



Bullying Policy

On July 14, 2008 the General Assembly of Pennsylvania amended through HB 1067 the Pennsylvania School Code of 1949, in relation to bullying policies in schools. The following is a summary of the specific changes:

1. No later than January 1, 2009 each school is required to adopt or amend its existing policy related to bullying and incorporate into the student code of conduct.
2. There must be clear consequences for bullying and may include prevention, education, and intervention programs.
3. The policy must identify the appropriate school staff to receive the reports.
4. Policies must be reviewed every three years and a copy provided to POE.
5. Policies must be posted in the schools in a prominent location.
6. Policies must be reviewed with students within 90 days of adoption and at least once a year.
7. According to this code bullying shall mean an intentional, electronic, written, verbal, or physical act or serious of acts:
 - a. Directed at another student or students
 - b. Which occurs in a school setting
 - c. That is severe, persistent or pervasive; and
8. That has the effect of doing any of the following:
 - a. Substantially interfering with a student's education
 - b. Creating a threatening environment; or
 - c. Substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school; and school setting
9. If a student transfers to a non public or public school, all disciplinary referrals will also be transferred within ten days of the request for records.

Bullying behaviors will not be tolerated at Bear Creek Community Charter School. Situations involving bullying will be dealt with on a case by case basis. Acts of bullying will be reported to and investigated by the Assistant Principal, and/or Guidance Counselor. A full investigation will be completed on each case and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken according to the Student Handbook. Anonymous locked bully boxes will be placed strategically throughout the school and checked frequently.

The following is a list of unacceptable bullying behaviors:

Physical Aggression

1. Pushing
2. Hitting
3. Shoving
4. Defacing property
5. Spitting
6. Stealing
7. Kicking
8. Humiliating physical acts
9. Locking in a closed or confined space
10. Inflicting bodily harm
11. Any violence against family or friends
12. Threatening with weapons or objects

Social Alienation

1. Gossiping
2. Embarrassing
3. Setting up to look foolish
4. Setting up to take the blame
5. Public humiliation
6. Exclusionary tactics
7. Malicious rumoring
8. Cyber bullying
9. Racial, religious, gender, ethnic slurs or taunting

Verbal Aggression

1. Mocking/Name calling
2. Verbal threats against property or of violence/harm
3. Taunting
4. Disrespecting someone's family
5. Intimidating phone calls
6. Teasing about clothes, possessions, appearance

Intimidation

1. Graffiti
2. Threatening body language
3. Publicly challenging someone
4. Extortion
5. Playing a dirty trick
6. Coercion
7. Threatening to reveal personal information