

WILKES-BARRE AREA CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER

SECTION: PUPILS
TITLE: BULLYING/
CYBERBULLYING
ADOPTED: May 16, 2017
REVISED: August 19, 2024

	249. BULLYING/CYBERBULLYING
1. Purpose	<p>The Joint Operating Committee is committed to providing a safe, positive learning environment for its students. The Joint Operating Committee 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 Joint Operating Committee prohibits bullying by students.</p>
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, including harassment based on nonconformity to gender norms, gender identity, and gender expression. 3. Substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school. <p>Bullying, as defined in this policy, includes cyberbullying.</p>
SC 1303.1-A	<p>School setting means in the school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop or at any activity sponsored, supervised or sanctioned by the school.</p>
3. Authority SC 1303.1-A	<p>The Joint Operating Committee prohibits all forms of bullying by students.</p> <p>The Joint Operating Committee encourages students who have been bullied to promptly report such incidents to the building administrator or designee.</p> <p>The Joint Operating Committee 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 center'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.
	The Administrative Director or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy.
SC 1303.1-A	The Administrative Director or designee shall ensure that this policy and administrative regulations are reviewed annually with students.
SC 1303.1-A	The Administrative Director or designee, in cooperation with other appropriate administrators, shall review this policy every three (3) years and recommend necessary revisions to the Joint Operating Committee.
SC 1303.1-A	<p>The administration shall annually provide the following information with the Safe School Report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joint Operating Committee's Bullying Policy. 2. Report of bullying incidents. 3. Information on the development and implementation of any bullying prevention intervention or education programs.
5. Guidelines SC 1303.1-A Title 22 Sec. 12.3 Pol. 218	<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 classroom. The policy shall be posted in a prominent location within the school building and on the web site, if available.</p> <p><u>Education</u></p>
SC 1302-A, 1303.1-A Pol. 236	<p>The center may develop and implement bullying prevention and intervention programs. Such programs shall provide 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>
SC 1303.1-A Pol. 218, 233	<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 center.

2. Parental conference.
3. Loss of school privileges.
4. Exclusion from school-sponsored activities.
5. Detention.
6. Suspension.
7. Expulsion.
8. Counseling/Therapy outside of the center.
9. 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

Joint Operating Committee Policy – 000, 218, 233, 236, 248