

# POLICY

## BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

**Related Entries:** GAGG, GAGG-RA, JCC, JCC-RA, JCCA, JCCA-RA, JCH, JCH-RA, JO-RA

**Responsible Office:** OFFICE OF EQUITY AND ACCELERATED ACHIEVEMENT, DIVISION OF STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

### BIAS BEHAVIOR AND LANGUAGE

#### A. PURPOSE

To establish a policy on the prohibition of bias behavior and language at Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS).

#### B. ISSUE

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

#### C. POSITION

1. AACPS complies with federal, State, and local laws that prohibit discrimination based on membership of a protected class.
2. The Board of Education of Anne Arundel County is committed to providing AACPS students a safe and supportive environment free of bias behavior and language. Accordingly, bias behavior and language is prohibited.
3. AACPS students are expected to treat each other with mutual respect.
4. It is a violation of this policy for an AACPS student to engage in bias behavior or language 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 bias behavior or language.

6. Nothing in this policy is intended to limit or otherwise affect the purpose, position and implementation of Policy JCCA – Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment, and Intimidation.

**D. IMPLEMENTATION**

The Superintendent is authorized to develop regulations to implement this policy.

*Policy History:* Adopted on 09/25/19

*Note Previous Policy History:* Previously referenced in JCCA and JCCA-RA