



BULLYING

Introduction/Prohibition

The Mineral Point Unified School District is committed to creating a safe, caring and respectful learning environment for all the students and strictly enforces a ban against bullying of any of its students by anyone. It is the policy of the District that its students, employees and volunteers will not be allowed to engage in any form of bullying or intimidation toward other students, employees or volunteers.

Definition

Bullying is aggressive, intentional or deliberate hostile behavior toward another. Bullying consists of deliberate hurtful behavior. Bullying can include, but is not limited to, intimidation such as name calling or threatening; social alienation such as shunning or spreading rumors; written notes, phone calls or electronic messages that are offensive, hurtful, annoying or threatening; or physical aggression such as assaults on a student or attacks on a student's property. Behaviors characterized as bullying are not allowed at school, during a school-sponsored activity, on school buses, or through the use of school equipment in the case of "cyber bullying." In situations in which the "cyber bullying" originated from a non-school computer, but brought to the attention of school officials, any disciplinary action shall be based up whether the conduct is determined to be severely disruptive of the educational process so that it markedly interrupts or severely impedes the day-to-day operations of a school. In addition, such conduct must also be in violation of the publicized school policy. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to, harassment or making a threat off school grounds that is intended to endanger the health, safety or property of others, including that of a student, district employee or school board member.

Procedure for Reporting

The Mineral Point School District takes allegations of bullying seriously and will respond to complaints and allegations of bullying. Students, parents, and staff members concerned about bullying issued should contact the principal or any other

Policy 411.2 Continued:

member of the staff about their concerns. These complaints can be verbal or written. Formal complaint forms will be available at both the elementary and middle school/high school offices (see 411.1-Exhibit). These complaints will be investigated promptly and kept confidential within the bounds of the district's investigation by the law. Where it is determined that inappropriate and/or bullying conduct has occurred, the Mineral Point School District will act to eliminate the conduct and will impose corrective action, which may range from requiring the offender to work with the school personnel to correct the behavior, a recommendation for the provision of school counseling, and/or disciplinary action where appropriate, which may include law enforcement intervention, suspension, expulsion and/or court involvement.

Legal Reference: Wisconsin Statutes Sections 115.28 (31)

118.13

118.55

PI 9 and PI 41 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code

Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972

Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Civil Rights Act of 1991

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

Cross Reference: 441.1 Sexual Harassment of Students
441.1-Rule Sexual Harassment Guidelines
443 Student Conduct
443-Exhibit Code of Classroom Conduct
443.2 Student Conduct, Student Transportation
447 Student Discipline

Approved: April 2010



MINERAL POINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

STUDENT ANTI-BULLYING PLEDGE

We, the students of Mineral Point Schools, agree to join together to stamp out bullying at our school. We believe that everybody at our school should feel safe, secure and accepted regardless of race, nationality, gender, gender identity, popularity, athletic ability, intelligence, religion, or social/economic/family status.

Bullying is deliberately hurtful behavior. It can take on many forms and can occur in any setting. Bullying can include, but is not limited to, intimidation such as name calling, threats, social alienation such as shunning or spreading rumors, written notes, phone calls, or electronic messages that are offensive, hurtful, annoying or threatening, or physical aggression such as assaults on a student or attacks on a student's property. Victims of bullying behavior are often unable to defend themselves. Bullying causes pain and stress to victims and is never justified or excusable as "kids being kids," "just teasing" or any other rationalization. The victim is never responsible for being the target of bullying.

By signing this pledge, I agree to:

1. Value student differences and treat others with respect.
2. Not encourage bullying.
3. Not be a bully.
4. Be aware of the school's policies and support system with regard to bullying.
5. Report honestly and immediately all incidents of bullying to a faculty member.
6. Be alert in places around the school where there is less adult supervision, such as bathrooms, corridors and stairwells.
7. Support students who have been or are subjected to bullying.
8. Talk to teachers and parents about concerns and issues regarding bullying.
9. Work with other students and faculty to help the school deal with bullying effectively.
10. Provide a good role model for younger students and support them if bullying occurs.

I acknowledge that if I see someone being bullied and don't report or stop the bullying, I am just as guilty.

Student Signature

Date