Northeastern Catholic District School Board

Bullying Prevention and Intervention School Plan

SCHOOL: St. Anne	DATE OF REVIEW: October 2024

MEMBERS OF THE SAFE SCHOOLS TEAM:

Amber Smith-Comé - Principal
Razia Mwondha - Teacher
Charlene Martin-Flamain - CYW
Julia Ellis - Parent – School Council
Michelle Simard – OPP Officer/Community Partner

POLICY STATEMENT

The Northeastern Catholic District School Board (NCDSB) believes that all people are created in the image and likeness of God and that every person has the right to be treated with dignity, respect and fairness. The Board recognizes that a positive school climate exists when all members of the school community feel safe, included and accepted and actively promote positive behaviours and interactions. The NCDSB committed to building and sustaining safe Catholic school communities where all member stakeholders share the responsibility of eliminating violence in accordance with our Catholic faith and gospel values. The NCDSB believes that safe learning environments enable students to reach their full academic and spiritual potential.

DEFINITIONS

Bullying
Bullying means aggressive and typically repeated behaviour by a student where:
1. the behaviour is intended by the student to have the effect of, or the student ought to know that the behaviour would be likely to have the effect of;
    i. causing harm, fear or distress to another individual, including physical, psychological, social or academic harm, to the individual's reputation or to the individual's property, or
    ii. creating a negative environment at a school for another individual, and
2. the behaviour occurs in a context where there is a real or perceived power imbalance between the student and the individual based on factors such as size, strength, age, intelligence, peer group power, economic status, social status, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, family circumstances, gender, gender identity, gender expression, race, disability or the receipt of special education.

Bullying behaviour may include any of the following but is not limited to:
    1.
      others with public gestures or graffiti, and shunning or ignoring);

    4. electronic (example: spreading rumours, images, or hurtful comments through the use of email, cell phones, text messaging, Internet websites, social networking, or other technology).

Cyber Bullying

Cyber-bullying includes bullying by electronic means, which may include:

1. creating a web page or a blog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person;
2. impersonating another person as the author of content or messages posted on the internet;

communicating material electronically to more than one individual or posting material on a website that may be accessed by one or more individuals.

AWARENESS STRATEGIES

School climate surveys are completed a minimum of every two years and results are shared publicly. Our next school climate survey is scheduled for 2025.

The Code of Conduct is reviewed and shared with a broad range of stakeholders on an annual basis. Ongoing communication of expected behaviours, including a focus on defining bullying is accomplished through morning announcements, CYW visits and programming, parent communications through newsletters, council meetings and activities.

Bullying Prevention week is celebrated actively by the Board and its schools, beginning the third Sunday in November. This year we plan to

- Have all students develop and recommit to an anti-bullying pledge with a link to the Golden Rule. This will be displayed on a bulletin board as a reminder and recognition of our school commitment.
- Classes will read different read alouds throughout the week that focus on kindness, empathy and anit-bullying (*Chrysanthemum, The Invisible Boy, The Any Bully, Don't Laugh at Me* etc.)
- Students will be selecting a bible verse to be engraved onto the buddy bench that was made for the school as a part of last year's Bully Prevention Plan. Each class will choose a verse and the staff and students will vote on their desired verse. The wining verse will be added to the bench.
- Student Council/Grade 7/8 classes will revisit and review the definitions created and shared in previous years, defining the different forms of bullying and offering solutions to bullying situations. Posters will be created and posted throughout the school. Older classes will pair up with younger classes and students will create posted that encourage kindness, respect and standing up to bullying. These posters will be displayed throughout the school.
- Staff will reinforce consistent problem-solving strategies using the Strategies for Life Tools which will 6 (t)-4rlrts solvingy1agl wiistent

- Support student-lead initiatives, activities, and co-curricular clubs that intend to reduce bullyin

http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/safeschools.html

Policy/Program Memorandum No.144: Bullying Prevention and Intervention
http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/extra/eng/ppm/144.pdf

Policy/Program Memorandum No.145: Progressive Discipline and Promoting Positive Student Behaviou
http://edu.gov.on.ca/extra/eng/ppm/145.pdf

Ontario's Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy
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