Olweus Program Goals

The Olweus Bullying Prevention Program is a best practice strategy utilized throughout the TDOE and implemented in our school:

The three main goals of OBPP are:

- Achieving better peer relations at school
- Preventing the development of new bullying problems
- Reducing existing bullying problems among students

HCDE Zero Tolerance Offenses

According to state and federal law, a student who commits a zero tolerance offense is expelled for one calendar year, unless modified by the Superintendent. This includes offenses on school properties, including buses and at school-sponsored activities. All violations will be reported to local law enforcement officials.

HCDE Zero Tolerance Offenses now include:

Transmitting by an electronic device a credible threat to cause bodily injury or death to another student or school employee and the threat causes actual disruptive activity at the school.

DAISY TEAM

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"Helping students focus for academic success."
A person is bullied when he or she is exposed, repeatedly and over time, to negative actions on the part of one or more persons, and he or she has difficulty defending himself or herself.

This definition includes three important components:
1. Bullying is an aggressive behavior that involves unwanted, negative actions.
2. Bullying involves a pattern of behavior repeated over time.
3. Bullying involves an imbalance of power or strength.

Students play a crucial role in maintaining a healthy learning environment. All students are expected to:
- Interact with peers in a positive manner
- Refrain from name-calling, put-downs, etc.
- Include students in activities
- Respectfully disagree with peers
- Share with adults concerns with inappropriate behaviors

Hamilton County Dept. of Education’s focus on maintaining a healthy school climate involves the following:
- Assess areas of strength and weakness through student questionnaires (grades 3rd - 5th)
- Olweus training for staff leadership team preceded by staff training
- iSafe (cyber bullying prevention) training for students
- Visual displays throughout the building of expectations for student interaction
- Resource library for staff
- Lessons on anti-bullying provided by school counselor and teachers

When requesting an investigation into a bullying incident, the following guidelines are recommended:
- Get the facts - objectively without leading questions
- Describe the specific behavior of concern without labeling the behavior as “bullying”
- Model the appropriate behavior with your child
- Encourage open, respectful communication using “I” messages for peer conflict
- Approach the school to build a partnership

Understand that bullying is more a societal norm which the school personnel will address

Other factors that may indicate assessing inappropriate behaviors may include:
- Relationship between the parties involved
- Emotional impact
- Social interactions at school