

Our commitment to the community:

Toppenish School District is committed to a safe and civil educational environment for all students, employees, parents/guardians, volunteers and patrons, that is free from harassment, intimidation and bullying.

Useful Websites:

www.toppenish.wednet.edu/admin_parent.cfm

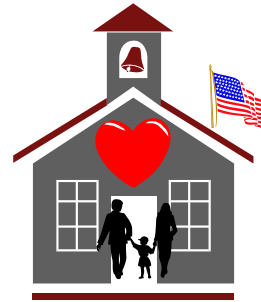
This is the anti-harassment page of the Toppenish School District website.

www.StopBullying.gov

This U.S. Government website is managed by the departments of Health & Human Services, Education and Justice. There are materials here for both kids and adults.

www.k12.wa.us/SafetyCenter/default.aspx

This website is located at the Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.



Toppenish School District No. 202

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Toppenish School District

“Where students come first, and teachers and families work together to make a difference in providing the highest level of learning for each student.”

Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying

Policy and Procedures Summary

Definition of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying:

“Harassment, intimidation or bullying” means any intentional electronic, written, verbal, or physical act, including but not limited to those shown to be motivated by race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, mental or physical disability or other distinguishing characteristics, when such an act:

- Physically or emotionally harms a student or damages the student’s property; or
- Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student’s education; or
- Is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
- Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

What makes bullying different from other incidents where students may be hurt?

Key ideas:

- **There is an imbalance of power.** People who bully use their power to control or harm, and the people being bullied may have a hard time defending themselves.
- **Intent to cause harm.** Actions done by accident are not bullying; the person bullying has a goal to cause harm.
- **Repetition.** Incidents of bullying happen to the same person over and over by the same person or group.

How do we address bullying?

- **Teach/inform students:** Students are given age-appropriate information about bullying, prevention strategies, and ways to identify and report bullying. Each school displays information about how to report bullying, including the new reporting forms.
- **Staff training:** Staff receives annual training on the school district’s policy and procedures, including staff roles and responsibilities, how to monitor common areas, and the use of the District’s incident reporting forms.
- **School Compliance Officer:** Each school has a designated compliance officer to oversee the implementation of anti- harassment policies and procedures. Contact your school office for more information.
- **District Compliance Officer:** Jeanette Ozuna, (509) 865-4455, ozuajl@toppenish.wednet.edu. The District Compliance Officer oversees implementation across the district and serves as a resource.

How can you report bullying?

- You can report bullying to any school staff member or the District Compliance Officer.
- Reports can be filed anonymously. Each school office has reporting forms. They are also available on the Toppenish School District website in the “Students and Family” section under “Bullying”.

What happens after bullying is reported?

Each situation is different. Sometimes a report can be followed by quick intervention and resolution. These situations typically do not meet the definition of bullying.

When an incident or series of incidents meets the definition of bullying described above, a designated staff member conducts an investigation and follows a specific timeline described in the procedures. The investigation includes interviews and notification of parents of both the alleged aggressor and the targeted student. If the outcome of the investigation indicates that bullying has occurred, consequences may be assigned and a plan is developed which includes a plan for follow-up. On completion of the investigation and the plan, a report is completed and shared with the appropriate staff.

The complete policy and procedure including report forms can be viewed on the District website under “Students and Family”. Hard copies can be obtained from your school or the District Office.

We recognize that bullying is a widespread and persistent problem that can happen anywhere despite education and prevention efforts. We ask you to partner with us to address this problem and to ensure that our schools are safe and positive places for growing and learning.