

## DEFINITIONS FOR FREEDOM FROM BULLYING POLICY

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According to The Public Schools Act (2013, Section 1.2), bullying is a behavior that is intended to cause fear, intimidation, humiliation, distress or other forms of harm to another person's body, feelings, self-esteem, reputation or property or is intended to create a negative school environment for another person.

Bullying takes place in a context of a real or perceived power imbalance between the people involved and is typically repeated behaviour.

It may be direct (face to face) or indirect (through others), and it may take place through any form of expression – including written, verbal, or physical – or by means of any form of electronic communication.

Bullying behaviour could include, but is not limited to:

- physical violence and attacks;
- verbal taunts, threats and intimidation;
- sexual harassment;
- extortion or stealing of money and possessions;
- exclusion from the peer group;
- racially or ethnically based verbal abuse;
- electronic or cyber bullying which includes the sending or posting of harmful e-mail or threatening text, images, or messages using e-mail, cameras of any kind, websites, social media, chat rooms, instant messaging, cell phones and other personal communication devices;
- bystanders who passively support or actively encourage the inappropriate behavior.

Effective Date:	March 15, 2016	Review Date:
Amended Date:	February 16, 2021	
Board Motion(s):	87/16; 49/21	
Legal/Cross Reference:	JICDAA – Safe, Caring, and Respectful Schools JKD – Student Suspension and Expulsion GBAA – Harassment Code of Conduct The Public Schools Act, C.C.S.M. c. P250	