

**MONTGOMERY
COUNTY
INTERMEDIATE
UNIT #23**

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: BULLYING/CYBERBULLYING

ADOPTED: FEBRUARY 25, 2009

REVIEWED: JANUARY 27, 2021

| 249. BULLYING/CYBERBULLYING | |
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| 1. Purpose | The Board is committed to providing a safe, positive learning environment for students attending Intermediate Unit programs. The Board recognizes that bullying creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, detracts from the safe environment necessary for student learning, and may lead to more serious violence. Therefore, the Board prohibits bullying by Intermediate Unit students. |
| 2. Definitions SC 1303.1-A | <p>Bullying 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 and/or outside 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"> 1. Substantial interference with a student’s education. 2. Creation of a threatening environment. 3. Substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school. <p>Bullying, as defined in this policy, includes cyberbullying.</p> |
| SC 1303.1-A | School setting means in the school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at the designated bus stop or at any activity sponsored, supervised or sanctioned by the school. |
| 3. Authority SC 1303.1-A | <p>The Board prohibits all forms of bullying by Intermediate Unit students.</p> <p>The Board encourages students who have been bullied to promptly report such incidents to the program supervisor or building principal.</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 Intermediate Unit’s legal and investigative obligations. No reprisals or retaliation shall occur as a result of good faith reports of bullying.</p> |
| 4. Delegation of Responsibility | Each student shall be responsible to respect the rights of others and to ensure an atmosphere free from bullying. |

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| | <p>The Executive Director or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy.</p> |
| <p>SC 1303.1-A</p> | <p>The Executive Director or designee shall ensure that this policy and administrative regulations are reviewed annually with students.</p> |
| <p>SC 1303.1-A</p> | <p>The Executive Director or designee, in cooperation with other appropriate administrators, shall review this policy every three (3) years and recommend necessary revisions to the Board.</p> |
| <p>SC 1303.1-A</p> | <p>The Intermediate Unit administration shall annually provide the following information with the Safe School Report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Board’s Bullying Policy. 2. Report of bullying incidents. 3. Information on the development and implementation of any bullying prevention intervention or education programs. |
| <p>5. Guidelines SC 1303.1-A Title 22 Sec. 12.3 Pol. 218</p> | <p>The Code of Student Conduct, which shall contain this policy, shall be disseminated annually to students.</p> |
| | <p>This policy shall be accessible in every Intermediate Unit classroom. The policy shall be posted in a prominent location within each Intermediate Unit building and on the web site, if available.</p> <p><u>Education</u></p> |
| <p>SC 1302-A, 1301.1-A Pol. 236</p> | <p>The Intermediate Unit may develop and implement bullying prevention and intervention programs. Such programs shall provide Intermediate Unit staff and students with appropriate training for effectively responding to, intervening in and reporting incidents of bullying.</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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Counseling within the Intermediate Unit or school. 2. Parental conference. 3. Loss of school privileges. 4. Transfer to another school building, classroom or school bus. |

5. Exclusion from school-sponsored activities.
6. Detention.
7. Suspension.
8. Expulsion.
9. Counseling/Therapy outside of the Intermediate Unit or school.
10. Referral to law enforcement officials.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1302-A, 1303.1-A

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 12.3

Board Policy – 000, 218, 233, 236