

Anti-Bullying Contract for Billings Public Schools

Billings Public Schools is committed to making our schools a safe and caring place for everyone. We treat each other with respect, and we refuse to tolerate any form of bullying at any of our schools.



BPS Definition of Bullying: *Bullying behavior happens when someone uses his or her power to hurt another person.*

HIB

“Harassment,” “Intimidation” and “Bullying” means any threatening, insulting, or demeaning gesture or physical conduct, including any intentional written, verbal, or electronic communication or threat directed against a student or students regardless of the underlying reason for such conduct that:

- causes a student physical or mental harm, damages a student’s property or places a student in reasonable fear of harm to the student or the student’s property;
- is sufficiently severe, pervasive or persistent as to interfere with or limit a student’s ability to participate in or benefit from access to educational opportunity or benefit; and/or
- Substantially disrupts the orderly operation of the school (District Policy 3210).

Bullying behavior often includes the following:

- Physically hurting by hitting, tripping, pushing, shoving, biting, etc.
- Using name-calling, put-downs, teasing mockery, racial slurs, sexual comments, or swearing to insult, intimidate, or make fun of someone
- Spreading rumors about someone
- Excluding someone on purpose from a group activity, or trying to get others to not play with someone
- Using cruel gestures or facial expressions
- Touching or showing private body parts
- Taking or damaging someone’s possessions

Adults at our school will do the following to prevent bullying and to help students feel safe at school:

- Implement classroom instruction regarding bullying behavior
- Watch for signs of bullying and stop it when it happens
- Respond quickly and sensitively to bullying reports
- Closely observe students in the building, on the playground, and elsewhere on campus
- Take parents’ concerns about bullying seriously
- Assign consequences for bullying and contact parents
- Provide immediate consequences for retaliation against students who report bullying
- Address issues in class as needed
- Support students who have been bullied

Students attending a Billings Public School will do the following to prevent bullying:

- Treat each other with respect
- Refuse to bully others
- Refuse to let other students be bullied
- Refuse to watch, laugh, or join when someone is being bullied
- Try to include everyone in games and activities, especially those who are often left out
- Try to see the other person’s point of view
- Report bullying to an adult

The consequences of bullying and supporting bullying may, depending on the age of the child, include but is not limited to:

- Parental notification
- Loss of privilege(s), including participation in school activities
- Parent conference
- Reassignment of seats
- Reassignment of classes
- Reassignment of another mode of transportation
- Escort of the perpetrator
- Completion of apology letter and acknowledgement of behavior
- Referral or appointments with school counselor or other professionals
- Payment for damaged property
- Detention
- Suspension (in-school or out-of-school)
- Referral to law enforcement
- Expulsion