POLICY 2015 7550

**Students** 

## SUBJECT: DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS

Rules against bullying, discrimination, and/or harassment will be included in the *Code of Conduct*, publicized District-wide, and disseminated to all staff and parents. Any amendments to the Code will be disseminated as soon as practicable following their adoption. New teachers will be provided a complete copy of the current Code upon their employment, and an age-appropriate summary will be distributed to all students at a school assembly at the beginning of each school year.

## Reports and Investigations of Harassment, Bullying, and/or Discrimination

Students who have been subjected to harassment, bullying, and/or discrimination, persons in parental relation whose children have been subjected to such behavior, or other students who observe or are told of such behavior, are encouraged and expected to make verbal and/or written reports to the principal, superintendent, Dignity Act Coordinator, and/or other school personnel. All District staff who are aware of harassment, bullying, and/or discrimination, are required to orally report the incident(s) within one (1) school day to the Principal, Superintendent, or his/her designee and report it in writing within two (2) school days after making an oral report.

The Principal, Superintendent, or the Principal's or Superintendent's designee will lead and/or supervise the thorough investigation of all reports of harassment, bullying, and discrimination, and ensure that such investigations are completed promptly after receipt of any such reports. All investigations will be conducted in accordance with law, the District's *Code of Conduct*, and applicable District policy and procedure. In the event allegations involve harassment, bullying, and/or discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, or disability, the District may utilize the procedures set forth in Policy #3420 -- Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment in the School District, and its implementing regulations. Where appropriate, the Dignity Act Coordinator or such other individual conducting the investigation, may seek the assistance of the District's Civil Rights Compliance Officer in investigating, responding to, and remedying complaints of harassment, bullying, and/or discrimination.

In the event any such investigation reveals harassment, bullying, and/or discrimination, the District will take prompt action reasonably calculated to end the harassment, bullying, and/or discrimination, eliminate any hostile environment, create a more positive school culture and climate, prevent recurrence of the behavior, and ensure the safety of the student or students against whom such harassment, bullying, and/or discrimination was directed. Such actions will be taken consistent with applicable laws and regulations, District policies and administrative regulations, and collective bargaining agreements, as well as the District's *Code of Conduct* and any and all applicable guidelines approved by the Board.

The Superintendent, Principal, or his/her designee shall notify the appropriate local law enforcement agency when it is believed that any incident of harassment, bullying, and/or discrimination constitutes criminal conduct.