

HIB

**THE NEW JERSEY
ANTI-BULLYING BILL OF
RIGHTS**

OUR GOALS THIS EVENING

INFORM
EDUCATE
REASSURE

- “YOUR (NEW JERSEY’S) ANTI-BULLYING LAW ... IS A BEAST”

SAMEER HINDUJA- PH.D
CO-DIRECTOR CYBERBULLYING
RESEARCH CENTER

WHAT IS HIB?

- **HARASSMENT**
- **INTIMIDATION**
- **BULLYING**

THE NEW JERSEY ANTI BULLYING BILL OF RIGHTS IS CONSIDERED TO BE THE MOST RESTRICTIVE LEGISLATION OF THIS TYPE IN THE UNITED STATES

HOW DO WE KNOW???

IS IT ...

IDLE TEASING?

A CONFLICT?

BULLYING?

FACTORS WE MUST CONSIDER

| AGE/DEVELOPMENTAL STAGE | BALANCE OF POWER | INTENT |
|---|--|--|
| UNDERSTANDING OF APPROPRIATE BEHAVIORS/CONSEQUENCES | ARE BOTH CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN THE BEHAVIOR? | WHAT IS THE MOTIVATION BEHIND THE ACTIONS? |
| COPING SKILLS | IS ONE CHILD OVERPOWERING THE OTHER? | |
| | | |

SUBSTITUTE
WORDS

MISTREAT

HARM

EMBARRASS

HUMILIATE

WEAKEN

IT IS ALL OF OUR
RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE
THAT OUR CHILDREN DO NOT
BECOME DESENSITIZED TO
BULLYING BEHAVIORS –
WHETHER IN PERSON OR
ELECTRONICALLY

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU ... AND YOUR CHILD?

- REPORTS OF “POSSIBLE” BULLYING MUST BE WRITTEN UP AND INVESTIGATED
- A FILE MUST BE OPENED ON EACH CASE THAT GOES TO THIS LEVEL
- A FIRM TIME LINE MUST BE FOLLOWED IF IT IS DECIDED THAT A CASE NEEDS TO BE “INVESTIGATED.”
- A MONTHLY REPORT MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE BOE OF ALL INCIDENTS, AND THE OUTCOMES
- TWICE PER YEAR A REPORT MUST BE MADE TO THE NJDOE ABOUT THE INSTANCES OF REPORTED BULLYING
- EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL RECEIVE A “BULLYING REPORT CARD” ANNUALLY THAT MUST BE POSTED ON THE SCHOOL’S WEBSITE

THE PROCESS

- VERBAL REPORT THE SAME DAY INCIDENT IS REPORTED
- WRITTEN REPORT WITHIN ONE DAY
- PARENTS ARE CONTACTED
- INVESTIGATION OF EVENT COMPLETED IN 10 DAYS – WRITTEN REPORT TO FOLLOW
- REMEDIATION/CONSEQUENCES APPLIED
- REPORT OF ALL INCIDENTS TO BOE FOR THAT MONTH

WHAT DOES THIS LAW MEAN?

THE IDEA

VS

THE REALITY

INTENT

- TO MAKE CERTAIN ALL CHILDREN FEEL SAFE WHEN THEY ARRIVE TO SCHOOL EACH DAY
- TO CHANGE THE CULTURE WHERE PEOPLE BELIEVE THEY CAN DO WHAT THEY WANT WITHOUT REPECUSSIONS

APPLICATION

- PUTTING THIS LAW INTO THE EVERYDAY OPERATIONS OF A CLASSROOM

THE LAW APPLIES

TO ALL SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN
ELEMENTARY TO HIGH SCHOOL

CHOICES TO BE MADE

- EMPOWERING
- EQUIPING WITH COPING SKILLS
 - BUILDING RESILIENCY
- VS.
- REPORTING

WHAT WE WILL DO

- WE WILL ABIDE BY THE LAW – WE HAVE NO CHOICE
- WE WILL CAREFULLY CONSIDER EACH INCIDENT REPORTED TO US USING OUR PARAMETERS
- WE DO HAVE A CHOICE ABOUT WHERE WE PLACE OUR EMPHASIS WITH YOUR CHILDREN
- OUR CHOICE IS TO HELP THEM TO GROW, MAKE GOOD DECISIONS, AND TO UNDERSTAND THE CONSEQUENCES OF POOR DECISIONS

HOW WE WILL WE ACCOMPLISH THIS GOAL

- PROGRAMS IN EVERY GRADE LEVEL K-8
- FOCUS ON TOLERANCE
- DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL COPING SKILLS
- § CREATING A SCHOOL CLIMATE THAT IS COMFORTABLE AND SAFE
- RECOGNIZING THE INDIVIDUAL NEEDS OF EACH CHILD
- ADJUSTING THE LAW TO THE AGE OF THE STUDENT AND ACTING ACCORDINGLY

PREVENTION PROGRAMS

K-2

- CHARACTER EDUCATION
 - COOPERATION & COMPROMISE
- UNDERSTANDING OUR FEELINGS
 - USING GOOD WORDS/ACTIONS TO SOLVE PROBLEMS

3-4

- HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS
- UNDERSTANDING OUR DIFFERENCES
- CONFLICT RESOLUTION
 - BULLYING
- EMPOWERMENT

PREVENTION PROGRAMS

GRADES 5-6

- WHAT MAKES HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS
- TOLERANCE & DIVERSITY
 - EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE/COPING SKILLS
- CONFLICT RESOLUTION
 - BULLYING: PREVENTION AND REMEDIATION

GRADES 7-8

- CHARACTER EDUCATION
 - "7 HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEENS"
- "THE 6 MOST IMPORTANT DECISIONS YOU WILL EVER MAKE"

WHAT CAN PARENTS DO?

- BE INFORMED!!!
- DISCUSS IDEAS FOR HANDLING SPECIFIC TYPES OF SITUATIONS (WHAT WOULD YOU DO?)
- SHARE SOME OF YOUR EXPERIENCES GROWING UP
- MAKE YOUR EXPECTATIONS CLEAR ABOUT THEIR BEHAVIOR
- TAKE CELL PHONES AWAY BEFORE BEDTIME
- KNOW EVERY PASSWORD THEY USE
- ASK IF THEY HAVE SHARED THESE PASSWORDS WITH FRIENDS
- CHECK THEIR TEXT MESSAGES REGULARLY
- CHECK INTERNET HISTORY REGULARLY
- ASK: DO YOU KNOW ALL OF YOUR "FRIENDS" IN REAL LIFE?

INTERNET RESOURCES

- Stopbullying.gov
- Fbparents.org – parents guide to Facebook
- Cyberbullying.us
- Bullying.org
- Cyberbullying.org
- netsmartz.org
- Micheleborba.com – many parenting topics