

POLICY GUIDE

File

OPERATIONS

8461/page 1 of 3

Reporting Violence, Vandalism, Harassment,
Intimidation, Bullying, Alcohol,
and Other Drug **Offenses Abuse**

Jan 19

M

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 179, 180, 188, 193 and 217]

8461 REPORTING VIOLENCE, VANDALISM, HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, BULLYING, ALCOHOL, AND OTHER DRUG OFFENSES ABUSE

The Board of Education shall observe "School Violence Awareness Week" during the week beginning with the third Monday in October of each year by organizing activities to prevent school violence. Activities shall include, but are not limited to, age-appropriate opportunities for student discussion on conflict resolution, issues of student diversity, and tolerance. The Board shall invite law enforcement personnel to join members of the teaching staff in the discussions and provide programs for school employees that are designed to help them recognize warning signs of school violence and to instruct them on recommended conduct during an incident of school violence. **The Board of Education shall disseminate to students' parents an informational pamphlet prepared by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) on how a parent can limit a child's exposure to violence on television, cell phones, computers, and other electronic devices, on an annual basis pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-44.**

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.3 aAny school employee who observes or has direct knowledge from a participant or victim of an act of violence; **including harassment, intimidation, and bullying;** or the possession and/or distribution of alcohol or other drugs on school grounds, and any school employee who reports a student for being under the influence of alcohol or other drugs, according to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:40A-12 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-4.3, shall file a report describing the incident to the school Principal, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46. The report shall be on a form adopted by the Board to include all of the incident detail and offender and victim information that are reported on the ~~Electronic Violence and Vandalism Reporting System (EVVRS)~~ **Student Safety Data System (SSDS).**

A report alleging an incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying shall be made in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-13.1 and Policy 5512.

The Building Principal, for each incident ~~report~~ of violence; **including vandalism, harassment, intimidation, and bullying, vandalism, and alcohol and other drug offenses or other drug abuse,** shall review the incident report for accuracy; forward a copy of the incident report to the Superintendent; and notify



POLICY GUIDE

OPERATIONS

8461/page 3 of 3

Reporting Violence, Vandalism, Harassment,
Intimidation, Bullying, Alcohol,
and Other Drug **Offenses Abuse**

purposes of N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46. The grade received by a school and the district shall be posted on the homepage of the school's website. The grade for the district and each school of the district shall be posted on the homepage of the district's website. A link to the report shall be available on the district's website. The information shall be posted on the websites within ten days of the receipt of a grade by the school and district.

Whenever it is alleged a school employee has knowingly falsified **reported information on acts of the report on violence, or vandalism, harassment, intimidation, or bullying or any incident included in the annual report on violence and vandalism** required under N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46, the Board shall make a determination regarding whether the employee committed the act. The Board shall provide written notice of the allegations to the employee and the employee shall be entitled to a hearing before the Board in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.3(fg)2. Upon a determination by the Board that an employee has knowingly falsified **the reported information**, the Board may take appropriate action as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.3(g)3. ~~Any action taken by the Board shall be based on its consideration of the nature of the conduct, the circumstances under which it occurred, and the employee's prior employment record. Any employee having been found responsible for the falsification of the report by the Board shall have the right to file a grievance under their respective bargaining agreements, appeal the Board's determination to the Commissioner of Education and subsequently to the State Board of Education, or appeal the decision to the Superior Court of New Jersey. The availability of appeal options shall be based upon the action taken by the Board.~~

The A Board of Education shall submit and implement corrective action plans for high incidences of violence, vandalism, or alcohol or other drug abuse upon notification by the Commissioner of Education.

The Board shall provide ongoing staff training, in cooperation with the **NJDOE Department of Education**, in fulfilling the reporting requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46.

N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46; 18A:36-5.1; **18A:40-44**
N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.2; 6A:16-5.3

Adopted:

