

Soaring Heights Charter School Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Policy

HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, AND BULLYING POLICY Table of Contents

Section	Section Title
A.	Policy Statement
B.	Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Definition
C.	Pupil Expectations
D.	Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Actions
E.	Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Off School Grounds
F.	Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Reporting Procedure
G.	Anti-Bullying Coordinator, Anti-Bullying Specialist and School Safety Team(s)
H.	Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Investigation
I.	Range of Responses to an Incident of Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying
J.	Reprisal or Retaliation Prohibited
K.	Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Action for False Accusation
L.	Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy Publication and Dissemination
M.	Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Training and Prevention Programs
N.	Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy Reevaluation, Reassessment and Review
O.	Reports to Board of Education and New Jersey Department of Education
P.	Reports to Law Enforcement
Q.	Collective Bargaining Agreements and Individual Contracts
R.	Pupils with Disabilities

A. Policy Statement

Soaring Heights Charter School Board of Trustees prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation or bullying of a pupil. A safe and civil environment in school is necessary for pupils to learn and achieve high academic standards. Harassment, intimidation or bullying, like other disruptive or violent behaviors, is conduct that disrupts both a pupil's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate its pupils in a safe and disciplined environment. Since pupils learn by example, school administrators, faculty, staff and volunteers should be commended for demonstrating appropriate behavior, treating others with civility and respect, and refusing to tolerate harassment, intimidation or bullying.

B. Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Definition

"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:

1. Is reasonably perceived as being motivated by either 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; or
2. By any other distinguishing characteristic; and that
3. 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 pupil; and that
4. A reasonable person should know, under the circumstances, that the act(s) will have the effect of physically or emotionally harming a pupil or damaging the pupil's property, or placing a pupil in reasonable fear of physical or emotional harm to his/her person or damage to his/her property; or
5. Has the effect of insulting or demeaning any pupil by interfering with a pupil's education or by severely or pervasively causing physical or emotional harm to the pupil.

"Electronic communication" means a communication transmitted by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, cellular phone, computer or pager.

The Board of Trustees prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation or bullying against any student. School responses to harassment, intimidation or bullying shall be aligned with the Board of Trustees approved code of conduct, which establishes standards, policies and procedures for positive student development and student sponsored functions. The chief school administrator shall be responsible for ensuring the prompt

