# Winslow Township Board of Education

40 Coopers Folly Road Atco, NJ 08004

# **New Jersey Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act**

# A Parent's Informational Guide



H. Major Poteat, Ed.D. Superintendent

Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying Prevention

#### Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Winslow Township Board of Education prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation and 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. The **New Jersey Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act** (effective September 1, 2011) and the **Winslow Township School District Policy #5512**, is intended to strengthen the standards and procedures for preventing, reporting, investigating and responding to incidents of harassment, intimation and bullying.

#### 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, and the Winslow Township Board of Education Policy #5512.01, 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 pupils; 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 or group of pupils; or
- 6. Creates a hostile educational environment for the 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.

#### **Pupil Expectations**

The Board expects pupils to conduct themselves in keeping with their levels of development, maturity and demonstrated capabilities with proper regard for the rights and welfare of other pupils, school staff, and the care of school facilities and equipment consistent with the Student Code of Conduct.

The Board believes that standards for pupil behavior must be set cooperatively through interaction among the pupils, parents, school employees, school administrators, school volunteers, and community representatives, producing an atmosphere that encourages pupils to grow in self-discipline. The development of this atmosphere requires respect for self and others, as well as for school district and community property on the part of pupils, staff, and community members.

Pupils are expected to behave in a way that creates a supportive learning environment. The Board believes the best discipline is self-imposed, and it is the responsibility of staff to use instances of violations of the Student Code of Conduct as opportunities to help pupils learn to assume and accept responsibility for their behavior and the consequences of their behavior. The Board expects that pupils will act in accordance with the pupil behavioral expectations and standards regarding harassment, intimidation and bullying.

# Parent's Informational Guide Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying

## • Anti-Bullying Coordinator

#### Mr. Dion Davis

Director of Human Resources 40 Coopers Folly Road, Atco, NJ (856) 767-2850 x7521

# Anti Bullying Specialist High School

#### Ms. Monika Weston

10 Coopers Folly Road, Atco, NJ (856) 767-1850

#### Anti-Bullying Specialist Middle School

# Ms. Stefanie McCarthy

30 Coopers Folly Road, Atco, NJ (856) 767-7222

# • Anti-Bullying Specialist School No. 1

#### Ms. Siobhan Funches

413 Inskip Road, Blue Anchor, NJ (609) 561-8300

## • Anti-Bullying Specialist School No. 2

#### Ms. Irumu Breau

125 First Avenue, Sicklerville, NJ (609) 561-8450

#### • Anti-Bullying Specialist School No. 3

#### Ms. Tina Browne-Sills

131 Sicklerville Road, Sicklerville, NJ (856) 728-1080

#### • Anti-Bullying Specialist School No. 4

#### Ms. Laura Duca

541 Kali Road, Sicklerville, NJ (856) 728-2440

# Anti-Bullying Specialist School No. 5

*Ms. Ashlea Mergenthal* 130 Oak Leaf Road, Berlin, NJ (856) 728-9445

## • Anti-Bullying Specialist School No. 6

*Ms. Linda Vignola* 617 Sickler Avenue Sicklerville, NJ 08081 (856) 875-4110

## Anti-Bullying "Week of Respect" - October 20-24, 2014

All schools in the district shall observe a "Week of Respect" in order to recognize the importance of character education. The district will provide age-appropriate instruction focusing on the prevention of harassment, intimidation and bullying.

- www.state.nj.us/education/students/safety/sandp/
- www.state.nj.us/education/cccs/
- www.state.nj.us/education/holocaust/
- www.state.nj.us/education/students/safety/behavior/hib

# Reporting of Incidents of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying:

Regular Board of Education Meeting January 2015 (Exact Date TBD)
Regular Board of Education Meeting July 2015 (Exact Date TBD)