

Saratoga Elementary School Anti-Bullying Behavior Policy

It is the responsibility of every member of the Saratoga Elementary community to keep our school a safe and caring place, and to help make sure that no student is bullied at school.

Bullying is when someone repeatedly, with their words or actions, hurts, frightens, threatens, or leaves someone out on purpose.

Some examples of bullying include *the following incidences that are repeated over time*:

- Pushing, hitting, kicking or throwing things at someone
- Stealing or damaging another person's things
- Name-calling or teasing
- Threatening to hurt a person
- Leaving someone out on purpose
- Spreading rumors about someone

A student who believes that he or she has been bullied, or who has seen another student being bullied, should report the problem to a teacher or other adult at school. Any parent who becomes aware of or has concerns about incidents of bullying also should contact a teacher or the principal.

Consequences for Violation of the Anti-Bullying Policy

Depending on the severity and nature of the incident, Saratoga Elementary will take one or more of the following steps when bullying occurs:

- Intervention , Warning, and Redirection
A teacher, principal or support staff member will ensure that the immediate behavior stops and reinforce to the student that bullying will not be tolerated. During this meeting with the student, the staff member will redirect the student and come up with a plan for success in case they find themselves in a similar situation in the future.
- Meeting with Teacher/Principal
The student may meet with their teacher and principal to discuss the problem and to reinforce that bullying will not be tolerated.
- Notification to Parents
School staff will notify the parents of the involved students. The parents may be asked to meet with the principal or other members of the school support staff, including the student's teacher, and/or the school counselor or psychologist.
- Resolution with the Target of the Bullying
The student may be required to write a letter of apology to the student who was bullied. Depending upon the nature of the incident, the students involved may meet to help resolve the problem and ensure it does not happen again.
- Referral to Professional School Support Staff
The student may meet with the school counselor or psychologist to help prevent future violations.
- Consequences
The student may serve one or more days of detention in the office during recess, be assigned to work with an adult Noon League staff member, or lose school privileges.
- Suspension
In cases of severe or repeated bullying, the student may be suspended under District policies.
- Expulsion
In the event of dangerous bullying (such as serious physical violence or threats), or where repeated efforts to address the problem have failed, the student may be expelled under District policies.

As with all discipline actions, these matters are handled confidentially.

STUDENT CONTRACT

I, _____, promise that I will do my best to keep our school a safe and caring place. This means that I will:

1. Treat *everyone* with kindness and respect.
2. Resolve disagreements with other students peacefully.
3. Never tease, hurt, name-call or bully another student.
4. Refuse to join in if I see someone else being bullied.
5. Ask for help from an adult if I am bullied or see someone else being bullied.

Date: _____

Student's Signature

Parent's Signature