

# Reporting Harassment, Intimidating, Bullying, and Threatening Behavior

## HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, BULLYING AND THREATENING BEHAVIOR BY STUDENTS

The School Bullying Prevention Act and School District policy prohibit peer student harassment, intimidation, bullying and threatening behavior. This policy is in effect while the students are on school grounds, in school transportation, or attending school-sponsored activities, and while away from school grounds if the misconduct directly affects the good order, efficient management, and welfare of the school district. The term "harassment, intimidation and bullying" includes, but is not limited to any gesture, written or verbal expression, electronic communication or physical act that a reasonable person should know will:

1. harm another student;
2. damage another student's property;
3. place another student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or damage to the student's property; or PANAMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS 22
4. insult or demean any student or group of students in such a way as to disrupt or interfere with the School District's education mission or the education of any student. The term "threatening behavior" means any pattern of behavior or isolated action, whether or not it is directed at another person, that a reasonable person would believe indicates potential for future harm to students, school personnel or school property.

The Board of Education has adopted a policy prohibiting harassment, intimidation, bullying and threatening behavior that defines and explains this conduct and the District's response to the requirements of state law. Students and their parents can obtain a copy of the policy from their building principal or the superintendent. Students should immediately report acts of harassment, intimidation, bullying or threatening behavior toward them or other students to school personnel. Parents should:

1. Report harassment, intimidation, bullying and threatening behavior when it occurs;
2. Take advantage of opportunities to talk to their children about prohibited conduct;
3. Inform the school immediately if they think their child is receiving or initiating prohibited conduct;
4. Watch for symptoms that their child may be a victim of prohibited conduct and report those symptoms;
5. Cooperate fully with school personnel in identifying and resolving incidents;
6. Participate in all activities designed to eliminate harassment, intimidation, bullying and threatening behavior, including activities designed to address confirmed incidents.

\*\*\*Hazing is any activity that recklessly or intentionally endangers the physical or mental health or safety of a student, required as a condition of membership in an organization having student members that is sponsored by the School District or that is permitted to hold meetings or other events on School District property. Because of the disruption it poses to the educational process, all students are subject to disciplinary action, including suspension, for threatening, intimidating, coercing or harassing any school employee at any-time. Student behavior away from school may be the subject of discipline at school, including out-of-school suspension.

For Further Information Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities. Contact the School District's Title IX and 504/ADA coordinator, Dusty Walden, Panama, OK 74951, (918) 963-2217 facsimile (918) 963-2860 for further information concerning Title IX or to initiate a complaint under the School District's Grievance Procedures for Filing, Processing and Resolving Alleged Discrimination Complaints. Students and their parents can obtain a copy of the Grievance Procedures from their school principal or the superintendent. Panama Public Schools also prohibits disability harassment under Section 504 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act.