

Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan

Effective Date: August 22, 2013 Responsibility: Superintendent of Safe Schools

Revised Date: August 9, 2017

The Near North District School Board Policy Statement on Bullying

The Near North District School Board recognizes that bullying:

- adversely affects a student's ability to learn;
- adversely affects the school climate, including healthy relationships;
- will not be accepted on school property, at school-related activities, on school buses, or in any other circumstances (e.g., online) where engaging in bullying will have a negative impact on the school climate.

Providing students with an opportunity to learn and develop in a safe and respectful society is a shared responsibility in which the board and our schools play an important role. Schools with bullying prevention and intervention strategies foster a positive learning and teaching environment that supports academic achievement for all students and that helps students reach their full potential. Bullying prevention and intervention strategies must be modeled by all members of the school community.

"A positive school climate makes negative behaviors such as bullying and harassment unacceptable" Pepler and Craig, 2004

Context

- The Near North District School Board is committed to the establishment of safe, inclusive and accepting school environments in order to maximize the learning potential of all students. There is conclusive research that shows that for students to reach their full potential, they must feel safe, included, and engaged in school.
- Bullying is associated with a range of physical and mental health problems, as well as
 educational problems, antisocial problems, and relationship problems. Experts call for
 early intervention for both the child who is victimized by bullying and the child who
 bullies. Without support, children who bully appear to learn how to use power and

aggression to dominate others (Craig, Pepler, Murphy 2010). There is a growing base of knowledge and evidence about what works. The Promoting Relationships and Eliminating Violence Network (PREV Net) provides comprehensive information on their website about bullying and how to address it.

- An inclusive social climate based on caring and respectful relationships among and between students, teachers, school staff, parents and administrators is generally accepted as a necessary supporting condition for learning (UNESCO Institute for Statistics 2012).
- Committed leadership and ongoing collaboration at all levels (

- (a) creating a web page or a blog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person; (b) impersonating another person as the author of content or messages posted on the internet; and (c) communicating material ele.2 0.2 (t) 0ro2 (uni) 0.2(c) 71.88 @.2 (l) 0.2 (l) 0.y(nd)]TJ ET Q 0.24 0 0 0.273

Prevention

Bullying Prevention is a whole-school approach that heightens expectations for a safe, caring and inclusive school climate. It includes a shared understanding about the nature and underlying causes of bullying and its effects on the lives of individual students and the school community.

Intervention

Bullying Intervention is a comprehensive and effective response to bullying incidents that takes into consideration all parties involved in the bullying incident. It should provide specific supports for the student who has been bullied, intervention for the student who was bullying, and strategies for responding to students who were directly observing the bullying incident.

Practices

Schools shall ensure that:

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Notifying Parents

Principals will notify parents of students that have been harmed and/or who have engaged in serious behaviour incidents.

To see the complete section, "Notifying Parents(s)/Guardians Following a Serious Student Incident" refer to the Near North District School Board's Administrative Guideline- Safe Schools: Student Conduct Management Guideline, page 14 as well as "Not Notifying a Parent/Guardian" page 15 on the board website.

Reporting to the Principal

The purpose of reporting serious student incidents is to ensure that the principal is aware of any activities taking place in the school for which suspension or expulsion must be considered and to help ensure a positive school climate.

The Education Act subsection 300.2 of Part XIII states that any staff of the Board who becomes aware that a student at a school of the Board may have engaged in a serious student incident shall report the matter to the principal as soon as reasonably possible. The employee must consider the safety of others and the urgency of the situation in reporting the incident, but, in any case, must report it to the principal no later than the end of the school day.

To see the complete section on "Reporting to the Principal" see pages 12-14 of the Near North District School Board's Administrative Guideline- Safe Schools: Student Conduct Management Guideline, on the board website.

Professional Development

The Near North District School Board will continue to provide professional development

Ontario's Equity and inclusive Education Strategy www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/policyfunding/equity.pdf
Equity and Inclusive Education in Ontario: Guidelines for Policy Development and