

POLICY GUIDE

BYLAWS

0161/page 1 of 1

Call, Adjournment, and Cancellation

Dec 22

[See POLICY ALERT No. 229]

0161 CALL, ADJOURNMENT, AND CANCELLATION

All The Board of Education meetings shall be meet in public and each Board shall hold a meeting session at least once every two months during the period in which the schools in the district are in session.

~~All meetings shall be called to commence not later than 8:00 p.m. of the day designated.~~

The Secretary of the Board shall call a special meeting of the Board whenever: requested by the President of the Board; requested by the Superintendent when the Board fails to meet within two months during the period in which the schools in the district are in session; or when presented with a petition signed by a majority of the full membership of the Board requesting the special meeting.

~~A meeting not regularly scheduled may be called by the Board Secretary at the request of the President or upon the presentation to the Board Secretary of a petition requesting a meeting and signed by a majority of the full Board.~~

The Board may at any time recess or adjourn to an adjourned meeting at a time, date, and place announced **at the time of the recess or before** the adjournment ~~takes place~~. The adjourned meeting shall take up its business at the point in the agenda where the motion to adjourn was passed.

When circumstances are such as to prevent the attendance of a majority or all of Board members or to frustrate the purpose of the meeting, a meeting may be canceled by the Board Secretary at the request of the President. Notice of the cancellation shall be given, by expedient means, to all Board members, to the Superintendent, and, whenever possible, to the newspapers in which notice of Board meetings is regularly given. If possible, written notice of the cancellation shall also be posted at the place where the canceled meeting was scheduled to occur. Notice of the cancellation shall include the date, time, and place of the next scheduled meeting. Notice of the cancellation shall be read at the next following Board meeting and shall be duly recorded in the official minute book.

N.J.S.A. 18A:10-6

N.J.A.C. 6A:32-3.1

Adopted:



POLICY GUIDE

BYLAWS
0162/page 1 of 4
Notice of Board Meetings
Dec 22

[See POLICY ALERT No. 229]

0162 NOTICE OF BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Education will give notice of all meetings in accordance with law.

Adequate Public Notice

The Board Secretary shall provide written advance notice of at least forty-eight hours, giving the time, date, location and, to the extent known, the agenda of any regular, special, or rescheduled meeting, which notice shall accurately state whether formal action may or may not be taken and which shall be prominently posted in at least one public place reserved for such or similar announcements; mailed, telephoned, telegraphed, or hand delivered to at least two newspapers which newspapers shall be designated by the public body to receive such notices because they have the greatest likelihood of informing the public within the area of jurisdiction of the public body of such meetings, one of which shall be the official newspaper, where any such has been designated by the public body or if the public body has failed to so designate, where any has been designated by the governing body of the political subdivision whose geographic boundaries are coextensive with that of the public body; and filed with the clerk of the municipality when the public body's geographic boundaries are coextensive with that of a single municipality, with the clerk of the county when the public body's geographic boundaries are coextensive with that of a single county, and with the Secretary of State if the public body has Statewide jurisdiction. Where annual notice or revisions thereof in compliance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., the Open Public Meetings Act, set forth the location of any meeting, no further notice shall be required for such meeting.

~~The Board Secretary shall notify, in writing and no later than forty-eight hours in advance of the meeting, each Board member and each person who has duly requested such notification of the time, date, location, and, to the extent it is known, the agenda of any regular, special, or rescheduled meeting. Forty-eight hour notice shall also be posted in the _____, delivered to two newspapers designated by the Board, and filed with the clerk of the~~



POLICY GUIDE

BYLAWS
0162/page 2 of 4
Notice of Board Meetings

~~_____~~, except that forty-eight hour notice is not required where the time, date, and location of the meeting has been published in the annual list of meetings approved by the Board in accordance with law.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-9, ~~u~~Upon the affirmative vote of three-quarters of the members present, the Board may **hold a meeting** ~~meet~~ notwithstanding the failure to provide adequate notice if:

1. Such meeting is required in order to deal with matters of such urgency and importance that a delay for the purpose of providing adequate notice would be likely to result in substantial harm to the public interest; and
2. The meeting is limited to discussion of and acting with respect to such matters of urgency and importance; and
3. Notice of such meeting is provided as soon as possible following the calling of such meeting by posting written notice of the same in the public place described in N.J.S.A. 10:4.8.d., and also by notifying the two newspapers described in N.J.S.A. 10:4.8.d. by telephone, telegram, or by delivering a written notice of same to such newspapers; and
4. Either the public body could not reasonably have foreseen the need for such meeting at a time when adequate notice could have been provided or although the public body could reasonably have foreseen the need for such meeting at a time when adequate notice could have been provided, it nevertheless failed to do so.

~~in the absence of adequate notice, provided that discussion and action is limited to specific and unforeseen or unforeseeable matters of such urgency and importance that delay for the provision of notice would be likely to result in substantial harm to the public interest and that notice is given as soon as possible after the call of the meeting in accordance with the provisions of law and this bylaw.~~



POLICY GUIDE

BYLAWS
0162/page 3 of 4
Notice of Board Meetings

Personal Notice of Meeting

~~The Board shall provide personal notice in writing to an adult student, the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of a minor student, an employee or officer of this district, or a prospective employee whose privacy may be invaded or whose employment may be affected by the Board's deliberations in private session.~~

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 10:4-12.b.(8), the Board may exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which the Board discusses any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of, promotion, or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the Board, unless all the individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that the matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting.

The Board will provide notice to the affected person that ~~Such personal notice~~ will include the date and time of the **closed session** ~~private~~ meeting, the subject or subjects scheduled for discussion at the **closed session** ~~private~~ meeting, and the right of the **affected person** ~~individual given notice~~ to request that the discussions be conducted at a public meeting. **Such** ~~Personal~~ notice will be given no less than **forty-eight hours** _____ ~~(days or hours)~~ in advance of the **closed session** ~~private~~ meeting.

A written request for public discussion must be ~~signed by the person making the request and must be~~ submitted to the Board Secretary prior to the commencement of the meeting. Any such properly submitted request will be granted. In the event that one or more, but fewer than all, of a group of persons whose employment will be discussed request a public meeting, the discussion regarding the person or persons who have submitted the request will be severed from the rest and will be conducted publicly.

A discussion held in public by reason of the written request of an individual will be conducted at a regularly scheduled meeting for which annual notice has been given or at a meeting for which adequate public notice has been given in accordance with law.



POLICY GUIDE

BYLAWS
0162/page 4 of 4
Notice of Board Meetings

Nothing in this ~~B~~ylaw will permit an employee to request or the Board to grant the public discussion of tenure charges or permit the public disclosure of information regarding a ~~disabled~~ student.

N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.; 10:4-8~~d~~; 10:4-9~~b~~
N.J.S.A. 18A:6-11; 18A:10-6
N.J.A.C. 6A:32-3.1

Adopted:



POLICY GUIDE

ADMINISTRATION

1648.11/page 1 of 3

The Road Forward COVID-19—Health and Safety

Dec-22

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ABOLISHED

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 224 and 229]

1648.11 THE ROAD FORWARD COVID-19—HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Board of Education plans to provide full day, full time, in person instruction and operations for the 2021-2022 school year. In June 2021, the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) and the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) worked collaboratively to develop guidance, The Road Forward—Health and Safety Guidance for the 2021-2022 School Year (The Road Forward).

The Road Forward replaces the mandatory anticipated minimum standards outlined in the NJDOE's "The Road Back—Restart and Recovery Plan for Education" (June 2020) and provides a range of recommendations rather than mandatory standards. These recommendations are meant to assist school districts in implementing protocols to reduce risks to students and staff from COVID-19 while still allowing for full time learning.

The Board considered many factors as they prepared for the 2021-2022 school year, including the level of COVID-19 transmission in the community at large and in the school community, as well as vaccination coverage rates in both the community at large and the school community.

For the purpose of this Policy, "Order" shall mean any Governor of New Jersey Executive Order, New Jersey State Agency mandate, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance, New Jersey statute, or administrative code requiring compliance by the school district.

The Board considered the recommendations outlined in The Road Forward to develop health and safety protocols. The Board will consider all recommended Orders and comply with all mandatory Orders when developing health and safety protocols and reviewing them periodically.

The Board considered the recommendations outlined in The Road Forward to develop the school district's COVID-19 protocols in the following areas and included in corresponding Appendices:



POLICY GUIDE

ADMINISTRATION

1648.13/page 1 of 3

School Employee Vaccination Requirements

Dec 22

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ABOLISHED

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 225 and 229]

1648.13 SCHOOL EMPLOYEE VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS

In accordance with Executive Order No. 253 signed by the Governor of New Jersey on August 23, 2021, the Board shall adopt and maintain a policy that requires all covered workers to either provide adequate proof that they have been fully vaccinated or submit to COVID-19 testing at a minimum of one to two times each week.

This requirement shall take effect on October 18, 2021, at which time any covered workers that have not provided adequate proof to the school district that they are fully vaccinated must submit to COVID-19 testing at a minimum of one to two times each week on an ongoing basis until fully vaccinated.

For purposes of Executive Order 253 and this Policy, "covered workers" shall include all individuals employed by the Board of Education, both full and part-time, including, but not limited to, administrators; teachers; educational support professionals; individuals providing food, custodial, and administrative support services; substitute teachers, whether employed directly by the Board of Education or otherwise contracted; contractors; providers; and any other individuals performing work in the school district whose job duties require them to make regular visits to the school district, including volunteers. Covered workers do not include individuals who visit the school district only to provide one-time or limited duration repairs, services, or construction.

A covered worker shall be considered "fully vaccinated" for COVID-19 two weeks or more after they have received the second dose in a two-dose series or two weeks or more after they have received a single-dose vaccine. Individuals will only be considered fully vaccinated after they have received a COVID-19 vaccine that is currently authorized for Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or the World Health Organization (WHO), or that are approved for use by the same.

Workers who are not fully vaccinated, or for whom vaccination status is unknown, or who have not provided sufficient proof of documentation, shall be considered unvaccinated in accordance with the provisions of Executive Order 253.



POLICY GUIDE

PROGRAM
2423/page 1 of 5
Bilingual and ESL Education
Dec 22
M

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 187, 191, 209, and 229]

2423 BILINGUAL AND ESL EDUCATION

The Board of Education will provide programs of bilingual education, English as a second language (ESL), and English language services **program** for English language learners (ELLs) as required by law and rules of the **New Jersey** State Board of Education. ELLs are those students whose native language is other than English and who have varying degrees of English language proficiency in any one of the domains of speaking, reading, writing, or listening and is synonymous with limited English speaking ability pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18:35-15 **through** ~~to~~ 26.1.

Identification of **Eligible** ELLs

The district shall use a multi-step process at the time of enrollment to determine the native language of each ELL. The district shall:

- 1. Maintain a census indicating all identified students whose native language is other than English; and**
- 2. Administer the Statewide home-language survey to determine which students in Kindergarten to grade twelve whose native language is other than English must be screened further to determine English language proficiency. The Statewide home-language survey shall be administered by a bilingual/ESL or other certified teacher and shall be designed to distinguish students who are proficient English speakers and need no further testing.**

The district shall determine the English language proficiency of all Kindergarten to grade twelve students who are not screened out and whose native language is other than English by administering an English language proficiency test, assessing the level of reading in English, reviewing the previous academic performance of students, including their performance on standardized tests in English, and reviewing the input of teaching staff members responsible for the educational program for ELLs. Students who do not meet the New Jersey Department of Education (Department) standard on a language proficiency test and who have at least one other indicator shall be considered ELLs. The district shall also use age-appropriate methodologies to identify preschool ELLs to determine their individual language development needs.



POLICY GUIDE

PROGRAM
2423/page 2 of 5
Bilingual and ESL Education

~~The Board will conduct a screening process to determine the native language of each ELL at the time of enrollment in the school district. A census shall be maintained of all identified students whose native language is other than English. The English language proficiency of each student whose native language is not English shall be determined by a screening process that includes the administration of a New Jersey Department of Education approved English language proficiency test, an assessment of the student's level of reading in English, a review of the student's previous academic performance including their performance on standardized tests in English, and a review of the input of teaching staff members responsible for the educational program for ELLs.~~

Bilingual Programs for ELLs Program Implementation

The district shall provide the following programs:

1. ~~An English language services program in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.2 to improve the English language proficiency of ELLs whenever there are at least one, but fewer than ten ELLs enrolled in the school district. English language services shall be provided in addition to the regular school program;~~
2. ~~An ESL program in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.2 that provides at least one period of ESL instruction based on student language proficiency whenever there are ten or more ELLs enrolled in the school district; and~~
3. ~~A bilingual education program in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.2 whenever there are twenty or more ELLs in any one language classification enrolled in the school district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-18. Where the age range, grade span, and/or geographical location of eligible students makes a full-time bilingual program impractical, the Board may annually offer an instructional program alternative, provided a waiver for the alternative program has been requested and approval has been granted by the Department of Education. The Board may establish a program in bilingual education for any language classification with fewer than twenty students.~~



POLICY GUIDE

PROGRAM

2423/page 3 of 5

Bilingual and ESL Education

All teachers in these programs shall be appropriately certified in accordance with the requirements as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.9. Every student participating in a bilingual, ESL, or English language services program shall be entitled to continue such participation for a period of three years pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-19.

Bilingual, English as a Second Language, and English Language Services Program Enrollment, Assessment, Exit, and Re-entry

Students enrolled in ~~the~~ a bilingual, ESL, or English language services program shall be assessed annually using **English Language Placement (ELP) assessments** ~~a New Jersey Department of Education approved English language proficiency test~~ to determine their progress in achieving English language proficiency goals and readiness for exiting the program. **Students who meet the criteria for Statewide alternate assessments, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.10(a)2., shall be assessed annually using an alternate ELP assessment.**

ELLs enrolled in the bilingual, ESL, or English language services program shall be placed in a monolingual English program when they have demonstrated readiness to ~~exit a bilingual, ESL, or English language services program through a Department-established criteria on an ELP assessment and a Department-established English language observation form.~~ **A function successfully in an English-only program.** ~~The process to determine the readiness or inability of the individual student to function successfully in the English-only program shall be initiated by the student's level of English proficiency as measured by a first achieve the New Jersey Department of Education-established English proficiency standard as measured by an ELP assessment on an English language proficiency test.~~ **The student's readiness of the student shall be further assessed by on the use basis of a Department-established English language observation form multiple indicators that considers shall include,** at a minimum: classroom performance; the student's reading level in English; the judgment of the teaching staff member or members responsible for the educational program of the student; and performance on achievement tests in English.

In accordance with provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:35-22.1, a parent may remove a student who is enrolled in a bilingual education program at any time; except that during the first three years of a student's participation in a bilingual education program, the parent may only remove the student at the end of each school year.



POLICY GUIDE

PROGRAM

2423/page 4 of 5

Bilingual and ESL Education

~~If during the first three years of a student's participation in a bilingual education program, a parent wishes to remove the student prior to the end of each school year, the removal shall must be approved by the Executive County Superintendent of Schools. If the Executive County Superintendent determines the student should remain in the bilingual education program until the end of the school year, t~~The parent may appeal the Executive County Superintendent's decision to the Commissioner of Education **or designee pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:35-19.2.**

Newly exited students who are not progressing in the mainstream English program may be considered for re-entry to bilingual and ESL programs in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.10(e)1. through (e)5.

When the review process for exiting a student from a bilingual, ESL, or English language services program has been completed, the student's parent shall be informed by mail of the placement determination. A parent or teaching staff member who disagrees with the proposed placement may appeal the decision in writing to the Superintendent of Schools or designee, who will provide a written explanation for the decision within seven working days. The complainant may appeal this decision in writing to the Board within seven calendar days of receiving the Superintendent's or designee's written explanation of the decision. The Board will review the appeal and respond in writing to the parent within forty-five calendar days of the Board's receipt of the parent's written appeal to the Board. **Upon exhausting an appeal to the Board, the A** complainant ~~not~~ **satisfied with the Board's determination of the appeal** may appeal to the Commissioner of Education.

Parental Involvement

The parents of ELLs will be notified in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.13 that their child has been identified as eligible for enrollment in a bilingual, ESL, or English language services **education** program. Notice shall be in writing and in the language in which the parent(s) possesses a primary speaking ability, and in English. The notice must also include a statement that the parents have the option of declining their child's enrollment in a bilingual program, and shall be given an opportunity to do so if they choose.

The district will notify the parents of ELLs by mail within thirty days of the child's identification.



POLICY GUIDE

PROGRAM
2423/page 5 of 5
Bilingual and ESL Education

Parents shall receive progress reports of students enrolled in bilingual, ESL, or English language services programs in the same manner and frequency as progress reports are sent to parents of other students enrolled in the district.

The Superintendent or designee will provide for the maximum practical involvement of parent(s) of ELLs in the development and review of program objectives and dissemination of information to and from the district Boards of Education and communities served by the bilingual, ESL, or English language services education programs. A ~~school~~ district that implements a bilingual education program shall establish a parent advisory committee on bilingual education of which the majority membership **shall** ~~will~~ be parents of ELLs.

Graduation

ELLs will qualify for graduation from high school in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a) and Policy 5460.

Program Plan

The Superintendent shall prepare and submit a plan for a bilingual, ESL, or English language services program every three years to the Board and the New Jersey Department of Education for approval in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.6.

N.J.S.A. 18A:35-15 through 18A:35-~~26.125~~
N.J.A.C. **6A:14-4.10**; 6A:15-1.1 et seq.

Adopted:



POLICY GUIDE

PROGRAM
2425/page 1 of 5
Emergency Virtual or Remote
Instruction Program
Oct 22
M

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 225 and 229]

2425 EMERGENCY VIRTUAL OR REMOTE INSTRUCTION PROGRAM

The Board of Education is committed to providing a high quality educational program, virtually or remotely, in the event **the State or local health department determines that it is advisable to close, or mandates closure of, the schools of a school district due to a declared state of emergency, declared public health emergency, or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure for more than three consecutive school days, the Superintendent shall have the authority to implement the school district's program of virtual or remote instruction, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9** ~~a school or the schools of the district are required to close for more than three consecutive school days due to a declared state of emergency, declared public health emergency, or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure. The district's virtual or remote program of instruction shall be in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.~~ In addition, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.b. the Commissioner of Education shall allow the district to apply to the 180-day requirement established pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.a., one or more days of virtual or remote instruction provided to students on the day or days the schools of the district were closed if the program of virtual or remote instruction meets such criteria as may be established by the Commissioner.

The school district's program of virtual or remote instruction shall be in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9; N.J.A.C. 6A:32-13.1; this Policy; and Regulation 2425.

"Remote instruction" means the provision of instruction occurring when the student and the instructor are in different locations due to the closure of the facility(ies) of the Board of Education, charter school, renaissance school project, or approved private school for students with disabilities. The closure of the facility(ies) shall be pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9 or 18A:46-21.1 and for more than three consecutive school days due to a declared state of emergency, a declared public health emergency, or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure.



POLICY GUIDE

PROGRAM
2425/page 2 of 5
Emergency Virtual or Remote
Instruction Program

“Virtual instruction” means the provision of active instruction when the student and the instructor are in different locations and instruction is facilitated through the internet and computer technologies due to the closure of the facility(ies) of the Board of Education, charter school, renaissance school project, or approved private school for students with disabilities. The closure of the facility(ies) shall be pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9 or 18A:46-21.1 and for more than three consecutive school days due to a declared state of emergency, a declared public health emergency, or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure.

~~In the event the school district is required to close a school or the schools of the district for more than three consecutive school days due to a declared state of emergency, declared public health emergency, or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure, the Commissioner of Education shall allow the district to apply to the 180-day requirement established pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9, one or more days of virtual or remote instruction provided to students on the day or days the schools of the district were closed if the program of virtual or remote instruction meets such criteria as may be established by the Commissioner of Education.~~

The Superintendent of Schools shall submit, with Board approval, the school district's program of virtual or remote instruction to the Commissioner of Education ~~by no later than October 29, 2021 and, annually thereafter~~ **annually. If the Board is unable to complete and submit a proposed program of virtual or remote instruction to the Commissioner in accordance with the timeline established by the Commissioner and the school district is required to close its schools for a declared state of emergency, declared public-health emergency, or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure, the Commissioner of Education may retroactively approve the program.**

~~If provided under the district's A-day of virtual or remote instruction, if provided instituted under the district's Commissioner of Education's approved program of virtual or remote instruction that has been approved by the Commissioner, of student attendance for a day of virtual or remote instruction, shall be accounted for in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.4 considered the~~



POLICY GUIDE

PROGRAM

2425/page 3 of 5

Emergency Virtual or Remote
Instruction Program

~~equivalent of a full day of school attendance~~ for the purposes of meeting State and local graduation requirements, the awarding of course credit, and other ~~such~~ matters as determined by the Commissioner of Education **in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:32-13.1(d).**

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:32-13.1(b), if implemented by the Superintendent, ~~Any the school district's program of virtual or remote instruction shall be provided to an enrolled implemented for the general education students, whether a general education student in preschool through grade twelve or a student with a disability aged three to twenty-one shall provide the same educational opportunities to students with disabilities. The school district shall provide students with a disability with the same educational opportunities provided to general education students to the extent appropriate and practicable. Special education and R~~related services, ~~including speech language services, counseling services, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and behavioral services,~~ may be delivered to **general education students and students with a disability** ~~disabilities~~ through the use of electronic communication or a virtual or online platform, **as appropriate** ~~and as required by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP), to the greatest extent practicable.~~

In the event the State or local health department determines it is advisable to close or mandates closure of the schools of the district due to a declared state of emergency, declared public-health emergency, or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure, the Superintendent shall have the authority to implement the school district's program of virtual or remote instruction. The Superintendent shall consult with the Board prior to such decision, if practicable. The Superintendent shall ensure that students, parents, staff, and the Board are informed promptly of the Superintendent's decision.

Nothing in N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.b., c., or d.; ~~and this Policy;~~ **and Regulation 2425** shall be construed to limit, supersede or preempt rights, privileges, compensation, remedies, and procedures afforded to public employees or a collective bargaining unit under Federal or State law or any provision of a collective bargaining agreement entered into by the school district.



POLICY GUIDE

PROGRAM
2425/page 4 of 5
Emergency Virtual or Remote
Instruction Program

In the event of the closure of a school or the schools of the district due to a declared state of emergency, declared public-health emergency, or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure for a period longer than three consecutive school days:

1. District employees shall be entitled to compensation, benefits, and emoluments pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.e.(1) and (2).
2. The district shall continue to make payments of benefits, compensation, and emoluments pursuant to the terms of a contract with a contracted service provider in effect on the date of the closure as if the services for such benefits, compensation, and emoluments had been provided, and as if the school facilities had remained open pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.e.(3).
3. The district shall be obligated to make payments for benefits, compensation, and emoluments and all payments required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-51 et seq., to an educational services commission, county special services school district, and a jointure commission, and under any shared services agreement and cooperative contract entered into with any other public entity pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.e.(4).
4. An educational services commission, county special services school district, and a jointure commission shall continue to make payments of benefits, compensation, and emoluments pursuant to the terms of a contract with a contracted service provider or a shared services agreement in effect on the date of the closure as if the services for such benefits, compensation, and emoluments had been provided, and as if the school facilities had remained open pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.e.(4).

The provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.e.(1) through (4) and 1 through 4 above shall not apply to any employee whose weekly hours of work are reduced, and to whom unemployment benefits are provided, pursuant to a shared work program approved pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 43:21-20.3 et seq. A contracted



POLICY GUIDE

PROGRAM
2425/page 5 of 5
Emergency Virtual or Remote
Instruction Program

service provider, educational services commission, county special services school district, or jointure commission shall notify the district with which it has entered into a contract to provide services of its intent to reduce the hours of work of its employees pursuant to a shared work program approved pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 43:21-20.3 et seq.

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.e.(3) and 3. above, if a contracted service provider reduces the amount that it pays to its employees providing services to a school district, and that reduction is the result of a reduction of workhours of those employees made pursuant to a shared work program approved pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 43:21-20.3 et seq., then the amount paid by the district to the contracted service provider shall be reduced by the same amount.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.e.(4) and 4. above, if an educational services commission, county special services school district, or jointure commission reduces the amount that it pays to its employees providing services to a school district, and that reduction is the result of a reduction of workhours of those employees made pursuant to a shared work program approved pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 43:21-20.3 et seq., then the amount paid by the district to the educational services commission, county special services school district, or jointure commission shall be reduced by the same amount.

This Policy may be revised as necessary by the Superintendent in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9. The school district's emergency virtual or remote instruction program shall be **posted prominently available** on the school district's website.

N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9
N.J.A.C. 6A:32-2.1; 6A:32-8.4; 6A:32-13.1

Adopted:



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS
5200/page 1 of 2
Attendance
Dec 22
M

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 176, 203, 205, 220, and 229]

5200 ATTENDANCE

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25, every parent, ~~guardian~~, or other person having control and custody of a child between the ages of six and sixteen shall cause the child to regularly attend school. The Board of Education requires students enrolled in the school district attend school regularly in accordance with the laws of the State.

For the purpose of this Policy and Regulation 5200, “parent” means the natural parent(s), adoptive parent(s), legal guardian(s), resource family parent(s), or surrogate parent(s) of a student. When parents are separated or divorced, “parent” means the person or agency who has legal custody of the student, as well as the natural or adoptive parent(s) of the student, provided parental rights have not been terminated by a court of appropriate jurisdiction.

Notwithstanding the requirement of reporting student absences in the school register for State and Federal reporting purposes, “excused” and “unexcused” student absences, for the purpose of expectations and consequences regarding truancy, student conduct, promotion, **retention**, and the award of course credit is a ~~local~~ Board decision outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6 and Policy and Regulation 5200. In accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6 and for the purposes of Policy and Regulation 5200, a student’s absence from school will either be excused or unexcused. Unexcused absences will count toward truancy.

A parent or adult student shall provide advance notice to the school prior to the student being absent from school. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-25.6, if a student is determined to be absent from school without valid excuse, and if the reason for the student’s absence is unknown to school personnel, the Principal or designee shall immediately attempt to contact the student’s parent to notify the parent of the absence and determine the reason for the absence.

Students that are absent from school for any reason are responsible for the completion of assignments missed because of their absence. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-14, a student who is absent from school for observing a religious holiday shall not be deprived of any award, eligibility, or opportunity to compete



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS
5200/page 2 of 2
Attendance

for any award, or deprived of the right to take an alternate test or examination that was missed because of the absence provided there is a written excuse of such absence signed by the parent.

Prolonged or repeated absences, excused or unexcused, from school or from class, deprive students of the educational and classroom experiences deemed essential to learning and may result in retention at grade level

[For districts with secondary school(s)]

or loss of credit or removal from a course that would count toward the high school diploma in accordance with policies of this Board.]

Students shall be subjected to the school district's response for unexcused absences that count toward truancy during the school year as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6(a)4. and Regulation 5200.

Unexcused absences from school or from classes within the school day may subject a student to consequences that may include the denial of a student's participation in co-curricular activities and/or athletic competition. Repeated absences from school interfere with efforts of the Board and its staff in the maintenance of good order and the continuity of classroom instruction and such absences may result in the removal of the student from a class or course of study.

The Superintendent shall calculate and monitor the average daily attendance rate for the district and for each school in the district. Whenever the average daily attendance rate does not meet the New Jersey Department of Education requirements the Superintendent or designee shall develop a district improvement plan to improve student attendance pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:30-5.2.

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-14; 18A:36-25.6; 18A:38-25; **18A:38-25.1;**

18A:38-25.2; 18A:38-26

N.J.S.A. 34:2-21.1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6; 6A:30-5.2; **6A:32-8; 6A:32-13** ~~6A:32-8.3~~

Adopted:



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 1 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or and~~ Bullying

Oct 22

M

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 188, 193, 194, 200,
216, 227, and 229]

5512 HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, ~~OR AND~~ BULLYING

Table of Contents

<u>Section</u>	<u>Section Title</u>
A.	Prohibiting Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying Policy Statement
B.	Definition of Harassment, Intimidation, or and Bullying Definition
C.	Student Behavior Expectations
D.	Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Actions
E.	Reporting Harassment, Intimidation, or and Bullying Reporting Procedure
F.	Anti-Bullying Coordinator, Anti-Bullying Specialist, and School Safety/School Climate Team(s)
G.	Investigating Allegations of Harassment, Intimidation, or and Bullying Investigation
H.	Responding Range of Responses to an Incident of Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying
I.	Reprisal or Retaliation Prohibited
J.	Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Action for False Accusations of Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying
K.	Additional Policy Requirements Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy Publication and Dissemination



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 2 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or and~~ Bullying

- L. Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or and~~ Bullying Training and Prevention Programs
- M. ~~Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy Reevaluation, Reassessment, and Review~~
- MN. Reports to Board of Education and New Jersey Department of Education
- NØ. School and District Grading Requirements
- OP. Reports to Law Enforcement
- PQ. Collective Bargaining Agreements and Individual Contracts
- QR. Students with Disabilities
- S. ~~Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities (APSSD)~~
- A. **Prohibiting Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying Policy Statement**

The Board of Education prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of a student. **The Board has determined that a** A safe and civil environment in school is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards; ~~h~~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); adoptive parent(s); legal guardian(s); **resource family** ~~foster~~ parent(s); or parent surrogate(s) of a student. When parents are separated or divorced, "parent" means the



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 3 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or and~~ Bullying

person or agency which has legal custody of the student, as well as the natural or adoptive parent(s) of the student, provided parental rights have not been terminated by a court of appropriate jurisdiction.

B. Definition of Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or 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 their person or damage to their 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.



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 4 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or and~~ Bullying

The Board recognizes that bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior that may involve a real or perceived power imbalance. Recognizing “a real or perceived power imbalance” may assist school officials in identifying harassment, intimidation, or bullying within the context and relative positions of the alleged aggressor and target.

“Electronic communication” means a communication transmitted by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, cellular phone, computer, or remotely activating paging device (N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.3).

In accordance with the Board of Education’s Code of Student Conduct and this Policy, all acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying that occur off school grounds, such as “cyber-bullying” (e.g., the use of electronic means to harass, intimidate, or bully) is addressed in this Policy.

~~Schools are required to address harassment, intimidation, and bullying occurring off school grounds, when there is a nexus between the harassment, intimidation, and bullying and the school (e.g., the harassment, intimidation, or bullying substantially disrupts or interferes with the orderly operation of the school or the rights of other students).~~

~~“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~~ Behavior

The Board of Education expects students to conduct themselves in keeping with their levels of development, maturity, and demonstrated capabilities, with a 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.



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 5 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

The Board believes that standards for student behavior must be set cooperatively through interaction among the ~~students~~, parents **and other community representatives**, school ~~administrators employees~~, school ~~employees administrators~~, school volunteers, **and students of the school district** ~~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 **that** it is the responsibility of staff to use instances of violations of the Code of Student Conduct as opportunities **for helping 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, ~~or~~ 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
4. Sanctions and due process for violations of the Code of Student Conduct.



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 6 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or and~~ Bullying

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, **school employees, volunteers, students, and community representatives** ~~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.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1, ~~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 **developed** ~~must develop~~ guidelines for student conduct, **taking** ~~pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1.~~ ~~These guidelines for student conduct will take into consideration~~ **the nature of the behavior; the nature of the student's disability, if any and to the extent relevant;** 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 **shall** ~~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. **The school district will** ~~Students are encouraged to support other~~ students who:

1. Walk away from acts of harassment, intimidation, ~~or 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, ~~or and~~ bullying to the designated school staff member.



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 7 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

D. Consequences and ~~Appropriate~~ Remedial Actions

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, **and the consequences and remedial responses for staff members who commit one or more acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying.** ~~The following factors, at a minimum, shall be given full consideration by the school administrators in the implementation of appropriate consequences and remedial measures for each act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying by students.~~

In every incident found to be harassment, intimidation, or bullying, the school Principal, in consultation with appropriate school staff, may apply disciplinary consequences and/or remedial actions, such as the provision of counseling, behavioral interventions, or other measures.

Appropriate consequences and remedial actions are those that are graded according to the severity of the offenses; consider the developmental ages of the student offenders; the nature of the student's disability, if any and to the extent relevant; and the students' histories of inappropriate behaviors, per the Code of Student Conduct and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.

The following factors, at a minimum, shall be given full consideration by the school administrators in the implementation of appropriate consequences and remedial measures for each act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying by students.

Factors for Determining Consequences

- **Age, disability (if any and to the extent relevant), developmental and maturity levels of the parties involved and their relationship to the school district;**
- **Degrees of harm;**
- **Surrounding circumstances;**
- **Nature and severity of the behaviors;**
- **Incidences of past or continuing patterns of behavior;**
- **Relationships between the parties involved; and**
- **Context in which the alleged incidences occurred.**



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 8 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, or and Bullying

Factors for Determining Remedial Measures

Personal:

- Life skill deficiencies;
- Social relationships;
- Strengths;
- Talents;
- Traits;
- Interests;
- Hobbies;
- Extra-curricular activities;
- Classroom participation;
- Academic performance;
- Relationship to peers; and
- Relationship between student/family and the school district.

Environmental:

- School culture;
- School climate;
- Student-staff relationships and staff behavior toward the student;
- General staff management of classrooms or other educational environments;
- Staff ability to prevent and manage difficult or inflammatory situations;
- Availability of programs to address student behavior;
- Social-emotional and behavioral supports;
- Social relationships;
- Community activities;
- Neighborhood situation; and
- Family situation.

Examples of Consequences and Remedial Measures

The consequences and remedial measures may include, but are not limited to, the examples listed below:



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 9 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

Examples of Consequences:

- Admonishment;
- Temporary removal from the classroom (any removal of .5 days or more must be reported in the Student Safety Data System);
- Deprivation of privileges;
- Classroom or administrative detention;
- Referral to disciplinarian;
- In-school suspension during the school week or the weekend;
- Out-of-school suspension (short-term or long-term);
- Reports to law enforcement or other legal action;
- Expulsion; and
- Bans from receiving certain services, participating in school-district-sponsored programs or being in school buildings or on school grounds.

Examples of Remedial Measures

Personal:

- Restitution and restoration;
- Peer support group;
- Recommendations of a student behavior or ethics council;
- Corrective instruction or other relevant learning or service experience;
- Supportive student interventions, including participation of the Intervention and Referral Services Team, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8;
- Behavioral assessment or evaluation, including, but not limited to, a referral to the Child Study Team, as appropriate;
- Behavioral management plan, with benchmarks that are closely monitored;
- Assignment of leadership responsibilities (e.g., hallway or bus monitor);
- Involvement of school "disciplinarian;"
- Student counseling;



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 10 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

- Parent conferences;
- Alternative placements (e.g., alternative education programs);
- Student treatment; and
- Student therapy.

Environmental (Classroom, School Building, or School District):

- School and community surveys or other strategies for determining the conditions contributing to HIB;
- School culture change and school climate improvement;
- Adoption of research-based, systemic bullying prevention programs;
- School policy and procedures revisions;
- Modifications of schedules;
- Adjustments in hallway traffic;
- Modifications in student routes or patterns traveling to and from school;
- Supervision of student before and after school, including school transportation;
- Targeted use of monitors (e.g., hallway, cafeteria, locker room, playground, school perimeter, bus);
- Teacher aides;
- Small or large group presentations for fully addressing the behaviors and the responses to the behaviors;
- General professional development programs for certificated and non-certificated staff;
- Professional development plans for involved staff;
- Disciplinary action for school staff who contributed to the problem;
- Supportive institutional interventions, including participation of the Intervention and Referral Services Team, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8;
- Parent conferences;
- Family counseling;
- Involvement of parent-teacher organizations;
- Involvement of community-based organizations;
- Development of a general bullying response plan;
- Recommendations of a student behavior or ethics council;



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 11 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

- Peer support groups;
- Alternative placements (e.g., alternative education programs);
- School transfers; and
- Law enforcement (e.g., safe schools resource officer, juvenile officer) involvement or other legal action.

Consequences and appropriate remedial actions for a student or staff member 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.

~~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.~~

~~Consequences—Students~~

~~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.~~

~~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;~~



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 12 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

- ~~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.~~

~~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~~
- ~~9. — Expulsion.~~

~~In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.b.(4), the consequences for a student who commits an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying may vary depending on whether it is the first act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying by a student, the second act, or third or subsequent acts. If it is the third or subsequent act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying by a student, T~~**he Principal, in consultation with appropriate school staff, shall develop an individual student intervention plan when a student is found to be an offender in three harassment, intimidation, or bullying incidents and each subsequent incident occurring within one school year. The student intervention plan may include disciplinary consequences and/or remedial actions and may require the student, accompanied by a parent, to satisfactorily complete a class or training**



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 13 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, or and Bullying

program to reduce harassment, intimidation, or bullying behavior. Each student intervention plan must be approved by the Superintendent which shall be approved by the Superintendent or designee, and may require the student, accompanied by a parent, to complete in a satisfactory manner a class or training program to reduce harassment, intimidation, or bullying behavior.

While the majority of incidents may be addressed solely by school officials, the Superintendent or designee and the Principal shall report a harassment, intimidation, or bullying incident to law enforcement officials if the conduct rises to the level of a mandatory report as outlined in the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials.

Appropriate Remedial Actions—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 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.



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 14 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

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.~~

~~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 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 they 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;~~



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 15 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, or and Bullying

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 their 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 they do 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.



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 16 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, **or** and Bullying

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;~~



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 17 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

- ~~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. Recommendations of a student behavior or ethics council;~~
- ~~31. Participation in peer support groups;~~
- ~~32. School transfers; and~~
- ~~33. 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.~~



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 18 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or and~~ Bullying

~~Sufficient safety measures should be undertaken to ensure the victim's 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; and~~
- ~~12. Treatment or therapy.~~

E. **Reporting** Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or and~~ Bullying **Reporting Procedure**

The Board of Education requires the Principal at each school to be responsible for receiving **all** complaints alleging **harassment, intimidation, or bullying committed by an adult or youth against a student** ~~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 acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying** ~~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 **New Jersey Department of Education-approved HIB 338 Form** ~~report in writing~~ to the Principal within two school days of the verbal report. **Failure to make the required report(s) may result in disciplinary action.** The ~~written report shall be on a numbered form developed by the New Jersey Department of Education in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.b.(5). A copy of the form shall be submitted promptly by the Principal to the~~



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 19 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

~~Superintendent.~~ **The HIB 338 Form shall be kept on file at the school, but shall not be included in any student record unless the incident results in disciplinary action or is otherwise required to be contained in a student's record under State or Federal Law.**

The district may not fail to initiate an investigation of harassment, intimidation, or bullying solely because written documentation was not provided. Failing to conduct a harassment, intimidation, or bullying investigation solely because a parent or student did not submit written documentation violates the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act and this Policy. If a parent makes a verbal allegation of harassment, intimidation, or bullying to a district staff member, but does not complete and submit the HIB 338 Form, the staff member or a designee must complete and submit the HIB 338 Form.

~~The Principal or designee is required to 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 keep a written record of the date, time, and manner of notification to the parents.~~ **Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.7(a)2.viii.(2), when providing notification to the parents of all students involved, tThe 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 or designee shall keep a written record of the date, time, and manner of notification to the parents.**

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 acts violations of harassment, intimidation, or bullying this Policy to the Principal or designee on the same day when the individual witnessed or received reliable information regarding any such incident. The school district shall provide a person an online means to complete the HIB



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 20 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or and~~ Bullying

338 Form to anonymously report an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Formal action for violations of the Code of Student Conduct may not be taken solely on the basis of an anonymous report.

~~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. The district shall provide a means for a parent to complete an online numbered form developed by the New Jersey Department of Education to confidentially report an incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying.~~

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.

The Principal shall promptly submit a copy of each completed HIB 338 Form to the Superintendent.

~~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, **in addition to making the HIB 338 Form available online**, 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, ~~or and~~ bullying **or who determines a reported incident or complaint, assuming all facts presented are true, is a report within the scope of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14** ~~from a district employee~~, and fails to initiate or conduct an investigation, or who should have known of an incident of



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 21 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

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. **The district also should consider procedures and disciplinary action when it is found that someone had information regarding a harassment, intimidation, or bullying incident, but did not make the required report(s).**

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, ~~or~~ and bullying in the district.



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 22 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

2. The Principal in each school shall appoint a school Anti-Bullying Specialist. The Anti-Bullying Specialist shall be a guidance 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 records of all complaints of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students that have been reported to the Principal;



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 23 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

- 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. Investigating Allegations of Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying
~~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.~~



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 24 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, or ~~and~~ Bullying

Select Option 1 or Option 2

[Option 1 – Investigate All Reports

The Board of Education requires a thorough and complete investigation to be conducted for each report of an alleged incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. All details of an alleged incident must be populated into the HIB 338 Form. However, completing the form shall not delay beginning the investigation in accordance with the law.

The HIB 338 Form shall be kept on file at the school and will only be added to a student record if the alleged incident is founded, disciplinary action is imposed or is otherwise required to be contained in a student's record under State or Federal law.

The investigation shall be initiated by the Principal or designee within one school day of the verbal report of the incident. The investigation shall be conducted by the school anti-bullying specialist appointed by the Principal. The Principal may appoint additional personnel who are not school anti-bullying specialists to assist the school anti-bullying specialist in the investigation. Investigations of 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. The anti-bullying specialist may not participate in an investigation regarding their supervisor or staff at a higher administrative level.

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 alleged incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying or from the date of the written notification from the Superintendent to the Principal to initiate an investigation. Should information regarding the reported incident and the investigation be received after the end of the ten-day period, the school anti-bullying specialist or the Principal 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.



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 25 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, or ~~and~~ Bullying

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 provide intervention services; order counseling; establish training programs to reduce harassment, intimidation, or bullying and enhance school climate; or take or recommend other appropriate action, including seeking further information as necessary.

The Superintendent shall report the results of each investigation to the Board no later than the date of the regularly scheduled Board meeting following the completion of the investigation. The Superintendent's report also shall include information on any consequences imposed under the Code of Student Conduct; intervention services provided; counseling ordered; training established; or other action taken or recommended by the Superintendent.

Parents of students who are parties to the investigation shall be provided with information about the investigation, in accordance with Federal and State law and regulation. The information to be provided to parents includes the nature of the investigation, whether the district found evidence of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, or 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. The district may not divulge personally identifying information or any information that could result in the identification of any student other than the child of the parents being notified.

A parent may request a hearing before the Board after receiving the information. Any request by the parents for a hearing before the Board concerning the written information about a harassment, intimidation, or bullying investigation, pursuant to N.J.S.A.



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 26 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, or ~~and~~ Bullying

18A:37-15b(6)(d), must be filed with the Board Secretary no later than sixty calendar days after the written information is received by the parents. The hearing shall be held within ten business days of the request. Prior to the hearing, the Superintendent shall confidentially share a redacted copy of the HIB 338 Form that removes all student identification information with the Board. The Board 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 alleged incident; the findings from the investigation of the alleged incident; recommendations for consequences or services; and any programs instituted to reduce such incidents, prior to rendering a determination.

At the regularly scheduled Board meeting following its receipt of the report 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, no later than ninety days after the issuance of the Board's decision.

A school administrator who receives a report of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, or who determines a reported incident or complaint, assuming all facts presented are true, is a report within the scope of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14 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 harassment, intimidation, or bullying, may be subject to disciplinary action.

The Board also requires the thorough investigation of complaints or reports of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, occurring on district school buses, at district school-sponsored functions, and off school grounds involving a student who attends an approved private school for students with disabilities. The investigation will be conducted by the Board's anti-bullying specialist in consultation with the approved private school for students with disabilities.]



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 27 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, or ~~and~~ Bullying

[Option 2 – Principal’s Preliminary Determination

Prior to initiating an investigation regarding a reported incident or complaint, the Principal or designee, in consultation with the anti-bullying specialist, shall make a preliminary determination as to whether a reported incident or complaint, assuming all facts are presented as true, is a report within the scope of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14.

Should the Principal or designee, in consultation with the anti-bullying specialist, determine that a reported incident or complaint, assuming all facts presented are true, is not a report within the scope of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14, the incident will be addressed through the Board’s Code of Student Conduct policy. The HIB 338 Form shall be completed, even if a preliminary determination is made not to conduct an investigation of harassment, intimidation, or bullying because the reported incident or complaint is a report outside the scope of the definition of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, and must be submitted to the Superintendent. The Principal will provide the parents of the alleged offender(s) and victim(s) with formal notice of the decision not to initiate a harassment, intimidation, or bullying investigation.

The HIB 338 Form shall be kept on file at the school and will only be added to a student record if the alleged incident is founded, disciplinary action is imposed or is otherwise required to be contained in a student’s record under State or Federal law.

The Superintendent may require the Principal to conduct a harassment, intimidation, or bullying investigation of the incident if the Superintendent determines that the incident is within the scope of harassment, intimidation, or bullying and shall notify the Principal of this determination in writing. Should the Superintendent require the Principal to conduct a harassment, intimidation, or bullying investigation, the Principal will immediately initiate an investigation of harassment, intimidation, or bullying by referring the matter to the school anti-bullying specialist.



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 28 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, or ~~and~~ Bullying

Additionally, any preliminary determination that finds the incident or complaint is a report outside the scope of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14 may be appealed to the Board, pursuant to the Board policies and procedures governing student grievances, and thereafter to the Commissioner (N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.7(a)ix(1) and (a)ix(1)(A)). Should the preliminary determination not to conduct an investigation of harassment, intimidation, or bullying be overturned, the Principal will immediately initiate an investigation of harassment, intimidation, or bullying by referring the matter to the school anti-bullying specialist.

The Board requires a thorough and complete investigation to be conducted for each reported incident or complaint, assuming all facts presented are true, that is determined to be a report within the scope of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14. The investigation shall be initiated by the Principal or designee within one school day of the verbal report of the incident. The investigation shall be conducted by the school anti-bullying specialist appointed by the Principal. The Principal may appoint additional personnel who are not school anti-bullying specialists to assist the school anti-bullying specialist in the investigation. Investigations of 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. The anti-bullying specialist may not participate in an investigation regarding their supervisor or staff at a higher administrative level.

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 alleged incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying or ten school days from the date of the written notification from the Superintendent to the Principal to initiate an investigation. Should information regarding the reported incident and the investigation be received after the end of the ten-day period, the school anti-bullying specialist or the Principal 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



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 29 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, or ~~and~~ Bullying

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 provide intervention services, order counseling, establish training programs to reduce harassment, intimidation, or bullying and enhance school climate, or take or recommend other appropriate action, including seeking further information as necessary.

The Superintendent shall report the results of each investigation to the Board no later than the date of the regularly scheduled Board meeting following the completion of the investigation. The Superintendent's report also shall include information on any consequences imposed under the Code of Student Conduct, intervention services provided, counseling ordered, training established or other action taken or recommended by the Superintendent.

Parents of the students who are parties to the investigation shall be provided with information about the investigation, in accordance with Federal and State law and regulation. The information to be provided to parents includes the nature of the investigation, whether the district found evidence of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, or 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.

A parent may request a hearing before the Board after receiving the information. Any request by the parents for a hearing before the Board concerning the written information about a harassment, intimidation, or bullying investigation, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15(b)(6)(d), must be filed with the Board Secretary no later than sixty calendar days after the written information is received by the parents. The hearing shall be held within ten business days of the request. Prior to the hearing, the Superintendent shall confidentially share a redacted copy of the HIB 338 Form that removes all student identification information with the Board. The Board shall



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 30 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

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 alleged incident; the findings from the investigation of the alleged incident; recommendations for consequences or services; and any programs instituted to reduce such incidents, prior to rendering a determination.

At the regularly scheduled Board meeting following its receipt of the report 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, no later than ninety days after the issuance of the Board's decision.

A school administrator who receives a report of harassment, intimidation, or bullying 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.

The Board also requires the thorough investigation of complaints or reports of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, occurring on district school buses, at school-sponsored functions, and off school grounds involving a student who attends an approved private school for students with disabilities. The investigation will be conducted by the Board's anti-bullying specialist in consultation with the approved private school for students with disabilities.]

~~[Option—Principal's Preliminary Determination~~

~~However, prior to initiating the investigation, the Principal or designee, in consultation with the Anti-Bullying Specialist, may 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.~~



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 31 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

~~The Principal shall report to the Superintendent if a preliminary determination is made that the reported incident or complaint is a report outside the scope of the definition of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. The Superintendent may require the Principal to conduct an investigation of the incident if the Superintendent determines that an investigation is necessary because the incident is within the scope of the definition of harassment, intimidation, and bullying. The Superintendent shall notify the Principal of this determination in writing. An investigation required by the Superintendent must be completed as soon as possible, but not later than ten school days, from the date of the written notification from the Superintendent to the Principal.~~

~~The Principal shall complete the written report form developed by the New Jersey Department of Education, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.b.(5), even if a preliminary determination is made that the reported incident or complaint is a report outside the scope of the definition of harassment, intimidation, or bullying pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14. This written report form shall be kept on file at the school, but shall not be included in any student record unless the incident results in disciplinary action or is otherwise required to be contained in a student's record under State or Federal law.~~

~~The Principal or designee, 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.~~

~~A Board hearing shall be held within ten business 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 Superintendent shall provide annually to the Board of Education information on the number of times a preliminary determination was made that an incident or complaint was outside the scope of the definition of harassment, intimidation, or bullying for the purposes of the State's monitoring of the school district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46.]~~



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 32 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

~~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. The Superintendent or designee will appoint a staff member to complete investigations involving allegations against a staff member serving in a supervisory or administrative position.~~

~~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 as a result of the finding of the investigation, establish training programs to reduce harassment, intimidation, or bullying and enhance school climate, impose discipline, or take or recommend other appropriate action, including seeking further information, 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~~



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 33 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

~~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 targets/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 business 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. A redacted copy of the completed written report form developed by the New Jersey Department of Education that removes all student identification information shall be confidentially shared with the Board of Education after the conclusion of the investigation if a hearing with the Board of Education is requested by the parents pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.b.(6)(d).~~

~~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~~



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 34 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or and~~ Bullying

~~Commissioner of Education, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:3, Controversies and Disputes, no later than ninety 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 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. ~~Responding to Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying Range of Responses to an Incident of Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying~~

The Board of Education authorizes the Principal of each school to **define the range of ways in which school staff will respond once an incident of** ~~shall establish a range of responses to~~ harassment, intimidation, ~~or and~~ **bullying is confirmed, and the Superintendent shall respond to confirmed harassment, intimidation, or bullying, according to the parameters described below and in this Policy.** ~~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~~ **that** 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 levels or by law enforcement officials. **Consequences and appropriate remedial actions for a student who commits an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying may range from positive behavioral interventions up to and including suspension or expulsion, as permitted under N.J.S.A. 18A:37, Discipline of Pupils and as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.2, Short-term suspensions, N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3, Long-term suspensions, and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.4, Expulsions.**



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 35 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

In considering whether a response beyond the individual is appropriate, school officials shall consider the nature and circumstances of the act; the degree of harm; the nature and severity of the behavior; past incidences or past or continuing patterns of behavior; and the context in which the alleged incident(s) occurred. Institutional (i.e., classroom, school building, school district) responses can range from school and community surveys, to mailings, to focus groups, to adoption of research-based harassment, intimidation, or bullying prevention program models, to training for certificated and non-certificated staff, to participation of parents and other community members and organizations, to 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, and to the involvement of law enforcement officers, including safe schools resource officers.

This Policy and the Code of Student Conduct shall apply to instances when a school employee is made aware of alleged harassment, intimidation, or bullying occurring off school grounds.

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) **and punitive actions (e.g., detention, in-school or out-of-school suspension, expulsion, law enforcement report or other legal action)** ~~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



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 36 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

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 and information disseminated to students and parents, such as fact sheets or newsletters the dissemination of information to students and parents explaining acceptable uses of electronic and wireless communication devices or strategies for fostering expected student behavior, and harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention curricula or campaigns.~~
4. District-wide responses can **include community involvement in policy review and development; professional development programs; adoption of curricular and school-wide programs, coordination** ~~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 officials, faith-based organizations); and disseminating information on the core ethical values adopted by the Board’s Code of Student Conduct, per N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(a)2 launching harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention campaigns.~~

In providing support for victims of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, the district should identify a range of strategies and resources, which may include, but is not limited to, the following actions for individual victims:



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 37 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, **or** ~~and~~ Bullying

- **Counseling;**
- **Teacher Aides;**
- **Hallway and playground monitors;**
- **Schedule changes;**
- **Before and after school supervision;**
- **School transportation supervision;**
- **School transfers; and**
- **Therapy.**

I. Reprisal or Retaliation ~~Prohibited~~

The Board of Education 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.~~



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 38 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

~~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 Accusations of~~ **Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying**

The Board **of Education** 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 **could** ~~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 **Pupils** Students and as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.2, Short-term sSuspensions, N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3, Long-term sSuspensions, and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.4, 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; **and 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.~~



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 39 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

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. **Additional Policy Requirements** ~~Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy Publication and Dissemination~~

The Board of Education requires the Superintendent to annually disseminate this Policy 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 school district, along with a statement explaining that this 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 post a link to this Policy that is prominently displayed on the home page of the school district's website. 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 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. Additionally, the Superintendent shall post the contact information for the School Climate State Coordinator on the school district home page alongside this Policy.



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 40 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

Each Principal or designee shall post the name, school phone number, school address, and school email address of both the school anti-bullying specialist and the district anti-bullying coordinator on the home page of each school's website.

The Superintendent shall post the New Jersey Department of Education's Guidance for Parents on the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act on the district homepage and on the homepage for each school in the district with a website.

The Superintendent and the Principal(s) shall provide training on the school district's harassment, intimidation, or bullying policies to school employees contracted service providers and volunteers who have significant contact with 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. The school district's employee training program shall include information regarding the school district policy against harassment, intimidation, or bullying, which shall be provided to full-time and part-time staff, contracted service providers and school volunteers who have significant contact with students.

The Superintendent shall develop and implement a process for annually discussing this Policy on harassment, intimidation, or bullying with students. The Superintendent and the Principal(s) shall annually conduct a re-evaluation, reassessment, and review of this Policy and any report(s) and/or finding(s) of the school safety/school climate team, with input from the school anti-bullying specialists, and recommend revisions and additions to this Policy as well as to harassment, intimidation, or bullying prevention programs and approaches based on the findings from the evaluation, reassessment, and review.



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 41 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or~~ and Bullying

~~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 or designee 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. The Superintendent or designee shall post the contact information for the New Jersey School Climate State Coordinator on the school district's and on each school's website in the same location as this Policy is posted.~~

~~The Superintendent or designee shall post on the school district's and each school's website the current version of "Guidance for Parents on the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act" developed by the New Jersey Department of Education.~~



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 42 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or and~~ Bullying

L. Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or 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, ~~or 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, ~~or 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, ~~or and~~ bullying as required in N.J.S.A. 18A:26-8.2.



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 43 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or and~~ Bullying

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, ~~or 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 **New Jersey Student Learning 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, ~~or 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, ~~or and~~ bullying in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-17.

~~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.~~



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 44 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or and~~ Bullying

MN. 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, ~~or 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.

NO. 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.

OP. Reports to Law Enforcement

The Superintendent or designee and the Principal shall consult law enforcement, as appropriate, pursuant to the provisions of the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials, if the student's behavior may constitute a possible violation of the New Jersey Code of Criminal Justice.

Some acts of harassment, intimidation, ~~or and~~ bullying may be bias-related-acts and school officials must report to law enforcement officials any bias related acts, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.3.(e), and pursuant to the provisions of the Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials.

PQ. Collective Bargaining Agreements and Individual Contracts

Nothing in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-13.1 et seq. may be construed as affecting the provisions of any collective bargaining agreement or individual contract of



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS

5512/page 45 of 45

Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or and~~ Bullying

employment in effect on the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act's effective date (January 5, 2011). N.J.S.A. 18A:37-30.

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.

~~QR.~~ 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.

~~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 who attends an APSSD. The investigation shall be conducted by a Board of Education Anti Bullying Specialist, in consultation with the APSSD.~~

The school district shall submit all subsequent amended Harassment, Intimidation, ~~or and~~ Bullying Policies to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools within thirty days of Board adoption.

N.J.S.A. 18A:37-13 through 18A:37-37

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1 **through 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 – **August 2022** April 2011 – New Jersey Department of Education
~~Memorandum – New Jersey Commissioner of Education – Guidance for Schools on Implementing the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act – December 16, 2011~~

Adopted:



POLICY GUIDE

OPERATIONS
8140/page 1 of 2
Student Enrollments
Dec 22
M

[See POLICY ALERT No. 229]

8140 STUDENT ENROLLMENTS

The Board of Education recognizes that efficient district operations require an accurate and up to date accounting of the number of students resident in this district and enrolled in district classes and programs.

Student attendance shall be recorded in the school register during school hours on each day ~~the school is in session~~ pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.3. A staff member designated by the Superintendent shall keep in the school register, attendance of all students, and shall maintain the attendance records in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8 and N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.1(c) ~~Separate registers shall be kept for students attending preschool, Kindergarten, grades one through five, grades six through eight, grades nine through twelve, each preschool class for the disabled, each class for the disabled, shared time classes for regular students, shared time classes for students with disabilities, full time bilingual education programs and vocational day programs, summer schools operated by the district, and any other programs as required by the New Jersey Department of Education and N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.1(d).~~

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.1(e), ~~a~~A student who has been placed on home instruction shall have ~~their~~ his or her attendance status recorded on the regular register ~~attendance pages~~ for the program in which the student is enrolled. The student shall be marked absent for ~~For~~ the period beginning the first day the student is unable to attend school and ending the day before the first instructional day at the student's place of confinement, ~~the student shall be marked absent.~~ Absences shall not ~~No absences will~~ be recorded for the student while on home instruction, ~~provided~~ providing the hours of instruction are no less than required by N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.8 and 4.9 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-10.1 and 10.2. The number of possible days ~~of in membership enrollment~~ for a student on home instruction shall be the same as for other students in the program in which the student is enrolled.

Such records shall be made and maintained as will enable the Board to plan program and facilities development, to make appropriate allocation of district resources, and receive the district's maximum amount of State and Federal aid.



POLICY GUIDE

OPERATIONS
8140/page 2 of 2
Student Enrollments

The Superintendent or designee shall annually and in accordance with the timelines established by the Commissioner, file a report with the Commissioner stating the school district's enrollment.

N.J.S.A. 18A:25-4

N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.8; 6A:14-4.9; **6A:16-10.1; 6A:16-10.2;** 6A:32-8.1;
6A:32-8.2; **6A:32-8.3**

Adopted:



POLICY GUIDE

OPERATIONS
8330/page 1 of 6
Student Records
Dec 22
M

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 210, 222, and 229]

8330 STUDENT RECORDS

The Board of Education believes that information about individual students must be compiled and maintained in the interest of the student's educational welfare and advancement. The Board will strive to balance the student's right to privacy against the district's need to collect, retain, and use information about individual students and groups of students. The Board authorizes the establishment and maintenance of student files that include only those records mandated by law, rules of the State Board of Education, authorized administrative directive, and those records permitted by this Board.

The Superintendent shall prepare, present to the Board for approval, and distribute regulations that implement this Policy and conform to applicable State and Federal law and rules of the State Board of Education.

General Considerations

The Board shall compile and maintain student records and regulate access **in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. §1232g, and 34 CFR Part 99**, disclosure, or communication of information contained in **student educational** records in a manner that assures the security of ~~the such~~ records in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.1 et seq. Student records shall contain only ~~such~~ information **that** ~~as~~ is relevant to the education of the student and is objectively based on the personal observations or knowledge of the certified school personnel who originate(s) the record. The ~~school~~ district shall provide annual, written notification to parents, adult students, and emancipated minors of their rights in regard to student records and student participation in educational, occupational, and military recruitment programs. Copies of the applicable State and Federal laws and **Board local** policies shall be made available upon request. The ~~school~~ district shall make every effort to notify parents and adult students in their dominant language.



POLICY GUIDE

OPERATIONS
8330/page 2 of 6
Student Records

Nonadult ~~A non-adult~~ students may assert rights of access only through **their** ~~his or her~~ parent(s). However, nothing in N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7 shall be construed to prohibit certified school personnel from disclosing at their discretion student records to non-adult students or to appropriate persons in connection with an emergency, if **the information contained in the record** ~~such knowledge~~ is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other persons.

No liability shall be attached to any member, officer, or employee of the Board permitting access or furnishing student records in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.4 et seq.

Student Information Directory

A student information directory is a publication of the Board that includes information relating to a student as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:32-2.1. This information includes: name; grade level; date and place of birth; dates of school attendance; major field of study; participation in officially recognized activities; weight and height relating to athletic team membership; degrees; awards; the most recent educational agency attended by the student; and other similar information. The student information directory shall be used only by authorized ~~school~~ district personnel and for designated official use by judicial, law enforcement, and medical personnel and not for general public consumption.

In the event the ~~school~~ district publishes a student information directory, the Superintendent or designee will provide a parent or adult student a ten-day period to submit to the Superintendent a written statement prohibiting the **inclusion of school district from including** any or all types of information about the student in any student information directory before allowing access to **the such** directory **and school facilities** to educational, occupational, and military recruiters pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-19.1, P.L. 114-95 §8528, and 20 U.S.C. §8528 - Armed Forces Recruiter Access to Students and Student Recruiting Information of the **Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015** ~~Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965~~. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-19.1, military recruiters will be provided the same access to a student information directory that is provided to educational and occupational recruiters.



POLICY GUIDE

OPERATIONS
8330/page 3 of 6
Student Records

School Contact Directory for Official Use

A school contact directory for official use is a compilation by the ~~school~~ district that includes the following information for each student: name; address; telephone number; date of birth; and school enrollment. The district shall compile and maintain a school contact directory for official use **in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.2**, that is separate and distinct from the student information directory. The student contact directory may be provided for official use only to judicial and law enforcement personnel, and to medical personnel currently providing services to the student in question. To exclude any information from the school contact directory for official use the parent, adult student, or emancipated minor shall notify the Superintendent or designee in writing.

Mandated and Permitted Student Records

Mandated student records are those records ~~school~~ districts have been directed to compile by State statute, regulations, or authorized administrative directive in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.3.

Permitted student records are those student records not mandated pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.3, but authorized by the Board to promote the student's educational welfare. The Board shall authorize the permitted records to be collected by adopting **this** Policy and Regulation 8330, which will list such permitted records.

Maintenance and Security of Student Records

The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for the security of student records maintained in the ~~school~~ district **in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.4**. **This** Policy and Regulation 8330 assure that access to **student** ~~such~~ records is limited to authorized persons.

~~Records for each individual student may be stored electronically or in paper format. When student records are stored electronically, proper security and back-up procedures shall be administered.~~

Student health records, whether stored on paper or electronically, shall be maintained **in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.1(I)** ~~separately from other student records, until such time as graduation or termination, whereupon the health history and immunization record shall be removed from the student's health record and placed in the student's mandated record.~~ Records shall be accessible during the hours in which the school program is in operation.



POLICY GUIDE

OPERATIONS
8330/page 4 of 6
Student Records

Any district ~~internet~~ website shall not disclose any personally identifiable information about a student ~~without receiving prior written consent from the student's parent~~, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:36-35 and N.J.A.C. 6A:32-2.1 ~~Personally identifiable information means student names; student photos; student addresses; student e-mail addresses; student phone numbers; and locations and times of class trips.~~

Access to Student Records

Only authorized organizations, agencies, or persons as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.5 shall have access to student records, including student health records. Access to student records shall be provided to persons authorized such access under N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.1 et seq. within ten days of a request, but prior to any review or hearing conducted in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A.

The district may charge a reasonable fee for reproduction of student records, not to exceed the schedule of costs set forth at N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5, provided that the cost does not effectively prevent parents or adult students from exercising their rights under N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7 or other Federal and State rules and regulations regarding students with disabilities, including N.J.A.C. 6A:14.

The district shall control access to, disclosure of, and communication regarding information contained in student health records to assure access only to people permitted by Federal and State statute and regulations in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.5(c).

~~The district may charge a reasonable fee for reproduction of student records, not to exceed the schedule of costs set forth in N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5, provided that the cost does not effectively prevent the parents or adult students from exercising their rights under N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7 or other Federal and State rules and regulations regarding students with disabilities, including N.J.A.C. 6A:14.~~

Access to and disclosure of a student's health record shall meet the requirements of the **FERPA** Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, 34 C.F.R. Part 99 (FERPA).

Only authorized organizations, agencies, or persons as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.5 shall have access to student records, including student health records.



POLICY GUIDE

OPERATIONS
8330/page 5 of 6
Student Records

Nothing in N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7-~~4~~ et seq. or in **this** Policy and Regulation 8330 shall be construed to prohibit school personnel from disclosing information contained in the student health record to students or adults in connection with an emergency, if such knowledge is necessary to protect the immediate health or safety of the student or other persons.

In complying with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7 – Student Records, **the district individuals** shall adhere to requirements pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10, the Open Public Records Act (OPRA) and **FERPA** ~~34 CFR Part 99, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).~~

Conditions for Access to Student Records

All authorized organizations, agencies, and persons defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7-~~4~~ et seq. shall have access to ~~the records of~~ a student **record**, subject to conditions outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.6(~~a~~).

Rights of Appeal for Parents and Adult Students

Student records are subject to challenge by parents and adult students on the grounds of inaccuracy, irrelevancy, **impermissible** ~~impermissive~~ disclosure, inclusion of improper information, or denial of access to organizations, agencies, and persons in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.7(a).

To request a change in the **student** record or to request a stay of disclosure pending final determination of the challenged procedure, the parent or adult student shall follow the procedures pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.7(b).

Appeals relating to student records for students with disabilities shall be processed in accordance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.7(~~cb~~).

Regardless of the outcome of any appeal, a parent or adult student shall be permitted to place in the student record a statement commenting upon the information in the student record or setting forth any reasons for **contesting a portion of the student record, including the decision made in the appeal.** ~~disagreement with the decision made in the appeal. Such statements~~ **The parent's or adult student's statement** shall be maintained as part of the student record, as long as the contested portion of the **student** record is maintained. If the contested portion of the record is disclosed to any party, the statement commenting upon the information shall also be disclosed to that party.



POLICY GUIDE

OPERATIONS
8330/page 6 of 6
Student Records

Retention and Disposal of Student Records

A student record is considered to be incomplete and not subject to the provisions of the Destruction of Public Records Law, N.J.S.A. 47:3-15 et seq., while the student is enrolled in the ~~school~~ district. The **Board** ~~school district~~ shall retain the student health record and the health history and immunization record according to the School District Records Retention Schedule, as determined by the New Jersey State Records Committee.

Student records of currently enrolled students, other than **the records** ~~that~~ described in N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.8(fe), may be disposed of after the information is no longer necessary to provide educational services to a student and in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.8(cb).

Upon graduation or permanent departure of a student from the ~~school~~ district, the parent or adult student shall be notified in writing that a copy of the entire student record will be provided to them upon request. Information in student records, other than that described in N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.8(fe), may be disposed of, but only in accordance with the Destruction of Public Records Law, N.J.S.A. 47:3-15 et seq. Such disposition shall be in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.8(c)2.

No additions shall be made to the record after graduation or permanent departure without the prior written consent of the parent or adult student.

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.8(fe), the ~~New Jersey public school~~ district of last enrollment, graduation, or permanent departure of the student from the ~~school~~ district shall keep for 100 years, a mandated record of a student's name, date of birth, name of parents, gender, health history and immunization, standardized assessment results, grades, attendance, classes attended, grade level completed, year completed, and years of attendance.

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-19; 18A:36-19.1; 18A:40-4; 18A:40-19
N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.1; 6A:32-7.2; 6A:32-7.3; 6A:32-7.4; 6A:32-7.5;
6A:32-7.6; 6A:32-7.7; 6A:32-7.8
20 U.S.C. §8528

Adopted:

