

STUDENT CONDUCT**BULLYING**

Students are prohibited from bullying, harassing, threatening, or intimidating other students or school personnel. Bullying, harassment, threatening, or intimidation includes any gesture, written or verbal expression, electronic communication, or physical act that a reasonable person should know will harm another person, damage another's property, place a student in reasonable fear of harm, or insult or demean another in such a way as to disrupt or interfere with the District's educational mission or the education of students. With respect to electronic communications, students are specifically prohibited from bullying, harassing, threatening, or intimidating other students or school personnel whether or not the electronic communications originated at school or with school equipment.

The following steps shall apply to the investigation of reported incidents of harassment, intimidation, bullying, or threatening behavior:

- If any person is aware of, observes, or is a victim of bullying, harassing, threatening, or intimidating behavior or communications from a student, such person must report the behavior or communication to the principal of the school on the appropriate form.
- The principal will gather the information the principal deems necessary and evaluate the incident to determine the severity of the incident and the potential for future violence.
- After completing any necessary investigation, the principal shall determine if the student accused of bullying, harassing, threatening, or intimidating behavior or communications engaged in prohibited conduct and, if so, shall determine the appropriate discipline.
- During the pendency of the investigation, the principal may take appropriate action to ensure the safety of all students or school personnel involved.
- If warranted, the principal shall notify law enforcement of the reported incident and cooperate with any law enforcement investigation.
- If the student's actions are determined to constitute prohibited harassing, intimidating, threatening, hazing, or bullying behavior or communications, the principal may, as a condition and part of any disciplinary action that is taken, recommend that available community mental health care options be provided to the student.

- The principal may further require the student (if 18 or over) or the parent or guardian of the student to allow the mental health care provider to disclose any information concerning the student who has received mental health care for conduct which indicates an explicit threat to the safety of students or school personnel as a condition of being allowed to return to school.

- The principal may also require that the student and the student's parent or guardian meet with the principal, a school counselor, and other appropriate school personnel before being allowed to return to school.