

# KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## SCHOOL BOARD COMMUNICATION

Title:	Board Policy Worksession		
Date:	November 26, 2012	Item Number:	
Administrator:	Dave Jones, Assistant Superintendent <i>Dave Jones</i> Sean Dusek, Assistant, Superintendent <i>Sean Dusek</i>		
Attachments:	<i>BP 100 Philosophy . . . . . 2</i> <i>BP 5131.43 Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying. . . 4</i>		

<input type="checkbox"/> Action Needed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Discussion	<input type="checkbox"/> Information	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
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## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The following were reviewed at the November 12, 2012 Policy Committee meeting.

### *BP 100 Philosophy*

- The Board made changes to the Mission in its FY 13-17 Strategic Plan. This policy is updated to reflect the recently approved Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and Guiding Principles.

### *BP 5131.43 Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying*

- AASB has updated this policy to be in line with the requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act with more focus on cyberbullying, and the District is following suit.
- The committee also discussed this at its August 6, 2012 meeting. Additionally, the District Instructional Team discussed these revisions.

## ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

## **PHILOSOPHY**

~~The mission of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District, in partnership with its richly diverse communities, is to develop creative, productive learners who demonstrate the skills, knowledge, and attitudes to meet life's challenges, by providing stimulating, integrated learning opportunities in a safe, supportive environment.~~

### **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District is to develop productive, responsible citizens who are prepared to be successful in a dynamic world.

### **Vision Statement**

We envision KPBSD students *engage* in their learning, *participate* in their community, reach high levels of *achievement*, and *graduate* prepared for their future.

### **Guiding Principles**

1. Each student can learn and be successful
2. Every student is recognized as unique, valuable, and is treated with respect and dignity
3. Learning is a lifelong process
4. The educational environment is safe, engaging and purposeful
5. Our students' educational experience depends on understanding and working with diverse communities
6. Early identification of strengths and weaknesses is crucial to ensure overall development and achievement
7. High standards and expectations are essential for student success and preventing student failure
8. Continuous improvement is student-centered, data-driven, and collaborative
9. Differentiated learning opportunities are integral to all instruction
10. A rigorous curriculum challenges students
11. Collaboration and effective instruction are district commitments
12. Teachers are facilitators of learning and agents of inspiration

**PHILOSOPHY (Continued)**

13. KPBSD graduates are prepared for post-secondary education and, or, career ready
14. All financial decisions are student centered and sustainable

The School Board is committed to providing a program of instruction which offers each child an opportunity to develop to the maximum of his/her individual capabilities.

*(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)*

*Legal Reference:*

ALASKA STATUTES

14.03.015 State education policy

14.08.111 Duties

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Adoption Date: 7/1/96**

**BULLYING HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING**

The Board is dedicated to providing a safe and civil ~~learning~~-environment that optimizes learning. ~~Bullying is a form of harassment and intimidation that~~Harassment, intimidation, and bullying disrupts a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate. Bullying may also impact school climate and the learning of potentially large groups of students.

*(cf. 5137 – Positive School Climate)*

Students and staff are prohibited from engaging in any form of ~~bullying harassment, intimidation, or bullying~~ while on school property, on school buses, at a bus stop, or at school-sponsored activities or functions. Students who engage in an act of bullying are subject to appropriate interventions and disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or expulsion. Staff who engage in an act of bullying are also subject to appropriate disciplinary action up to and including suspension and termination.

To promote an environment free of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, the principal shall take appropriate actions such as removing vulgar or offending graffiti, establishing site rules, soliciting site council/parent/community input and providing staff inservice, parent education and student instruction and counseling. Teachers shall discuss this policy with their students in age appropriate ways and assure students that they need not endure any form of harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

*(cf. 5131.43-41 – Violent and Aggressive Conduct)*

*(cf. 5131.5 – Vandalism, Theft and Graffiti)*

*(cf. 5144 – Discipline)*

*(cf. 5144.1 – Suspension and Expulsion)*

**Bullying DefinedDefinitions**

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying means an intentional act, whether written, oral, electronic or physical-aet, when the act is undertaken with the intent of threatening, intimidating, harassing, or frightening the student, and

1. physically harms the student or damages the student's property; or
2. has the effect of substantially interfering with the student's education;  
or
3. is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
4. has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

**BULLYING HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING** (Continued)

~~Bullying is the repeated intimidation of others by inflicting or threatening physical, verbal, written, electronic, or emotional abuse, or damage to another's property. Bullying may include, but is not limited to, conduct such as physical abuse, damage or theft of another's property, social exclusion from activities, verbal taunts, name-calling, rumors, innuendoes, drawings, jokes, gestures, pranks, and put downs relating to real or perceived differences, including another's culture, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, body size, physical appearance, clothing, personality, age, socioeconomic status, ability or disability or other distinguishing characteristics.~~

*(cf. 5145.3 – Nondiscrimination)*

*(cf. 5145.7 – Sexual Harassment)*

*(cf. 4119.12 – Harassment)*

**Cyberbullying**

All forms of harassment, intimidation or bullying via electronic means, commonly referred to as cyberbullying, are prohibited. Cyberbullying also includes, but is not limited to, other misuses of technology to threaten, harass, intimidate, or bully, including sending or posting inappropriate email messages, instant messages, text messages, digital pictures or images, or Web site postings, including blogs. An individual who redistributes a cyberbullying communication can be found in violation of this policy, even if the individual did not author or create the original communication or image.

The District's computer network, including access to the Internet via that network, whether accessed on campus or off campus, during or after school hours, may not be used for the purpose of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Users are responsible for the appropriateness of the material they transmit over the system. All forms of harassment, intimidation or bullying over the network, commonly referred to as cyberbullying, are prohibited. Cyberbullying also includes, but is not limited to, other misuses of technology to harass, intimidate, or bully, including sending or posting inappropriate email messages, instant messages, text messages, digital pictures or images, or Web site postings, including blogs.

Students and staff who believe they have been the victims of such misuses of technology, as described in this policy, should not erase the offending material from the system. A copy of the material should be printed and a report made under this policy.

In situations in which the cyberbullying originated-originates from a private (non-school) computer or other electronic device, but is brought to the attention of school officials, disciplinary measures may be imposed provided when the cyberbullying and/or Internet threatscommunication:

**BULLYING HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING** (Continued)

1. Contains threats of violence or harm against staff members—~~or~~, students, or their property;
- ~~2.~~ Suggests or advocates physical harm to staff members or students; ~~or~~
3. Causes a student or staff member to experience a substantially detrimental effect on his or her physical or mental health;
4. Causes a student or staff member to experience substantial interference with academic or work performance, or with his or her ability to participate in or benefit from District services or activities;
- ~~25.~~ Threatens vandalism to school property; or
- ~~46.~~ Creates a significant disruption to the school's educational mission, purpose ~~and~~ or objectives.

Disciplinary action will include appropriate interventions, and also may include, but is not limited to, the loss of computer privileges, detention, suspension, or expulsion for those committing acts of cyberbullying. In addition, ~~when any kind of threat is communicated or when a or hate crime is committed, this shall will be reported to local law enforcement officials.~~

Students and staff who believe they have been the victims of cyberbullying, as described in this policy, should not erase the offending material from the system. A copy of the material should be printed and a report made under this policy.

*(cf. 6161.4 – Acceptable Use Policy/ Internet Standards Policy)*

**Reporting**

Students or staff members who have witnessed, or have reliable information that a student has been subjected to harassment, intimidation or bullying, should report the incident immediately to the principal who shall promptly initiate an investigation. The investigation shall include an assessment of what actions should be taken, as appropriate, to protect the student who has been found to be the victim of harassment, intimidation or bullying. Such actions may include the provision of support services necessary to permit the student to feel safe and secure in attending school. The Superintendent shall develop procedures to implement this policy.

This policy should not be interpreted to prohibit a reasoned and civil exchange of opinions or debate that is protected by law and Board policy.

*(c.f. 5145.2 – Freedom of Speech/Expression)*

**BULLYING HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING** (Continued)

Conduct that does not rise to the level of- harassment, intimidation and bullying may still be prohibited by other policies or rules.

*(cf. 5131 – Conduct)*

*(cf. 3522.5 – Campus Disturbances)*

*(cf. 5131.41– Violent and Aggressive Conduct)*

*(cf. 5131.5 – Vandalism, Theft & Graffiti)*

*(cf. 5137 – Positive School Climate)*

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

14.33.200 Harassment, intimidation and bullying policy

14.33.210 Reporting of incidents of harassment, intimidation or bullying

14.33.220 Reporting, no reprisals

14.33.230 Immunity from suit

14.33.250 Definitions

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Adoption Date: 09/12/2005**