

STUDENT VIOLENCE / HARASSMENT / INTIMIDATION / BULLYING

The Governing Board of the Nogales Unified School District believes it is the right of every student to be educated in a positive, safe, caring, and respectful learning environment. The Governing Board further believes a school environment that is inclusive of these traits maximizes student achievement, fosters student personal growth, and helps a student build a sense of community that promotes positive participation as citizens in society.

To assist in achieving a school environment based on the beliefs of the Governing Board, bullying in any form will not be tolerated.

Bullying: Bullying may occur when a student or group of students engages in any form of behavior that includes such acts as intimidation and/or harassment that

- has the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm or damage to property,
- is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that the action, behavior, or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive environment in the form of physical or emotional harm,
- occurs when there is a real or perceived imbalance of power or strength, or
- may constitute a violation of law.

Bullying of a student or group of students can be manifested through written, verbal, physical, or emotional means and may occur in a variety of forms including, but not limited to

- verbal, written/printed or graphic exposure to derogatory comments, extortion, exploitation, name calling, or rumor spreading either directly through another person or group or through cyberbullying,
- exposure to social exclusion or ostracism,
- physical contact including but not limited to pushing, hitting, kicking, shoving, or spitting, and
- damage to or theft of personal property.

Cyberbullying: Cyberbullying is, but not limited to, any act of bullying committed by use of electronic technology or electronic communication devices, including telephonic devices, social networking and other Internet communications, on school computers, networks, forums and mailing lists, or other District-owned property, and by means of an individual's personal electronic media and equipment.

Harassment: Harassment is intentional behavior by a student or group of students that is disturbing or threatening to another student or group of students. Intentional behaviors that characterize harassment include, but are not limited to, stalking, hazing, social exclusion, name calling, unwanted physical contact and unwelcome verbal or written comments, photographs and graphics. Harassment may be related, but not limited to, race, religious orientation, sexual orientation, cultural background, economic status, disability, size or personal appearance. Harassing behaviors can be direct or indirect and by use of social media.

Intimidation: Intimidation is intentional behavior by a student or group of students that places another student or group of students in fear of harm of person or property. Intimidation can be manifested emotionally or physically, either directly or indirectly, and by use of social media.

Students are prohibited from bullying on school grounds, school property, school buses, at school bus stops, at school sponsored events and activities, and through the use of electronic technology or electronic communication equipment on school computers, networks, forums, or mailing lists.

Disciplinary action may result for bullying which occurs outside of the school and the school day when such acts result in a substantial physical, mental, or emotional negative effect on the victim, while on school grounds, school property, school buses, at school bus stops, or at school sponsored events and activities, or when such act(s) interfere with the authority of the school system to maintain order. All suspected violations of law will be reported to local law enforcement.

Students who believe they are experiencing being bullied or suspect another student is bullied should report their concern to any staff member of the School District. School personnel are to maintain appropriate confidentiality of the reported information.

Reprisal by any student directed toward a student or employee related to the reporting of a case or a suspected case of bullying shall not be tolerated, and the individual(s) will be subject to the discipline set out in applicable District policies and administrative regulations.

Students found to be bullying others will be disciplined up to and including suspension or expulsion from school.

Knowingly submitting a false report under Policy JICK or this exhibit shall subject the student to discipline up to and including suspension or expulsion. Where disciplinary action is necessary pursuant to any part of this policy, relevant District policies shall be followed.

Student may be expelled for at least one year except as pursuant to Bd. Policy JK

SEXUAL OFFENSES (Governing Board Policy ACA)

Pornography Possessing or sharing sexually explicit pictures, images or words.
Indecent Exposure or Public Sexual Indecency. Knowingly exposing private parts, or engaging in a sexual act in public.

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Sexual or Gender-Based Harassment: Sexual or gender-based harassment is intentional behavior by a student or group of students that is disturbing or threatening to another student or group of students and that is related to gender, sexual preference, or sexual orientation. Intentional behaviors that characterize sexual or gender-based harassment include, but are not limited to staking, hazing, social exclusion, name calling, unwanted physical contact and unwelcome verbal and written comments, unwelcome nonverbal behavior, photographs and graphics. Harassing behaviors under this definition can be a direct or indirect and by use of social media.

**Harassment that is related to an individual's sexual preference or sexual orientation (for example, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or stereotypes based-gender) is deemed to be gender-based harassment.

Sexual Harassment * Unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature, including unwelcome sexual advances, request for sexual favors in exchange for benefits or services or opportunities in a school program. It may be physical, verbal or non verbal.

Sexual Harassment with Contact* Sexual Harassment that includes unwanted physical contact of non-sexual body parts as well.

Sexual Abuse or Sexual Conduct with a minor** When a person knowingly engages in sexual conduct with a child under 18 without consent, or under 15 with or without consent.

Sexual Assault** Rape. Any sexual act without consent of the victim.

TECHNOLOGY, IMPROPER USE OF

Computer As defined by school policies. Includes improper use of prohibited software, or using equipment without authorization.

Network Infraction As defined by school policies. Includes Hacking, unauthorized web sites.

Telecommunication Device As defined by school policies for Cell phones.

THEFT (SCHOOL PROPERTY OR NON-SCHOOL PROPERTY)

Petty Theft Taking or attempting to take money or property under \$100.

Theft Depriving another person of money or property over \$100

Bullying

Victim Assistance

Nogales Unified School District is committed to providing a safe and orderly environment where students can focus on learning. Sometimes, students make inappropriate choices that interfere with the learning of others. The following information is provided to assist students who are victims of bullying, threats, intimidation, verbal or physical abuse, or any other action by another person that interferes with safety. Parents are encouraged to review this information with their child.

To help parents, community members and students report threats, rumors or information on criminal activity; the District has established a Safe Schools hotline 1-800-352-8431. This number is always available as a discreet way to convey important information to educators. Other helpful information is available from the school or by searching online resources.

Whenever a student feels bullied or threatened, he/she should tell a parent, teacher, counselor, nurse or other school employee immediately. The most important step a victim must take to stop bullying is to report it. Students should not wait to see if someone else notices the bullying. The student should tell someone he or she trusts and who is able to help them. If the student does not feel that he or she can report the bullying or threat in person, he or she should write a note explaining the situation. The student should: Tell what happened to him and his response to the event. Tell who bullied her and who saw it happen. Tell where the incident happened and how it happened. Write down everything that happened. Get help from a person in authority such as a teacher or counselor. See the school nurse if the bullying or threat is physical in nature. Students may report an incident of bullying to any adult on the school campus. The person contacted will inform the school administration and an investigation will begin. Consequences for bullying are outlined in this handbook.

**** To help students report bullying discreetly**

There is a bullying box in all the school's offices, where the students can put in a bullying referral note reporting any bullying seen at any time or victims of bullying themselves. These Bullying boxes will be monitored daily by school officials.