



## Objectives

- What is bullying & bullying behaviors?
- What is the difference between bullying and conflict?
- How does BCPS address bullying & bullying behaviors?
- What can parents do?





POLICY 5580

STUDENTS: Conduct

#### Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment or Intimidation

#### Policy Statement

A. The Board's Mission. The Board of Education of Baltimore County (Board) is committed to ensuring that every student learns in an environment that is safe and secure and conducive to learning. The Board believes that bullying, cyberbullying, harassment and intimidation are disruptive to learning and can adversely affect academic achievement, emotional well-being and school climate.

#### B. Applicability

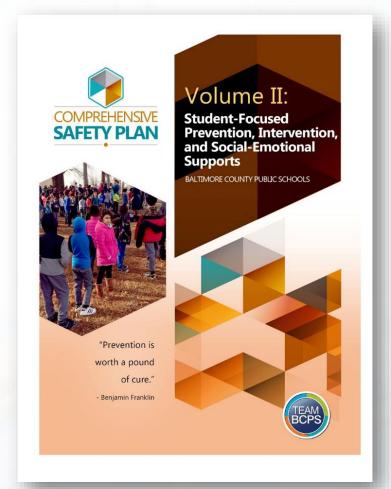
- The Board strictly prohibits bullying, cyberbullying, harassment or intimidation of any person in Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS). Board Policy 5580 and its implementing Superintendent's rule apply to students:
  - When participating in school-sponsored activities on school property or held off school property, including but not limited to: field trips, extracurricular activities or social events:
  - When traveling on a school bus, or other official means of transportation, on the way to and/or from school, and/or when participating in school-sponsored activities;
  - c. During virtual instruction; and
  - d. When an alleged act of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment or intimidation takes place off school grounds, provided that a nexus exists between the off-campus conduct and conduct on school property or school-sponsored activity.
- The Board prohibits bullying, cyberbullying, harassment or intimidation off school property that the school administrator's investigation determines creates a substantial disruption to the orderly operation of the school the orderly operation of a school.
- C. The Board further prohibits reprisal or retaliation against individuals who report acts of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment or intimidation or who are targets, witnesses, bystanders or others with reliable information about an act of bullying, cyberbullying, cyberbullying, harassment or intimidation.

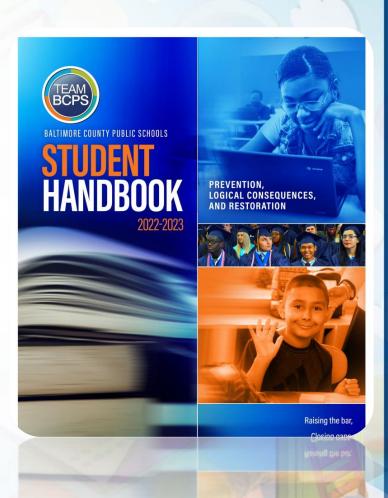
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### **Guidance**







### What is Bullying?

**Bullying** — unwanted, demeaning behavior among students that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or is highly likely to be repeated, over time.

To be considered bullying, the behavior must be intentional and include:

- 1. An imbalance or perceived imbalance of power (students who bully use their physical, emotional, social or academic power to control, exclude or harm others; and
- 2. 2. Repetition (bullying behaviors happen more than once or are highly likely to be repeated based on evidence gathered).

Superintendent's Rule 5580



### What is Conflict?

**Conflict** – a struggle between two or more people who perceive they have incompatible goals or desires

- Conflict occurs naturally as we interact with one another. It is a normal part of life that we will not always agree with other people about the things we want, what we think, or what we want to do.
- Most conflicts arise in the moment because people of the same relative amount of power see the same situation from two different points of view.



#### Conflict vs. Bullying

https://youtu.be/9oH9pox7gD0

#### **CONFLICT**

- Equal Power
- Happens Occasionally
- Accidental
- Equal emotional reaction
- Note seeking power or attention
- Remorse
- Effort to solve problem

#### BULLYING

- Imbalance of power
- Happens Repeatedly
- Purposeful
- Strong emotional reaction (victim)
- Seeking power or control
- No remorse
- No effort to solve problem



## **Tiered System of Supports**

Individualized Planning, Behavior Threat
Assessment Process, Intensive Therapy, Crisis
Intervention, Formal Restorative
Conferencing, Referrals

Small Group Counseling, Student Support Teaming, Referrals for Community Partners (ex. Conflict Resolution Center)

> Bullying Prevention Lessons, Social Emotional Learning, Brief Counseling, PBIS, Restorative Practices/Circling, MOM Awareness Campaign, Adult and Student Learning



### Warning Signs

### **Bullying Others**

- Getting into physical or verbal fights
- Has friends who bully others
- Blame others for their problems
- Don't accept responsibility for their actions

### Victim of Bullying

- Unexplainable injuries
- Lost or destroyed property
- Changes in eating habits
- Declining grades, not wanting to go to school
- Sudden loss of friends or avoidance of social situations



## What can parents do?

What to Do if Your Child Is Being Bullied

- https://4.files.edl.io/3638/06/23/18/150951-e8c1cb19-7ac9-4a06-9b6a-c41af4a4de38.pdf
   What to Do If Your Child Witnesses Bullying
- https://4.files.edl.io/de2f/06/23/18/150950-b2d591ce-c4b2-4ed3-957b-4e5048fb175d.pdf
   What Can Parents Do to Prevent and Address Cyber-bullying?
- https://4.files.edl.io/65d4/06/23/18/150950-85643e88-a019-42a1-9504-aab128dbd5f9.pdf
   What to Do If Your Child Bullies Others
- https://4.files.edl.io/fdbb/06/23/18/150951-ca3b2fba-6ccf-444b-b906-c39707b32d54.pdf



Reporting Bullying in BCPS

- Bullying, Harassment, Intimidation Reporting <u>Form</u>
- BHI Reporting in <u>Focus</u>



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