

Career & College Readiness

Bullying Policy Information

Each public school shall develop, adopt, and implement a policy prohibiting bullying in accordance with [R.S. 17:416.14](#).

The bullying policy shall:

- Be implemented throughout the school year.
- Be integrated into the school's curriculum, discipline policies, and violence prevention efforts.
- Include the definition of bullying.
- Establish procedures for:
 - Reporting bullying incidents and appealing decisions.
 - Investigating reports of bullying.
 - Addressing disciplinary and potential criminal consequences for students who engage in bullying.
 - Providing appropriate remedies and support for students who have been bullied.
 - Prohibiting false reports and retaliation.
 - Investigating and reporting school administrators, teachers, counselors, bus operators, and other school employees who fail to take appropriate action.

Each public school shall ensure that students, parents or legal guardians, administrators, teachers, counselors, bus operators, school employees, and volunteers receive a copy of the bullying policy and understand their responsibilities for preventing and responding to bullying.

Definition of Bullying

Bullying is a pattern of one or more behaviors directed toward a student by another student or group of students that occurs more than once and includes:

- Obscene or threatening gestures.
- Written, electronic, or verbal communication, including name-calling, threats, taunting, malicious teasing, or spreading false rumors.
- Physical acts such as hitting, kicking, pushing, tripping, choking, damaging property, or unauthorized use of another person's property.
- Repeated and intentional exclusion or social isolation.

To meet the definition of bullying, the behavior must also result in one or more of the following:

- Physical harm to a student.
- Reasonable fear of physical harm.
- Damage to a student's property.
- Reasonable fear of damage to a student's property.

- A severe, persistent, and pervasive pattern of behavior that:
 - Creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment.
 - Substantially interferes with a student's educational performance.
 - Substantially disrupts the orderly operation of the school.

See also **(Bulletin 741, Chapter 13)**and/or **[R.S. 17:416.14](#)**

For more information or questions, contact your legal counsel.