

STUDENT HARASSMENT, BULLYING, CYBERBULLYING, INTIMIDATION, VIOLENCE

FILE: JBA

Purpose

To state the Board's position regarding student harassment, bullying, cyberbullying, intimidation, or violence.

Definitions

Harassment, bullying, cyberbullying, intimidation, and violence, refers to any conduct, including verbal conduct, or an electronic communication that creates a hostile educational environment by substantially interfering with a student's educational benefits, opportunities, or performance, or with a student's physical or psychological well-being, and is motivated by an actual or perceived personal characteristic including race, national origin, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, ancestry, physical attributes, socio-economic status, familial status or physical, or mental ability or disability, or, is threatening or seriously intimidating.

Electronic Communication means a communication transmitted by means of electronic device. Cyberbullying is a form of bullying, harassment, and intimidation. Cyberbullying means a communications transmitted by means of an electronic device(s) and includes the use of social media sites. Cyberbullying shall include any future applications that fall under "electronic communications".

The definitions in § 7-424.1 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland and the definitions adopted by MSDE Student Guidelines for Code of Conduct are hereby incorporated by reference.

Policy Statement

The Allegany County Public School System will maintain a learning environment that is free from any type of harassment, bullying, cyberbullying, violence, or hate crimes based on an individual's religion, race, ethnicity, region, language, gender, national origin, disability, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, or age.

The Allegany County Public School System will investigate all complaints verbal or written. Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken against any student who engages in this type of behavior. This policy is enforced on school property, at school sponsored activities or events, or on a school bus. This policy addresses incidences which substantially disrupt the orderly operation of the school.

Legal Reference			§ 7-424.1 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland
Policy Cross Reference	Adopted	Reviewed	Revised Oct. 9, 2007, 1 st Reading Nov. 13, 2007, 2 nd Reading July 14, 2009, 1 st Reading Aug. 11, 2009, 2 nd Reading April 11, 2017, 1 st Reading May 9, 2017, 2 nd Reading June 13, 2017, Review only