

Mountain View-Gotebo Public School A 2012 Reward School A 2013 Reward School

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Bullying and Harassment Policy

It is the policy of the Mountain View-Gotebo Board of Education that bullying or harassment of students on the basis of sex, race/color/national origin, and disability is not allowed in the school. While this statute does specifically discuss students, adults are also held to this same standard. Bullying in any shape, fashion or form will not be tolerated. The Supreme Court has upheld this and the Oklahoma Legislature has voted on laws to prohibit such acts. The following acts will be considered, but not limited to, bullying:

- 1. Mentally tormenting another person.
- 2. Physically threatening another person.
- 3. Ridiculing another person.
- 4. Subjecting another person to continual negative comments and pressures.
- 5. Behaving in such a manner that is not aimed at positive interaction with another person.

The penalties for this kind of behavior are:

1st Offense - Counseling by the principal if no physical contact is involved and assigning a Level 2 infraction. This will be assigned by the administrator at their discretion.

2nd Offense - Treated as a Level 2 or 3 infraction

3rd Offense - Treated as a Level 3 or 4 infraction

4th Offense - Treated as a Level 4 infraction

It is the responsibility of students and/or parents to inform the school if bullying is occurring. It is the responsibility of the bullied party to report this within a timely manner, not weeks or months after it occurred. If the bullying is reported to the administration the chain of command will be followed and reported to the appropriate teacher for their investigation into the instance in their classroom or activity. If bullying is seen by teachers or administrators actions will be taken to stop the bullying or harassment. It should be noted here that if physical contact occurs all parties may or may not be treated the same. A person guilty of bullying is in violation of an Oklahoma Statute and repeated action of this type will result in the student's removal from the regular school environment. All bullying files are cumulative and will move with the student throughout their career. The school is responsible for dealing with bullying during the school day, delivery of students, or during activities.

Cyber Bullying

Cyber bullying is the act of using telecommunications devices, computers, or a combination thereof to bullying another person. This can include Face book, Twitter, etc.. If these actions occur during the school day the school will investigate and follow the above stated policy for bullying. However, in this case it is incumbent on the school to report all cyber bullying to the local police in accordance with state and federal law. All instances of cyber bullying reported to the school will be reported to the proper authorities. Instances of cyber bullying outside the school day are not addressable by the bullying policy but will be turned over to the appropriate authorities upon being reported.