

**East Allen County Schools
Bullying / Cyber Bullying
Administrative Guidance**

Definition:

Bullying shall mean unwelcome verbal, written, or physical conduct directed at a student by another student that has the effect of:

1. Physically, emotionally or mentally harming a student;
2. Damaging, extorting or taking a student's personal property;
3. Placing a student in reasonable fear of physical, emotional or mental harm;
4. Placing a student in reasonable fear of damage to or loss of personal property; or
5. Creating an intimidating or hostile environment that substantially interferes with a student's educational opportunities.

Cyber bullying includes, but is not limited to, the following misuses of technology: harassing, teasing, intimidating, threatening, or terrorizing another student or staff member by way of any technological tool, such as sending or posting inappropriate or derogatory email messages, instant messages, text messages, digital pictures or images, or website postings (including blogs) which has effect of:

1. Physically, emotionally or mentally harming another student;
2. Placing a student in reasonable fear of physical, emotional or mental harm;
3. Placing a student in reasonable fear of damage to or loss of personal property; or
4. Creating an intimidating or hostile environment that substantially interferes with a student's educational opportunities.

All forms of bullying are unacceptable and, to the extent that such actions are disruptive of the educational process of the School District, offenders shall be subject to appropriate staff intervention, which may result in administrative discipline.

If the conduct occurs off school grounds and causes or threatens to cause a substantial disruption at school or interferes with the rights of students to be secure, school administration may impose consequences. The Administration may also report the cyber Bullying or Harassment to the police.

Suggestions for Responding to Cyber Bullying or Harassment

- Save the evidence. Print the online harassing.
- Identify the Cyber Bully.
- Clearly tell the Cyber Bully to stop.
- Ignore the bully by leaving the online environment and/or blocking communications.
- File a complaint with the Internet or Cell Phone Company.
- Contact the cyber Bully's parents.
- Contact the school administration.
- Contact the police.