

## Consequences:

Due to many physical and emotional effects of bullying, it is important to report it. Consequences will be determined for the following:

- the failure to report bullying
- the failure to report bullying promptly
- false reporting of bullying

*When you see something, do something.*

## Risk Factors of Bullying

According to a National Education Association survey on bullying, educators reported the top risk factors for being a victim of bullying to be:

- **a student's weight—over or under (23%)**
- **gender (20%)**
- **perceived sexual orientation (18%)**
- **disability (12%)**

Other risk factors may include:

- Perceived as being different from others
  - Perceived socioeconomic status
    - Poor social skills
  - Socially isolated/few friends

The basic premise is “perceived”. Perceptions can be dangerous. Perception is the difference in how we see or observe things.

We are all different.

*Variability is a part of making ourselves unique.*  
Prevent bullying by educating students.



## Resources:

BCSC Bullying Policy —  
<http://www.neola.com/bartholomew-in/>

## For Schools:

<http://www.stopbullying.gov/prevention/at-school/>

<http://www.bullyingprevention.org/>

## For Elementary Students:

<http://www.pacerkidsagainstabullying.org/#!/home>

## For Middle and High School Students:

<http://www.pacerteensagainstabullying.org/>



October is  
***Bullying Prevention  
Month***

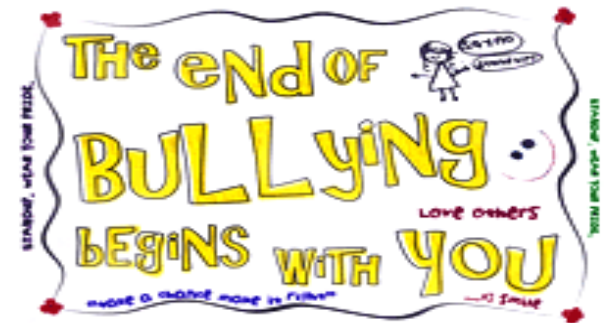
**BCSC**

*Bullying Education Resource*



This resource is provided to educate all stakeholders on bullying.

***Topics included are:***



- Indiana Code
- Terms to Know
- Types of Bullying
- Reporting and Investigation
- Consequences

Bullying can happen  
to **anyone, anywhere!**

Students alone may not be able to stop a bully;  
therefore,  
adult prevention and intervention  
is *very important* for  
students to work it out.

**Bullying is defined for Indiana schools in HEA 1423**

Indiana Code 20-33-8-0.2 defines “**Bullying**” to mean:

Overt (intentional) unwanted, repeated acts or gestures

including:

- *Verbal or Written communication, or images* transmitted in any manner (including digitally or electronically)
- *Physical acts* committed, *aggression, or any other behaviors* that are committed by a student or group of students against another student *with the intent to:*

**Harass, ridicule, humiliate, intimidate, or harm** the targeted student and

Create for the targeted student **an objectively hostile learning environment**

An “*objectively hostile learning environment*” :

- places the targeted student in *reasonable fear or harm* to the targeted student’s **person or property**;
- has a *substantially detrimental effect* on the targeted student’s **physical or mental health**;
- has the *effect of substantially interfering* with the targeted student’s ability to **participate in or benefit from the services, activities, and privileges provided by the school**

***In simple terms, bullying means:***

- Unwanted, aggressive behavior
- Repeated, or the potential for repeated, behavior
- Real or perceived power imbalance

**TERMS TO KNOW:**

- **Target** Or Victim: Student that has been bullied
- **Bullier Or Student Exhibiting Bullying Behavior:** Student that has been identified as exhibiting behavior that was determined to be bullying
- **Witness** Or Bystander: Student(s) that have observed another student being bullied.

**4 TYPES OF BULLYING:**

**Physical:** involves hurting a person’s body or possessions.

- Hitting/kicking/pinching
- Spitting
- Tripping/pushing
- Taking or breaking someone’s things
- Making mean or rude hand gestures

**Verbal:** saying mean things.

- Teasing
- Name-calling
- Inappropriate sexual comments
- Taunting
- Threatening



**Social/Relational:** involves hurting someone’s reputation or relationships.

- Leaving someone out on purpose
- Telling other children not to be friends with someone
- Spreading rumors (about someone)
- Embarrassing someone in public.

**Electronic or Written Communication:** bullying that takes place through the use of written messages or using various forms of electronic technology. This includes all forms of Cyber-bullying.

- Mean text messages or emails
- Rumors sent by email or posted on social networking sites (examples: Facebook, Twitter, etc.)
- Embarrassing pictures, videos websites or fake profiles

**What is NOT considered bullying?**

There are many other types of aggressive behaviors that do not fit the definition of bullying. They are not any less serious, and may require intervention. Some examples include:

- Peer conflict
- Teen dating violence
- Hazing
- Gang violence
- Harassment
- Stalking

**Reporting and Investigating:**

Be sure to **promptly or immediately report** any observed or alleged incident **IN WRITING** in order for an investigation to occur.

- An observed or alleged incident should be reported **IN WRITING** promptly and within the same day to school administrators or their designee. If a student reports an incident to you, *but does not want to write out the report it is your responsibility to write it out for the student.*

⇒ **Include in written report:** offense, date(s), location of the offense, identity of reported bully, identity of any witnesses

- Once a referral or anonymous report has been received, an investigation will be initiated within one school day
- If determined to be a bullying incident, the parents of both the target student and the bully will be notified in an expedited manner.
- If the nature of the incident is an illegal act, the incident will be reported to local law enforcement.