



**LIBERTY COMMUNITY UNIT #2 SCHOOLS
LIBERTY, IL 62347-1107
(217) 645-3433**

Re: Bullying

All staff members:

Please join us in stopping and preventing student bullying in our school. The purpose of this letter is to introduce you to our three-pronged approach that will help accomplish this goal.

First - If a student reports bullying or school violence to you, respond immediately and with compassion. Ask for the basic facts (who-what-when-where). You will need to evaluate the situation to determine if an immediate referral to my office is needed. Give the student our form for reporting bullying, 7:180-AP1, E5, *Report Form for Bullying and School Violence*.

Second - Provide me your feedback and concerns. Do you know of any bullying *hot spots* that need additional supervision or monitoring? Are there known bullies or targets of bullying?

Third - Intervene immediately to stop a bullying incident. When teachers or adults ignore bullying, students interpret it as acceptable behavior. Immediately contact building principals, superintendent, liaison officer and/ or law enforcement if the incident involves a weapon or other illegal activity.

Bullying is defined in the School Board policy as follows:

Bullying means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

- I. Placing the student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or property.
- II. Causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student's physical or mental health.
- III. Substantially interfering with the student's academic performance.
- IV. Substantially interfering with the student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Bullying, intimidation, and/or harassment may take various forms, including without limitation: threats, stalking, physical violence, sexual harassment, theft, public humiliation, destruction of property, or retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of bullying.

The Board's entire policy 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*, may be found on the District's website. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Kelle Bunch, Superintendent
Justin Edgar, HS Principal
Jody Obert, GS Principal

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