Bullying Prevention and Response Plan

This Bullying Prevention and Response Plan is to provide for the prevention and investigation of bullying as defined in and prohibited by Board Policy 7:180 and Section 27-23.7 of the Illinois School Code (105 ILCS 5/27-23.7).

I. Reporting

Bullying may be reported orally or in writing to the Building Principal or any staff member with whom the complainant is comfortable speaking.

Anonymous reports may be report to info@psd150.org.

See Exhibit 1, Model Bullying Reporting Form.

II. Investigation

Upon receipt of a bullying report, the staff member shall promptly notify the Building Principal or designee. The Superintendent, Building Principal or designee shall investigate whether a report of bullying is within the permissible scope of the District’s jurisdiction. If the report of bullying is determined to not be within the District’s jurisdiction, the Superintendent, Building Principal or designee – shall promptly notify the individual who made the report of bullying. If the report of bullying is determined to be within the District’s jurisdiction, the Building Principal or designee shall promptly investigate the report of bullying.

All reasonable efforts shall be made to complete the bullying investigation within 10 school days after the date the report of bullying was received. If the bullying investigation cannot be completed within those 10 school days, the investigator shall promptly notify the Building Principal or designee identify the reasons why the bullying investigation cannot be completed within 10 school days, and establish a timeframe for completing the investigation.

When investigating a report of bullying, the Building Principal or designee shall involve, if necessary, appropriate school support personnel and other staff with knowledge, experience, and training on bullying prevention.

See Exhibit 2, Model Bullying Investigation Checklist.

III. Notification to Parents/Guardians

All notifications and information provided to parents/guardians shall by consistent with federal and State laws and rules governing student privacy rights.

The Superintendent, Building Principal or designee shall promptly inform the parent(s)/guardian(s) of every student involved in an alleged incident of bullying and discuss, as appropriate, the availability of social work services, counseling, school psychological services, other interventions, and restorative measures.
Additionally, the **Superintendent, Building Principal or designee** – shall inform the parents/guardians of the students who are parties to the bullying investigation information about the investigation and an opportunity to meet with the **Building Principal or other designated administrator** or designee to discuss the investigation, the findings of the investigation, and the actions taken to address the reported incident of bullying.

**IV. Interventions**

The District shall use interventions to address bullying, that may include, but are not limited to, school social work services, restorative measures, social-emotional skill building, counseling, school psychological services, and community-based services.

In addition, the District shall provide the victim of the bullying incident with information regarding services that are available within the District and community, such as counseling, support services, and other programs.

**V. Students with Disabilities**

If the **Superintendent, Building Principal or designee** determines that a student is the victim of bullying as defined in this Policy and the student is eligible for special education or related services under the **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act** ("IDEA") or Section 504 of the **Rehabilitation Act of 1973**, the school shall convene an IEP meeting or 504 meeting to determine whether, as a result of the bullying, the student experienced a break in educational services or a denial of FAPE – a free and appropriate public education. If the IEP team/504 team determines that the student experienced a loss in FAPE as a result of the student-on-student bullying, the IEP/504 team must determine to what extent additional or different special education or related services are necessary and revise the IEP/Section 504 plan accordingly.

Additionally, if a student engages in bullying and is receiving special education or related services under IDEA or Section 504, staff should consider convening an IEP/Section 504 meeting to develop or review the student’s behavioral intervention plan ("BIP") and any appropriate disciplinary intervention responses and/or other revisions to the student’s BIP and IEP/504 plan.

**VI. Consequences**

A student who is found to have committed an act of bullying shall be disciplined consistent with Board Policy 7:180, Board Policy 7:190, and other applicable Board Policies.

A student who retaliates or commits an act of reprisal against any person who reports an incident of bullying shall be disciplined consistent with Board Policy 7:180, Board Policy 7:190, and other applicable Board Policies.

A student shall not be punished for reporting bullying or supplying information, even if the District’s investigation concludes that no bullying occurred. A student who knowingly makes a
false accusation or knowingly provides false information shall be disciplined consistent with Board Policy 7:180, Board Policy 7:190, and other applicable Board Policies.

Adopted: April 13, 2015