

# Big Spring School District

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: BULLYING/  
CYBERBULLYING

ADOPTED: November 3, 2008

REVISED:

<p>249. BULLYING/CYBERBULLYING</p>	
<p>1. Purpose</p>	<p>The Board strives to provide a safe, positive learning environment for students. The Board recognizes that bullying and intimidation have a negative effect on school climate, that students who are intimidated and fearful cannot give their education the single-minded attention they need for success, and that bullying can lead to more serious behaviors. Therefore, it shall be our policy of the Board of School Directors to maintain an educational environment in which bullying and harassment, in any form, are not remedial action for any person that engages in building administrator after consideration of the nature and circumstances of the inappropriate behavior and after consultation with the Superintendent of Schools or her/his designee. These consequences and remedial actions can range from positive behavior support to exclusion from school .</p>
<p>2. Definitions SC 1303.1-A</p>	<p><b>Bullying</b> means an intentional electronic, written, verbal or physical act or series of acts directed at another student or students, which occurs in a school setting that is severe, persistent or pervasive and has the effect of doing any of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Substantial interference with a student’s education.</li> <li>2. Creation of a threatening environment.</li> <li>3. Substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school.</li> </ol> <p><b>Bullying</b>, as defined in this policy, includes cyberbullying via any form of electronic communication including, but not limited to phone, text messaging, internet, web sites, email, blog, chat rooms, and instant messaging.</p>
<p>SC 1303.1-A</p>	<p><b>School setting</b> means in the school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop or at any activity sponsored, supervised or sanctioned by the school.</p>
<p>3. Authority SC 1303.1-A</p>	<p>The Board prohibits all forms of bullying by district students. The Board encourages students who have been bullied to promptly report such incidents to the building principal or designee.</p>

<p>4. Delegation of Responsibility</p> <p>SC 1303.1-A</p> <p>SC 1303.1-A</p> <p>5. Guidelines SC 1303.1-A Title 22 Sec. 12.3 Pol. 218</p>	<p>The Board directs that complaints of bullying shall be investigated promptly, and corrective action shall be taken when allegations are verified. Confidentiality of all parties shall be maintained, consistent with the district’s legal and investigative obligations. No reprisals or retaliation shall occur as a result of good faith reports of bullying.</p> <p>Each student shall be responsible to respect the rights of others and to ensure an atmosphere free from bullying.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that this policy and administrative regulations are reviewed annually with students.</p> <p>District administration shall annually provide the following information with the Safe School Report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Board’s Bullying Policy.</li> <li>2. Report of bullying incidents.</li> <li>3. Information on the development and implementation of any bullying prevention, intervention or education programs.</li> </ol> <p>Distribution of this policy will include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Posted on the District’s publicly accessible internet website;</li> <li>2. Posted in every District classroom;</li> <li>3. Posted at a prominent location in each school building where such notices are usually posted; and.</li> <li>4. Reviewed with students within 90 days of adoption and at least once each school year thereafter.</li> </ol>
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<p>SC 1302-A, 1303.1-A Pol. 236</p>	<p><u>Education</u></p> <p>The district may develop and implement bullying prevention and intervention programs. Such programs shall provide district staff and students with appropriate training for effectively responding to, intervening in and reporting incidents of bullying.</p>
<p>SC 1303.1-A Pol. 218, 233</p>	<p><u>Consequences For Violations</u></p> <p>A student who violates this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action consistent with the Code of Student Conduct, which may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Counseling within the school.</li><li>b. Parental conference.</li><li>c. Loss of school privileges.</li><li>d. Exclusion from school-sponsored activities.</li><li>e. Detention.</li><li>f. Suspension.</li><li>g. Expulsion.</li><li>h. Counseling/Therapy outside of school.</li><li>i. Referral to law enforcement officials.</li></ul>
	<p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1302-A, 1303.1-A</p> <p>State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 12.3</p> <p>Board Policy – 000, 218, 233, 236</p>