

5517.01 Policy against Bullying/Harassment (Grades K-12 and Adults)

5517.03 Teen Dating Violence and Abuse Policy (Grades 7-12)

In response to the state law, *the Jeffrey Johnston Stand Up for all Students Act*, the School Board adopted a policy that prohibits bullying and harassment. The policy ensures that all students, employees, and volunteers learn and work in an environment that is safe, secure, and free from harassment and bullying of any kind. Florida is now one of 47 states with a law regarding bullying in schools.

The Policy defines Bullying as systematically and chronically inflicting physical hurt or psychological distress on one or more students or employees and may involve but is not limited to: teasing, social exclusion, threat, intimidation, stalking, including cyberstalking, physical violence, theft, sexual, religious, or racial harassment, public humiliation, and destruction of property.

The policy defines harassment as any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, use of data or computer software, or written, verbal or physical conduct directed against a student or employee that: Places a student or employee in reasonable fear of harm to his or her person or damage to his or her property, has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities, or benefits, has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of a school.

The School Board strictly prohibits any act of Teen Dating Violence and Abuse committed by one student against another on school property, during a school-sponsored activity, or during school-sponsored transportation. This policy applies only to students in grades 7-12.

"Teen Dating Violence and Abuse" is a pattern of emotional, verbal, sexual, or physical violence and/or abuse by one person in a current or past relationship of a romantic nature to exert power and control over another when one or both of the partners is a teenager. Abuse may include insults, coercion, social sabotage, sexual harassment, threats and/or acts of physical or sexual abuse. The abusive partner uses this pattern of violent and coercive behavior to gain power and maintain control over the dating partner. To be subject to this Policy, Teen Dating Violence and Abuse committed by one student against another must occur on school property, during a school-sponsored activity, or during school-sponsored transportation.

We are committed to providing a safe learning environment and will not tolerate Bullying/Harassment or Teen Dating Violence and Abuse of any kind. Incidents can be reported to the principal or any staff member or reported online at one of the below links:

<http://bullying.pcsb.org>

<http://harassment.pcsb.org>

<http://teendatingviolence.pcsb.org>

Anonymous reports can also be made using the District Electronic Reporting Form, or by calling the Campus Crime Stoppers Hotline at 1-800-873-8477, or by texting keyword TIP144 plus your message to CRIMES (274637).

For more information about either the Policy against Bullying and Harassment or the Teen Dating Violence and Abuse Policy, please visit the Prevention Office by going to www.pcsb.org, then go to Parents and Students, then to Programs and Resources.

To learn more about Bullying/Harassment and find out what adults can do to help prevent it, visit the Stop Bullying website at www.stopbullying.gov.

For more information on Teen Dating Violence and Abuse go to www.cdc.gov/chooserespect.