

# ***Bullying Policy***<sup>1</sup>

## **STATEMENT OF INTENT FOR BULLYING POLICY**

Chaparral Star Academy is committed to providing a caring friendly, school environment for all of our students so they can learn in a safe and secure learning atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school. If bullying does occur, all students should be able to speak up and know that their bullying incident report will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We are a *TELLING* school. This means that *anyone* who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell a staff member.

## **DEFINITION OF BULLYING**

Chaparral Star Academy defines bullying as:

- Written or verbal, electronic or physical expression, on school property, at a school-sponsored event or related activity, or in a school vehicle that
  - may harm a student, damage a student's property
  - place a student in fear of harm to the student's person or property
  - creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment
  - exploits a power imbalance between perpetrator and victim
- Actions determined as "bullying" must also meet the following criteria:
  - interfere with a student's education or substantially disrupt the school
  - are multiple and continual specific to perpetrator and victim
  - are sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive

## **PREVENTION OF BULLYING**

Chaparral Star Academy will execute the following programs in an effort to prevent bullying.

- 1.) CSA staff will receive annual training on recognition/presentation of bullying practices.
- 2.) A bullying behavior chart outlining the physical, emotional, and social forms of bullying will be distributed to each CSA instructor. Teachers will discuss the chart with students and mount the chart for classroom display (in every classroom).
- 3.) During September of each school year, a designated staff member will visit English classrooms at all grade levels to provide a lesson on bully prevention and appropriate methods for conflict resolution.
- 4.) CSA instructors will be asked to make a literature selection appropriate for their grade level that portrays bullying and its negative effects.

## **BULLYING PROCEDURES**

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<sup>1</sup> Approved by the governing board at the October 5, 2011 board meeting

The following outlines the sequence of events and related procedures for any and all bullying incidents:

- 1.) A possible bullying incident occurs
  - Students who witness or have knowledge of any bullying incident must inform a staff member immediately (no retaliation will be taken on informant)
  - Students who witness or have knowledge of any bullying incident may complete an online anonymous form available on the school's website (in accordance with David's Law)
- 2.) A staff member will record the bullying incident on the standard discipline referral form and submit the completed form to the front office
- 3.) Administration will investigate the incident
  - Administration will make a determination as to whether the incident is bullying
  - If the incident is not bullying, normal discipline procedures will be followed
- 4.) Administration will inform parents of both the perpetrator and victim of the incident and will ask the parents to attend separate meetings to discuss the incident
  - Due to student confidentiality, the name of the other student cannot be released by administration
- 5.) Administration will provide counseling opportunities to the victim, the perpetrator and witnesses
  - Defensive measures taken by the victim against bullying will be closely examined by administration (as none will be taken if self-defense is the determination)
  - An attempt to assist the bully in changing behavior will be made
- 6.) Administration will apply consequences that it believes are in the best interests of the students involved in and affected by the circumstances.

#### **POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES RELATED TO BULLYING**

- Admonishment
- Temporary removal from classroom
- Loss of privileges
- Detention
- Suspension
- Expulsion