

BULLYING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION POLICY

The Southington Board of Education is committed to creating and maintaining an educational environment that is physically, emotionally, and intellectually safe and thus free from bullying, harassment, and discrimination. In accordance with state law and the Board's Safe School Climate Plan, the Board expressly prohibits any form of bullying behavior on school grounds; at a school bus stop; on a school bus or other vehicle owned, leased, or used by a local or regional board of education; or through the use of an electronic device or an electronic mobile device owned, leased, or used by Board of Education.

The Board also prohibits any form of bullying behavior outside of the school setting if such bullying (i) creates a hostile environment at school for the student against whom such bullying was directed,(ii) infringes on the rights of the of the student against whom such bullying was directed at school, or (iii) substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of a school. Discrimination and/or retaliation against an individual who reports or assists in the investigation of an act of bullying is likewise prohibited.

Students who engage in bullying behavior shall be subject to school discipline, up to and including expulsion, in accordance with the Board's policies on student discipline, suspension, and expulsion, and consistent with state and federal law.

The full policy, including full definitions of "bullying" and "cyber-bullying," as well as the full prevention and intervention policy may be obtained in full on the district website as well as in each school and Board offices.