

North Schuylkill School District

Number 249: Bullying / Cyberbullying Policy

Bullying, as defined by law, means an intentional electronic, written, verbal, or physical act or series of acts directed at another student or students. Bullying is severe, persistent or pervasive and has the effect of doing any of the following:

- Substantial interference with a student's education.
- Creation of a threatening environment.
- Substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school.



Cyberbullying is

bullying that takes place using electronic technology. Electronic technology includes devices and equipment such as cell phones, computers, and tablets as well as communication tools including social media sites, text messages, chat and websites. Examples of cyberbullying include mean text messages or emails, rumors sent by email or posted on social networking sites, and embarrassing pictures, videos, websites, or fake profiles.

Bullying, as defined in this policy, includes, but is not limited to, the following:

"A person is bullied when he or she is exposed, repeatedly and over time to negative actions on the part of one or more other persons, and he or she has difficulty defending himself or herself."

Bullying is:

- Aggressive behavior that involves unwanted, negative actions.
- Involves a pattern of behavior repeated over time.
- Involves an imbalance of power or strength.

School setting means in the school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop or at any extracurricular activity.

Each student shall be responsible to respect the rights of others and to ensure an atmosphere free from bullying.

Reporting

A student or third party who believes s/he has been subject to conduct that constitutes a violation of this policy is encouraged to immediately report the incident to the building principal or a district employee.

A school employee who suspects or is notified that a student has been subject to conduct that constitutes a violation of this policy shall immediately report the incident to the building principal.

If the building principal is the subject of a complaint, the student, third party or employee shall report the incident directly to the Superintendent.