

505.00.02 Bullying Prohibition Professional Development Requirements

1. Purpose

Consistent with Minn. Stat. § 122A.60, professional development will be offered to build the skills of all school personnel who regularly interact with students, including, but not limited to, teachers, administrators, school counselors, social workers, psychologists, other school mental health professionals, school nurses, cafeteria workers, custodians, bus drivers, athletic coaches, extracurricular activities advisors, and paraprofessionals. The goal of professional development will be to identify, prevent, and appropriately address acts of bullying.

2. Professional Development Requirements

A three-year professional development training cycle will be established for all school personnel who regularly interact with students. All newly employed school personnel will receive bullying prevention training within their first full calendar year of employment.

Professional development will include, at a minimum, information and/or materials about:

- Bullying prohibition policies within new employee training;
- Student Behavior Handbook: Rights and Responsibilities;
- Developmentally appropriate strategies to prevent and to immediately and effectively intervene to stop acts of bullying;
- The complex dynamics affecting the actor(s), target(s), and witness(es) to acts of bullying;
- Research about acts of bullying, including specific categories of students at risk for being engaged in acts of bullying; and
- Internet safety and the incidence and nature of cyberbullying.

Other elements of professional development may include, but are not limited to:

- Information about student data privacy laws and policies and
- Information and guidance surrounding the inquiry procedures required after a report of an act of bullying.

3. Monitoring

Professional development offerings will be reviewed and revised on a yearly basis to ensure the most current research and information is provided for all school personnel who interact regularly with students.

LEGAL REFERENCES:

Minn. Stat. § 121A.031 (Safe and Supportive Minnesota Schools Act)

Minn. Stat. § 122A.60 (Staff Development Program)