

Southern Delaware School of the Arts



Bully Prevention Policy 2015-2016

The Southern Delaware School of the Arts prohibits acts of harassment or bullying. SDSA has determined that a safe and civil environment in our school is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards. Harassment or bullying, like other disruptive or violent behaviors, is conduct that disrupts both a student's ability to learn and our school's ability to educate its students in a safe environment. Demonstration of appropriate behavior, treating others with civility and respect, and refusing to tolerate harassment or bullying is expected of administrators, faculty, staff, and volunteers to provide positive examples for student behavior.

"Harassment or bullying" is any gesture or written, verbal, graphic, or physical act (including electronically transmitted acts-i.e. internet, cell phone, personal digital assistant (pda) or wireless hand held device) that is reasonably perceived as being motivated either by and actual or perceived characteristics such as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression: or a mental, physical, or sensory disability or impairment; or by any other distinguishing characteristics. Such behavior is considered harassment or bullying whether it takes place on or off school property, or at any school-sponsored function.

Our **Coordinating Committee** will consist of the following:

Administrative Staff – Heather Bethurum, Barkley Heck

Support Staff- Frank Shockley(School Counselor), Allison Anderson, Derek Smith, Wendy Webb

Parents- Sarah Walker

Supervisory System in Non-Classroom- Teachers and staff monitor hallways and monitor student behavior during bus duty and lunch duty. Students are required to sign-out of the classroom when needing to use the restroom. All students are escorted to and from the cafeteria and arts classes.

Reporting Requirements- All teachers are required to respond to student reports of bullying by taking action via the school-wide bully report(pink paper in front office) by notifying the administration.

Investigative Procedures- All student complaints will be reported to the counselor and/or administration. Students will be interviewed. Parents will be notified .

Report to DE Doe- All bullying complaints that are substantiated and that result in an official referral will be reported to DOE.

Range of Consequences- the Southern Delaware School of the Arts subscribes to the “Successful Learning for All” discipline policy. These steps may not be sequential based on the offense.

- Referral to Counselor with parent contact.
- Parent conference with teachers/administration/student
- Office referral-may include verbal reprimand or in/out of school suspension
- Loss of monthly incentive
- Lunch or after school detention

Procedures for Student Report of Bullying Activity- see above

Notification of Caregiver-all caregivers will be notified (of the victim and the accused).

***Procedures for Communication-**Each quarter, the Assistant Principal will update staff on any substantiated bully reports. The students’ information will be held confidential . Each month, an incentive is held to support good behavior. Parents are an integral part of the home-school relationship and are contacted immediately.

The following programs will be implemented throughout the school year in an attempt to continue SDSA’s Bully Prevention Program.

1st-3rd Grades- **The Six Pillars of Character-** This is a program that is used to explore the six essential character virtues. This Character Education program will help the students to recognize what is right, care about what is right, and to do what is right. The program incorporates song, humor, thinking, talking, discussion and writing on the subjects of **Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship.**

6th-7th-8th Grade- **Delaware Attorney General Cyber /Internet Safety Program-** This is a program run by the state Attorney General to help student become aware of cyber stalkers and improper/unsafe computer-cyber communications.

4th Grade / Project Village The students in this program are mentoring 4 year old students in a “Buddy” type program. The students are paired together and work on academics and the development of life skills.

K-8th Grade- **Classroom Visits-** Various counseling topics as needed.

Various Outside Programs. These programs are brought into our school on a regular basis:

- Tobacco Brigade/ Kick Butts Generation
- Stomp – a three screen video production (tentative)
- Mountairre – Food Drive - November
- Red Ribbon Week (October 26-30)

Discipline Talk : Assistant Principal visits classrooms 2x per year to review district policies and SDSA PBS rules.