

BULLYING LAW REFERENCE SHEET

On January 5, 2011, Governor Chris Christie signed into law P.L. 2010, Chapter 122, an act concerning HIB in school settings that amended various parts of the statutory law.

The district board of education establishes that “harassment, intimidation or bullying” means any gesture, any written, verbal or physical act, or any electronic communication, as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14, whether it be a single incident or a series of incidents that is:

- Reasonably perceived as being motivated either by any actual or perceived characteristic, such as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or a mental, physical or sensory disability
- By any other distinguishing characteristic; and that
- Takes place on school property, at any school-sponsored function, on a school bus, or off school grounds, as provided for in N.J.S.A 18A: 37-15.3, that substantially disrupts or interferes with the orderly operation of the school or the rights of other students; and that
- A reasonable person should know, under the circumstances that the act(s) will have the effect of physically or emotionally harming a student or damaging the student’s property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of physical or emotional harm to his person or damage to his property; or
- Has the effect of insulting or demeaning any student or group of students; or
- Creates a hostile educational environment for the student by interfering with a student’s education or by severely or pervasively causing physical or emotional harm to the student.

The board of education requires the Principal at each school to be responsible for receiving all complaints alleging violation of this policy. All board of education members, school employees, and volunteers and contracted service providers who have contact with students, are required to verbally report alleged violations of this policy to the Principal on the same day when the individual witnessed or received reliable information regarding any such incident.

The first person that receives an allegation of Bullying MUST BE THE PRINCIPAL.

If the incident occurs a third time, Principal contacts the Superintendent for a meeting with all involved parties.