



# GATEWAY PREPARATORY ACADEMY

A M O N T E S S O R I C H A R T E R S C H O O L

## **Bullying policy**

### **Rationale:**

In the summer of 2009 the State board of Education adopted rule R277-613 requiring all Districts and charter schools to implement bully and hazing policies to provide for regular and meaningful staff training and to provide for enforcement of the policy.

### **Definitions:**

“Bullying” means intentionally or knowingly committing an act that is done for the purpose of placing a school employee or student in fear of:

1. Physical harm or
2. Harm to the property of the employee or student.

Acts of bullying may include:

1. Physical harm or brutality
2. Threats of physical harm or brutality
3. Forced or unwilling consumption of any food, liquor, drug or other substance
4. Any forced or coerced act of a sexual nature or with sexual connotations
5. Any physical activity that endangers health or safety
6. Physically obstructing the ability or freedom to move

“Cyber-bullying” means the use of e-mail or other forms of technology to harass, threaten or intimidate someone for the purpose of placing that person in fear of:

1. Physical harm
2. Harm to property

“Hazing” is knowingly committing an act of bullying for the purpose of admission or affiliation with any group either formal or informal.

### **Directions and Consequences:**

Reporting:

1. Any instance of Bullying or Hazing or Cyber bullying as defined above should be immediately reported to the administration.
2. Reports should be written and documented with the victim and perpetrator identified.
3. The report should be confidential to the administration.

Administrative action:

1. The Administrator will take action first to assure and provide for the safety of any victim.
2. The administrator will investigate and interview those necessary to obtain a clear understanding of the incident.

3. Contact the parent or guardian
4. Guidelines for consequences-
  - Sexual Harassment or Sexual bullying- 5 day suspension, Expulsion hearing- referral to police.
  - Unprovoked attack and endangerment – 3- 5 day suspension and referral to police. Expulsion hearing.
  - Unprovoked attack- physical – 3- 5 day suspension.
  - Threats or verbal abuse – 1-3 day suspension
  - Cyber-bullying 1-3 days suspension
  - Hazing – 1-5 days suspension, possible expulsion
5. Develop a required counseling component as needed.

### Training

Staff will be trained yearly to recognize bullying and be aware of the reporting process.

Students will be taught on an ongoing basis to be aware of bullying and to report incidents of bullying to teachers or the administration.

### Assessment

Assessment of the effectiveness of bullying awareness and response will be evaluated on a yearly basis by reviewing the number of incidents and the response to each.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:

DEC. 8, 2011

MAY 9, 2013