

AISD strives to ensure that all of its students are free from bullying and harassment including violence in students' relationships. All charges of bullying, harassment, and dating violence are to be taken very seriously by our students, faculty, staff, administration and parents.



We will make every effort to handle and respond to each and every charge and complaint filed by our students and employees in a fair, thorough and just manner. Every effort will be made to protect the due process rights of all victims and all alleged offenders.

Bullying is defined as engaging in written or verbal expression, expression through electronic means, or physical conduct that occurs on school property, at a school-sponsored or school-related activity, or in a vehicle operated by the district and the Board of Trustees or the Board's designee determines that the behavior:

- 1) **Has the effect or will have the effect** of physically harming a student, damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or of damage to the student's property; or is sufficiently severe, persistent, and pervasive enough that the action or threat creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment for a student.
- 2) **This conduct is considered bullying if it:**
 - exploits an imbalance of power between the student perpetrator who is engaging in bullying and the student victim through the written or verbal expression or physical conduct; and interferes with a student's education or substantially disrupts the operation of a school.

Cyberbullying is defined as the use of any electronic communication device to engage in bullying or intimidation.

Harassment is defined as repeated threats to cause harm or bodily injury to another student, engaging in intimidating conduct, causing physical damage to the property of another student, subjecting another student to physical confinement or restraint, or maliciously taking any action that substantially harms another student's physical or emotional health or safety.

Sexual Harassment means to repeatedly engage in unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, sexually abusive or vulgar language or other verbal, visual or physical conduct if such conduct with a student or staff creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive school environment.

Dating violence is the intentional use of physical, sexual, verbal or emotional abuse by a person to harm, threaten, intimidate or control another person with whom the student has or has had a dating relationship, as defined by §71.0021 of the Family Code.

What should a student do if they believe they are being bullied (including cyber bullying), sexually harassed, or is a victim of dating violence?

The student should immediately notify appropriate school personnel, which would include a classroom teacher, a counselor or an administrator of any such behaviors, in accordance with district policy FFH (Local). There is also an option to report bullying anonymously by calling Campus Crime Stoppers of Tarrant County at 817-469-8477 or on-line at www.469tips.com See Board Policies FFH and FFI which can be found online at www.aisd.net.