

# Anti-Bullying Information

The following concept is a part of our school’s culture and will be the guidelines that will allow us to create the school climate that we envision at CATA. The following policy must appear in any student handbook, and in any publications that set forth the comprehensive rules, procedures, and standards for the School and students. Information regarding this policy must be incorporated into employee training materials.

The School prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying (including cyber-bullying) of any student on school property or at school-sponsored events (any event conducted on or off school property, including school buses and other school related vehicles, that is sponsored, recognized or authorized by the Board). A safe and civil environment in the school is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards. Harassment, intimidation, and bullying, like other disruptive or violent behaviors, are conduct that disrupts both a student’s ability to learn and the School’s ability to educate its students in a safe environment. Since students learn by example, school administrators, faculty, staff, and volunteers should be commended for demonstrating appropriate behavior, treating others with civility and respect, and refusing to tolerate bullying. The School prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying (including cyber-bullying) of any kind.

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“Harassment, intimidation, or bullying” means either of the following: 1) any intentional, written, verbal, graphic, or physical act that a student or group of students has exhibited toward another particular student more than once and the behavior both causes mental or physical harm to the another student; and is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment for the other student; or 2) violence within a dating relationship. The definition of “harassment, intimidation or bullying” also includes the above described acts which are electronically generated, stored or transmitted.

The School reserves the right to discipline students’ off-campus behavior which substantially disrupts the School’s educational process or mission, or threatens the safety or well-being of a student or staff member. Factors which may be considered in determining whether the behavior warrants discipline include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) whether the behavior created material and substantial disruption to the educational process or the School’s mission due to the stress on the individual(s) victimized or the time invested by staff in dealing with the behavior or its consequences; (2) whether a nexus to on-campus activities exists; (3) whether the behavior creates a substantial interference with a student’s or staff member’s security or right to educate and receive education; (4) whether the behavior invades the privacy others; or (5) whether any threat is deemed to be a true threat by the administration or School Board, using factors and guidelines set out by the courts or by common sense, reasonable person standards.

Some acts of harassment, intimidation, bullying and cyber-bullying may be isolated incidents requiring that the school respond appropriately to the individuals committing the acts. Other acts may be so serious or part of a larger pattern of harassment, intimidation, bullying or cyberbullying that they require a response either in the classroom, school building, or by law enforcement officials. Consequences and appropriate remedial actions for students who commit an act of harassment, intimidation, bullying or cyberbullying range from positive behavioral interventions up to and including suspensions or expulsion. Due process procedures for suspension and expulsion will be followed, as provided for under R.C 3313.66. The disciplinary procedures and code of conduct of the School shall be followed and shall not infringe on any student’s First Amendment rights under the United States Constitution.

## State Bullying Information:

We recorded 3 incidents of bullying in this 6-month period. The incidents resulted in one Alternative to Suspension and two Out of School Suspension.