

# POLICY

## BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

**Related Entries:** GAGG, GAGG-RA, JCC, JCCA-RA, JCH, JCH-RA, JO, JO-RA  
**Responsible Office:** DIVISION OF STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

### **BULLYING, CYBERBULLYING, HARASSMENT, AND INTIMIDATION**

#### **A. PURPOSE**

To establish a policy to create and support schools that are safe climates to learn by prohibiting bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, and intimidation at Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS).

#### **B. ISSUE**

Students who experience bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, and intimidation are at significant risk of a range of health, safety, and educational problems. The prevention of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, and intimidation requires a concerted effort to support a whole-school-based bullying prevention and intervention program that involves all stakeholders in a school community.

#### **C. POSITION**

1. The Board of Education of Anne Arundel County (Board) is committed to prohibiting bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, and intimidation at AACPS.
2. The Board delegates authority to the Superintendent to develop guidance and regulations for helping to ensure that AACPS schools are in compliance with State law and regulations.
3. The Superintendent shall designate the principal of each school to ensure that clear and consistent guidance and enforcement of rules related to bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, and intimidation occur at each school to support this policy.
4. It is a violation of this policy for an AACPS student to engage in bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, or intimidation on AACPS property, on a school bus, at school-sponsored activities, or in any manner that substantially disrupts the orderly operation of a school regardless of where the incident occurs.

5. It is a violation of this policy for an AACPS student to engage in retaliation against individuals – victims, witnesses, or bystanders – who report acts of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment or intimidation is prohibited.

#### **D. IMPLEMENTATION**

The Superintendent is authorized to develop regulations to implement this policy and to promulgate the *AACPS Code of Student Conduct* for rules regarding expected student behavior, each of which shall prohibit bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, or intimidation based on an actual or perceived characteristic of characteristic of a person or group of persons, including race, color, ethnicity, national origin, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, ancestry, physical attributes, socioeconomic status, homelessness, familial status, political affiliation, or physical or mental ability or disability.

*Policy History:* Adopted on 06/17/09; Revised 09/11/19

*Note Previous Policy History* Replaces Regulation JCC-RAE issued on 06/07/06

*Legal References:* Sections 7-424, 7-424.1, 7-424.2 of the Education Article; Maryland’s Model Policy Prohibiting Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation