

USD 507
Satanta School District



Bullying Prevention Plan



Adopted by:
USD 507 Board of Education
June 8, 2009

USD 507—Satanta Schools
Bullying Prevention Policy Guidelines

USD 507 POLICY

School districts must provide a safe and secure learning environment for all students, in school buildings on school buses, and at school-sponsored events. While we like to believe the majority of our students report feeling safe at school, we must also be aware that statistics usually show a small group of students that report they are being bullied, picked on, or harassed during school hours.

USD 507 adopted board policy JDDC in June, 2007, that reads:

“The board of education prohibits bullying in any form on school property, in a school vehicle or at a school-sponsored activity or event. The administration shall propose, and the board shall review and approve a plan to address bullying on school property, in a school vehicle, or at a school-sponsored activity or event.

The Plan shall include provisions for the training and education of staff members and students and shall include appropriate community involvement as approved by the board. Students who have bullied others in violation of this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension and expulsion. If appropriate students who violate the bullying prohibition shall be reported to local law enforcement.”

USD 507 expects students to conduct themselves in a manner in keeping with their levels of development, maturity, and demonstrated capabilities with a proper regard for the rights and welfare of other students, school staff, volunteers, and contractors. USD 507 believes that standards for student behavior and consequences for inappropriate behavior with regards to bullying and harassment will be stated in building level student handbooks and enforced by faculty and administration. The board of education approves handbooks annually and requires school officials to distribute handbooks annually to all school staff and parents.

DEFINITION

“Bullying” means:

1. Any intentional gesture or any intentional written, verbal or physical act or threat that is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student or staff member that a reasonable person, under the circumstances, knows or should know will have the effect of:
 - harming a student or staff member, whether physically or mentally
 - damaging a student’s or staff member’s property
 - placing a student or staff member in reasonable fear of harm to the student or staff member

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DEFINITION *(cont.)*

- placing a student or staff member in reasonable fear of damage to the student's or staff member's property.
- 2. Cyberbullying—using new communication technology (cellular phones, internet, and other forms of electronic media) to torment others, is taking humiliation to a frightening level.
- 3. Any other form of intimidation or harassment prohibited by any policy of USD 507.

USD 507 GOALS

Student Goals:

1. All students should have an understanding of the definition of bullying.
2. All students should know the school policy and consequences of bullying.
3. All students will have at least one seminar or series of lessons on characteristics of bullying and the prevention of bullying.
4. All students should be assured that any report of a bullying incident will be taken seriously and handled following policy.
5. Bullying will not be tolerated.

Faculty/Staff Goals:

1. All faculty/staff should have an understanding of the definition of bullying.
2. All faculty/staff should know the school policy on bullying and follow it.
3. All faculty/staff will have an annual bullying in-service.
4. Faculty/staff should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
5. Bullying will not be tolerated.

Parent/Community Goals:

1. A definition of bullying will be posted on the USD 507 web site for parents and community members.
2. The board policy (JDDC) will be posted on the USD 507 web site for parents and community members.
3. Parents and community members must be assured that bullying will not be tolerated and consequences will be followed according to handbook policies.

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COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

It is considered the responsibility of all students and school staff members to report acts of bullying to a member of the school staff or administration. All such reports are to be taken seriously by the staff and administration. An investigation to determine the facts will take place immediately or as soon as practicable, in order to verify the validity and seriousness of the report. Filing a report in good faith will not reflect upon the individual's status, or will it affect his or her grades or employment status by the district. The district shall keep the complaint confidential for both the accused and the accuser, until such time as the misconduct is confirmed and sanctions are imposed.

RESOURCES

1. Kansas State Department of Education
www.ksde.org/KS_SAFE_SCHOOLS_RESOURCE_CENTER/index.html
2. Kansas Bullying Prevention Program
www.stopbullyingkansas.org/
3. Safe youth.org Teen Facts/Bullying
www.safeyouth.org/scripts/teens/bullying.asp
4. Stop Bullying Now—Stan Davis web site (Olweus model)
<http://www.stopbullyingnow.com>
5. Pacer Center's Kids Against Bullying
www.pacerkidsagainstbullying.org
6. Preventing Classroom Bullying: What Teachers Can Do
<http://www.jimwrightonline.com/pdfdocs/bully/bullyBooklet.pdf>
7. Bullying Prevention Tips
<http://mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/15plus/aboutbullying.asp>
8. NEA Parent's Role in Bullying Prevention
www.nea.org/schoolsafety/bullying.html