the Superintendent’s decision. The Board’s decision may be appealed to the Commissioner of Education, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:3, Controversies and Disputes, no later than ninety calendar days after issuance of the Board of Education’s decision.

A parent, student, or organization may file a complaint with the Division on Civil Rights within one hundred eighty calendar days of the occurrence of any incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying based on membership in a protected group as enumerated in the "Law Against Discrimination," P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.).
H. Range of Responses to an Incident of Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying

The Board shall establish a range of responses to harassment, intimidation, and bullying incidents and the Principal and the Anti-Bullying Specialist shall appropriately apply these responses once an incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying is confirmed. The Superintendent shall respond to confirmed harassment, intimidation, and bullying, according to the parameters described in this Policy. The range of ways in which school staff will respond shall include an appropriate combination of counseling, support services, intervention services, and other programs. The Board recognizes that some acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying may be isolated incidents requiring the school officials respond appropriately to the individual(s) committing the acts. Other acts may be so serious or parts of a larger pattern of harassment, intimidation, or bullying that they require a response either at the classroom, school building, or school district level or by law enforcement officials.

For every incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, the school officials must respond appropriately to the individual who committed the act. The range of responses to confirmed harassment, intimidation, or bullying acts should include individual, classroom, school, or district responses, as appropriate to the findings from each incident. Examples of responses that apply to each of these categories are provided below:

1. Individual responses can include consistent and appropriate positive behavioral interventions (e.g., peer mentoring, short-term counseling, life skills groups) intended to remediate the problem behaviors.

2. Classroom responses can include class discussions about an incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, role plays (when implemented with sensitivity to a student’s situation or involvement with harassment, intimidation, and bullying), research projects, observing and discussing audio-visual materials on these subjects, and skill-building lessons in courtesy, tolerance, assertiveness, and conflict management.

3. School responses can include theme days, learning station programs, “acts of kindness” programs or awards, use of student survey data to plan prevention and intervention programs and activities, social norms campaigns, posters, public service announcements, “natural helper” or peer leadership programs, “upstander” programs, parent programs, the dissemination of information to students and parents explaining acceptable uses of electronic and wireless communication
devices, and harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention curricula or campaigns.

4. District-wide responses can comprise of adoption of school-wide programs, including enhancing the school climate, involving the community in policy review and development, providing professional development coordinating with community-based organizations (e.g., mental health, health services, health facilities, law enforcement, faith-based organizations), launching harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention campaigns.

I. Reprisal or Retaliation Prohibited

The Board prohibits a Board member, school employee, contracted service provider who has contact with students, school volunteer, or student from engaging in reprisal, retaliation, or false accusation against a victim, witness, or one with reliable information, or any other person who has reliable information about an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying or who reports an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. The consequence and appropriate remedial action for a person who engages in reprisal or retaliation shall be determined by the administrator after consideration of the nature, severity, and circumstances of the act, in accordance with case law, Federal and State statutes and regulations, and district policies and procedures. All suspected acts of reprisal or retaliation will be taken seriously and appropriate responses will be made in accordance with the totality of the circumstances.

Examples of consequences and remedial measures for students who engage in reprisal or retaliation are listed and described in the Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Actions section of this Policy.

Examples of consequences for a school employee or a contracted service provider who has contact with students who engage in reprisal or retaliation may include, but not be limited to: verbal or written reprimand, increment withholding, legal action, disciplinary action, termination, and/or bans from providing services, participating in school district-sponsored programs, or being in school buildings or on school grounds. Remedial measures may include, but not be limited to: in or out-of-school counseling, professional development programs, and work environment modifications.

Examples of consequences for a Board member who engages in reprisal or retaliation may include, but not be limited to: reprimand, legal action, and other action authorized by statute or administrative code. Remedial measures may include, but not be limited to: counseling and professional development.
J. Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Action for False Accusation

The Board prohibits any person from falsely accusing another as a means of retaliation or as a means of harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

1. Students - Consequences and appropriate remedial action for a student found to have falsely accused another as a means of harassment, intimidation, or bullying or as a means of retaliation may range from positive behavioral interventions up to and including suspension or expulsion, as permitted under N.J.S.A. 18A:37-1 et seq., Discipline of Students and as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.2, Short-term Suspensions, N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7, Long-term Suspensions and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.5, Expulsions and those listed and described in the Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Actions section of this Policy.

2. School Employees - Consequences and appropriate remedial action for a school employee or contracted service provider who has contact with students found to have falsely accused another as a means of harassment, intimidation, or bullying or as a means of retaliation could entail discipline in accordance with district policies, procedures, and agreements which may include, but not be limited to: reprimand, suspension, increment withholding, termination, and/or bans from providing services, participating in school district-sponsored programs, or being in school buildings or on school grounds. Remedial measures may include, but not be limited to: in or out-of-school counseling, professional development programs, and work environment modifications.

3. Visitors or Volunteers - Consequences and appropriate remedial action for a visitor or volunteer found to have falsely accused another as a means of harassment, intimidation, or bullying or as a means of retaliation could be determined by the school administrator after consideration of the nature, severity, and circumstances of the act, including law enforcement reports or other legal actions, removal of buildings or grounds privileges, or prohibiting contact with students or the provision of student services. Remedial measures may include, but not be limited to: in or out-of-school counseling, professional development programs, and work environment modifications.

K. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy Publication and Dissemination

This Policy will be disseminated annually by the Superintendent to all school employees, contracted service providers who have contact with students, school volunteers, students,
and parents who have children enrolled in a school in the district, along with a statement explaining the Policy applies to all acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14 that occur on school property, at school-sponsored functions, or on a school bus and, as appropriate, acts that occur off school grounds.

The Superintendent shall ensure that notice of this Policy appears in the student handbook and all other publications of the school district that set forth the comprehensive rules, procedures, and standards for schools within the school district.

The Superintendent shall post a link to the district’s Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy that is prominently displayed on the homepage of the school district’s website. The district will notify students and parents this Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy is available on the school district’s website.

The Superintendent shall post the name, school phone number, school address, and school email address of the district Anti-Bullying Coordinator on the home page of the school district’s website. Each Principal shall post the name, school phone number, address, and school email address of both the Anti-Bullying Specialist and the district Anti-Bullying Coordinator on the home page of each school’s website.

I. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Training and Prevention Programs

The Superintendent and Principal(s) shall provide training on the school district’s Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy to current and new school employees; including administrators, instructors, student support services, administrative/office support, transportation, food service, facilities/maintenance; contracted service providers; and volunteers who have significant contact with students; and persons contracted by the district to provide services to students. The training shall include instruction on preventing bullying on the basis of the protected categories enumerated in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14 and other distinguishing characteristics that may incite incidents of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

Each public school teacher and educational services professional shall be required to complete at least two hours of instruction in harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention within each five year professional development period as part of the professional development requirement pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18:37-22.d. The required two hours of suicide prevention instruction shall include information on the risk of suicide and incidents of harassment, intimidation, or bullying and information on reducing the risk of suicide in students who are members of communities identified as having members at high risk of suicide.
Each newly elected or appointed Board member must complete, during the first year of the member’s first term, a training program on harassment, intimidation, and bullying in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:12-33.

The school district shall provide time during the usual school schedule for the Anti-Bullying Coordinator and each school Anti-Bullying Specialist to participate in harassment, intimidation, and bullying training programs.

A school leader shall complete school leader training that shall include information on the prevention of harassment, intimidation, and bullying as required in N.J.S.A. 18A:26-8.2.

The school district shall annually observe a “Week of Respect” beginning with the first Monday in October. In order to recognize the importance of character education, the school district will observe the week by providing age-appropriate instruction focusing on the prevention of harassment, intimidation, and bullying as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14. Throughout the school year the district will provide ongoing age-appropriate instruction on preventing harassment, intimidation, or bullying, in accordance with the Core Curriculum Content Standards, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-29.

The school district and each school in the district will annually establish, implement, document, and assess harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention programs or approaches, and other initiatives in consultation with school staff, students, administrators, volunteers, parents, law enforcement, and community members. The programs or approaches and other initiatives shall be designed to create school-wide conditions to prevent and address harassment, intimidation, and bullying in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-17 et seq.

M. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy Reevaluation, Reassessment and Review

The Superintendent shall develop and implement a process for annually discussing the school district’s Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy with students.

The Superintendent, Principal(s), and the Anti-Bullying Coordinator, with input from the schools’ Anti-Bullying Specialists, shall annually conduct a reevaluation, reassessment, and review of the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy, and any report(s) and/or finding(s) of the School Safety/School Climate Team(s). The Superintendent shall recommend to the Board necessary revisions and additions to the Policy consistent with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.c., as well as to harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention
programs and approaches based on the findings from the evaluation, reassessment, and review.

N. Reports to Board of Education and New Jersey Department of Education

The Superintendent shall report two times each school year, between September 1 and January 1 and between January 1 and June 30 at a public hearing all acts of violence, vandalism, and harassment, intimidation, and bullying which occurred during the previous reporting period in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46. The information shall also be reported to the New Jersey Department of Education in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46.

O. School and District Grading Requirements

Each school and each district shall receive a grade for the purpose of assessing their efforts to implement policies and programs consistent with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18:37-13 et seq. The grade received by a school and the district shall be posted on the homepage of the school’s website and the district’s website in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46. A link to the report that was submitted by the Superintendent to the Department of Education shall also be available on the school district’s website. This information shall be posted on the websites within ten days of receipt of the grade for each school and the district.

P. Reports to Law Enforcement

Some acts of harassment, intimidation, and bullying may be bias-related acts and potentially bias crimes and school officials must report to law enforcement officials either serious acts or those which may be part of a larger pattern in accordance with the provisions of the Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials.

Q. Collective Bargaining Agreements and Individual Contracts


The Board of Education prohibits the employment of or contracting for school staff positions with individuals whose criminal history record check reveals a record of
conviction for a crime of bias intimidation or conspiracy to commit or attempt to commit a crime of bias intimidation.

R. Students with Disabilities

Nothing contained in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-13.1 et seq. may alter or reduce the rights of a student with a disability with regard to disciplinary actions or to general or special education services and supports. N.J.S.A. 18A:37-32. The Anti Bullying Specialist shall consult with the relevant Child Study Team Case Manager or other staff person knowledgeable about the student’s disability in every case where a student with a disability is the alleged aggressor or victim of harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

In every case where a determination has been made that a student with either an Individuel Education Plan (IEP) or Section 504 plan is the victim of harassment, intimidation or bullying, the relevant IEP team or 504 team shall be convened to determine whether or not it is necessary to revise the existing IEP or 504 plan as per guidance issued by the United States Department of Education issued on October 21, 2014.

S. Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities (APSSD)

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.7(a).2.ix.(2), the Board of Education shall investigate a complaint or report of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.7(a).2.ix. and Section G. of this Policy, occurring on Board of Education school buses, at Board of Education school-sponsored functions, and off school grounds involving a student from the Bayonne School District who is the alleged victim of harassment, intimidation or bullying. The investigation shall be conducted by a Board of Education Anti-Bullying Specialist, in consultation with the APSSD.

T. Hazing

The Board of Education believes that hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational process and the Board prohibits all such hazing behavior at any time on school premises, at school-sponsored functions or on any school bus.

“Hazing” means the performance of any act or the coercion of another to perform any act initiation into any class, team, or organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing shall not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy. Hazing shall be investigated by the Anti Bullying Specialist to determine if the behavior
constitutes harassment, intimidation, or bullying and in such case shall be addressed pursuant to Board Policy 5512.

All staff members, pupils and school volunteers shall be alert to possible behavior, circumstances or events that might include hazing. A person who detects hazing and/or planned hazing shall immediately inform the pupils involved of the prohibition against this behavior and/or conduct and direct them to immediately cease all such behavior and/or conduct. All such incidents must be reported to the Building Principal.

The Building Principal will report to the Affirmative Action Officer and the Superintendent any incident reported from a staff member, pupil, parent, legal guardian or any other source. The building principal will also report information received from anonymous sources, however, any formal disciplinary action will not be taken solely on the basis of an anonymous report.

There will be no reprisals or retaliation against any person(s) making such report of hazing behavior. Any allegations of reprisals or retaliation shall be reported directly to the Building Principal, who will investigate such allegations and take appropriate action if the allegations are confirmed and/or if the person is found to have falsely accused another as means of retaliation or as means of hazing.

The Building Principal or designee will immediately assign any allegation of hazing to the Anti Bullying Specialist to investigate in pursuit to Board Policy 5512.

If the investigation determines hazing behavior was planned or was present, the administration will take reasonable, age-appropriate and effective action to end the behavior which may include, but is not limited to, counseling, warning, and/or disciplinary action. The administration may need to provide services to the pupil(s) that was hazed to remedy the hazing behavior.

Nothing in this Policy prohibits the Affirmative Action Officers from complying with the requirements of the district’s affirmative Action Program as outlined in Policy 1550 and N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.1 et seq.

Any pupil organization that seeks to organize and perpetuate itself by taking in members based on the decision of the membership of the organization, rather than from the free choice of any pupil who are otherwise qualified to fill the special aims of such organization, is prohibited.
The school district shall submit all subsequent amended Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policies to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools within thirty days of Board adoption.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1 et seq.; 6A:16-7.9 et seq.
Model Policy and Guidance for Prohibiting Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying on School Property, at School-Sponsored Functions and on School Buses – April 2011 – New Jersey Department of Education
X. Visitor Admissions Policy

In order to safeguard the children in our care and to protect the interests of all those who work in the school we have a policy for the admission and management of visitors to the building. It is most important that only those people who need to have access to the building are allowed to enter and that the reason for their visit and their identity is checked before they are allowed to enter the building.

To ease your visit to the school, it is required that you notify the main office prior to your arrival. By notifying the office, your visit will be logged in our visitor appointment book. When you arrive and ring the bell, you will be asked the purpose of your visit. You will notify a staff member your purpose for the visit and it will be cross referenced with our visitor appointment book.

Parents and guardians will be denied access to buildings during drop off and pick up times. Arrival time for drop off is 8:40 A.M. However, if your child is in Before Care arrival time is 7:25 A.M.

All non-emergent visitors must notify the school prior to arrival to get authorization for visits. The authorization will come from the building principal or his/her designee. We suggest that you store the school’s phone number in your cell phone.

If you arrive at school without notifying the office of your visit, access to the building may be denied or you may remain outside until we confirm your reason for the visit.

Once you have been granted access to the building, you are required to report directly to the main office where you will sign in and document your purpose of visiting. You will also be provided with a visitor’s pass if necessary.

Visitors that arrive at the school without notification will be denied access to the school until their purpose can be verified or a staff member is available to meet the visitor at the door.

All visitors will be required to present a Driver’s License or alternate proof of photo identification which will be secured in the main office until their exit from the facility.
XI. Policy Manual Acknowledgment Form

(Please sign and return to your child’s homeroom teacher.)

Dear _________________________________  Homeroom Teacher

Grade _________________________________

“We have read and understand the Responsibilities, Rights and Privileges, Mandatory School Uniform Policy, Detention Assignment Slip, Lunchtime Guidelines, Student Code of Conduct, H.I.B. Policy, and Visitor Admission Policy.”

(Student’s Name – please print)

(Student’s Signature) _________________________________ (Date)

(Parent’s Signature) _________________________________ (Date)