

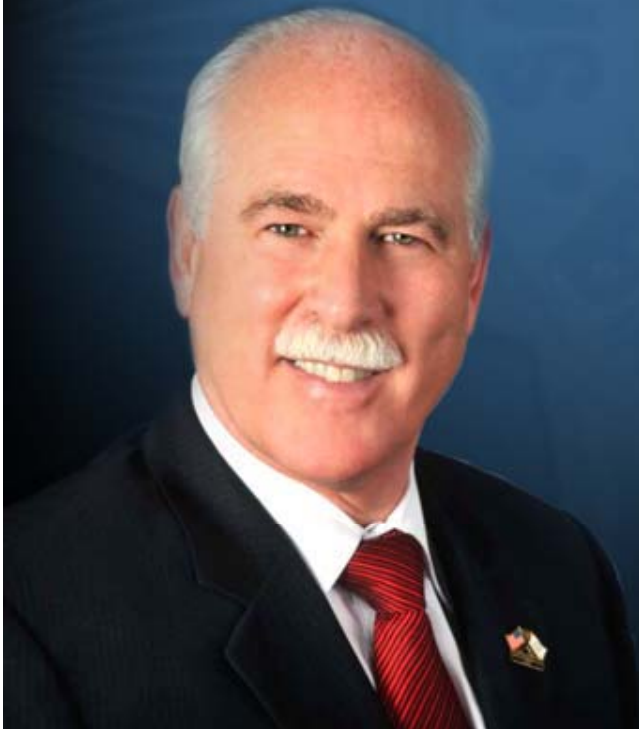
Berkley Public Schools



Bullying and Harassment Training
September 1, 2010

Bullying and Harassment

Massachusetts Anti-Bullying Law
*Comprehensive bill strengthens efforts to
keep Massachusetts's students safe.*



Bristol County Sheriff's Office
Thomas M. Hodgson, Sheriff

The New Legislation

M.G.L Ch. 71 Sec. 370



An Act Relative to Bullying in Schools

- New law holds all school administrators to a higher standard
- Increases schools' reporting and investigative responsibilities
- Requires prevention education for all students K-12, as well as training for staff.
- Includes all bullying that involves students and/or staff.



Berkley Public Schools Initiatives

Bristol County Sheriff's Office Sponsored Training

-Training for Parents on Bullying Prevention and Internet Safety

October 6, 2010

-Training for All Students K-8 in Bully Safe

October, 2010

-Training for All Staff, K-8

Spring Professional Day, March 21, 2010

Other Programs:

Power of One Assembly, Grades K-4

September, 2010

Bully Guard Training, Grade 5

2010-2011 School Year

Massachusetts Anti-Bullying Law

May 3rd, 2010, Governor Deval Patrick signed into law a landmark anti-bullying bill for Massachusetts. Provisions of this new law include requirements for schools to create and implement bullying prevention plans which must include:

Descriptions of and statements prohibiting Bullying

Clear procedures for school staff to report bullying or retaliation;

Provision for anonymous reports;

Clear procedures for promptly responding to and investigating reports of bullying or retaliation;

Range of disciplinary sanctions for perpetrators of bullying or retaliation;

Clear procedures to address the victim's need for safety



Massachusetts Anti-Bullying Law

The new law includes tough restrictions on young people's use of any technology to bully another person and the new law includes a prominent role for the Attorney General's Office, along with the Department of Early and Secondary Education, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and other agencies to develop and to implement comprehensive bullying prevention plans in order to ensure that every student feels safe – in and out of school.



Massachusetts Anti-Bullying Law

Strategies for counseling perpetrators
and victims;

and

Provision for ongoing professional
development to build skills of all
members of school staff.



Massachusetts Anti-Bullying Law

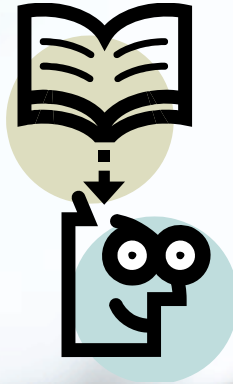
Strategies for protecting students who report bullying;

➤ **Procedures for notifying parents or guardians of both victims and perpetrators;**

➤ **Procedures for reporting criminal activity to law enforcement;**

Disciplinary provisions for knowingly false reports of bullying;





All Districts MUST develop an ANTI-BULLYING POLICY, and file it with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education before December 31, 2010.

Berkley has a policy, which has been included in your staff binders as well as the student handbook. It will be revised to come into compliance with any new regulations before it is submitted to DESE.

Bullying and Harassment Policy

Bullying vs. Harassment

- **Bullying, as defined by the new legislation:**

is “the repeated use by one or more students of a written, verbal or electronic expression or a physical act or gesture or any combination thereof, directed at a victim that: (i) causes physical or emotional harm to the victim or damage to the victim’s property; (ii) places the victim in reasonable fear of harm to himself or of damage to his property; (iii) creates a hostile environment at school for the victim; (iv) infringes on the rights of the victim at school; or (v) materially and substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of a school.

For the purposes of this section, bullying shall include cyber-bullying.”



Bullying and Harassment Policy

What is Harassment?

(Non-legal term could be “bias-based bullying.”) *Bullying behavior motivated by bias or prejudice based on real or perceived characteristics including one of more of the following:*

➤ **Bullying or harassing behavior includes:**

✓ **Acts reasonably perceived as being motivated by**

✓ **Race,**

✓ **Color,**

✓ **Religion,**

✓ **National origin,**

✓ **Gender,**

✓ **Socioeconomic Status,**

✓ **Academic Status,**

✓ **Gender Identity,**

✓ **Physical Appearance,**

✓ **Sexual Orientation,**

✓ **Mental, Physical, Developmental or Sensory Disability or**

✓ **Association with a Person who has or is PERCEIVED to have one or any of the above characteristics**

HATE CRIMES

IT TAKES THREE



MANDATED REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

As with suspected Child Abuse or Neglect,

The New Anti-Bullying Legislation
Charges School Personnel with the Responsibility of being

MANDATED REPORTERS.

Instances of Suspected Bullying or Cyber Bullying

MUST be reported to your building administrators **AS
SOON AS POSSIBLE** after you become aware of such
instances.



Some acts of bullying or violence will be required to be reported to the police.

What schools must do

- Address cyber-bullying in the curriculum
- Educate everyone about the consequences of cyber-bullying
- Enforce the clearly and publicly stated consequences of cyber bullying including the pressing of criminal charges
- Include cyber-bullying in the school's code of behaviour



If You Think Your Student Is Being Bullied

Watch For Warning signs



Change in personality

Change in or loss of friends

Drop in grades

Secretive

Isolated



Schools Can Employ the 3 R's

- **Rules**, Parents and educators must demonstrate they are in charge and won't tolerate bullying.
- **Rights**, Every student has the right to learn in a safe environment.
- **Responsibilities**, Educators must be responsible for supervision. Students must be responsible for respecting the rights of their classmates and themselves.

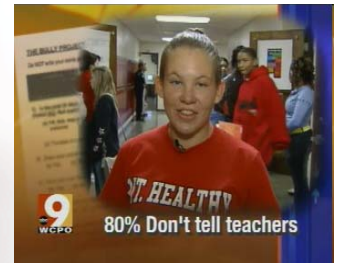
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Beane, A. L. (1999). ***The bully free classroom***: Over 100 tips and strategies for teachers K-8. Minneapolis, MN: Free Spirit Publishing, Inc. p. 9.

Colorado State University Interwest Equity Assistance Center



What Does A Bullied Person Do?

- **Do NOT Respond!**
- **Do NOT Retaliate!**
- **Document ALL Incidents - Print and save**
- **Report incident to an adult**
- **Block sender**
- **Contact ISP provider**
- **Contact Police**





Thank You for Your Attention!

**Please remember that we are a
TEAM, and that your
administrative team is here to help
you in any way that we can to
ensure that this policy is
implemented to the benefit of our
students.**