

September, 2011

Dear Parents:

The implementation of required actions under the new law regarding Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) arrives with the beginning of the new school year.

Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) Talking Points

- Our district has always taken student misconduct seriously, in all forms, and will continue to do so.
- We support the goals of the new law and will fully implement its requirements.
- The new law requires reporting of suspected HIB, investigation and determination of whether the behavior is HIB or not. It defines specific reporting and follow-up activities.
- The district policy and contact information for the Anti-Bullying Coordinator and Anti-Bullying Specialists is available on the district and school websites.
- The best approach to addressing HIB is collaboration with parents, clergy and community leaders to develop a community and school culture which does not tolerate incidents of HIB and promotes appropriate behavior.
- The law necessitates that human and capital resources be redirected from existing programs and services to meet its requirements.
- The law specifies staff training, student education, and reporting timelines.
- Many instances of student behavior outside the school are suspected to be HIB must be reported and addressed by school staff in the same fashion as in-school behavior.
- We are establishing school safety teams and will be speaking with students, staff and parents throughout the year about HIB incidents, the district response and prevention.

Sincerely,
Edward S. Thompson
Principal