

	ABERDEEN SCHOOL DISTRICT	NEPN Code: JFCD
	POLICIES AND REGULATIONS	

CYBER BULLYING

Cyber bullying is all forms of persistent harassment over the Internet or other forms of electronic communications, including cell phones. Students and staff will refrain from using communication devices or District property to harass or stalk one another. The District’s computer network and the Internet, whether accessed at school or away from school, during or after school hours, may not be used for the purpose of cyber bullying. All forms of cyber bullying are unacceptable and viewed as a violation of this policy and the District’s acceptable computer use policy and procedures. The District will annually inform staff, students, and parents of the District’s cyber bullying prevention policies and efforts.

Users are responsible for the appropriateness of the material they transmit, retrieve, or store. Hate mail, harassment, discriminatory or defamatory remarks, or other anti-social behaviors are expressly prohibited. Cyber bullying includes, but is not limited to the following misuses of technology: harassing, teasing, intimidating, threatening, or terrorizing another person by sending or posting inappropriate and hurtful e-mail messages, instant messages, text messages, digital pictures or images, or web site postings, including blogs. As new technologies emerge, they too may be included with these forms of electronic communication. It is also recognized that the author (poster or sender) of the inappropriate material is often disguised (logged on) as someone else.

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 brought to the attention of a principal, teacher, or supervisor.

Any individual filing a report of cyber bullying will be asked to put the facts surrounding the conduct in writing on a form (NEPN Policy JFCD-E) provided by the District. The administration shall fully investigate all reports of cyber bullying within ten (10) working days of receiving the report.

In situations in which cyber bullying originated from a non-school computer, but is brought to the attention of school officials, any disciplinary action shall be based upon whether the conduct is or has potential to be severely disruptive of the educational process so that it markedly interrupts or severely impedes the day-to-day operations of a school. In addition, such conduct must also violate a school policy. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to, threats, or making a threat off school grounds, to harm a member of the school staff or a student.

Malicious use of the District's computer system to develop programs or to institute practices that harass other users to gain unauthorized access to any entity on the system and/or damage the components of an entity on the network is prohibited.

Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to, the loss of computer privileges, detention, suspension, or expulsion for verified perpetrators of cyber bullying. In addition, when any kind of threat or other illegal act is communicated, it shall be reported to local law officials.

Cross References:

- JFCE, JFCE-R, and JFCE-E Student Bullying
- GBAA, Sexual Harassment
- JK, Student Rights and Responsibilities, Student Due Process Rights, Student Conduct
- JKD, Student Suspension and Expulsion
- JICFA, Hazing
- JK, Rules of Student Conduct and Discipline

ADOPTED: August 10, 2009

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