

# WALLINGFORD- SWARTHMORE SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: BULLYING

ADOPTED: January 26, 2009

REVISED: April 22, 2013  
December 5, 2016

249. BULLYING	
<p>1. Purpose</p>	<p>The Board is committed to providing a safe, positive learning environment for district students. Bullying creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, detracts from the safe environment necessary for student learning, and may lead to more serious violence. Therefore, the Board of Education prohibits bullying by district students in the school setting which includes the school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop or at any activity sponsored, supervised, or sanctioned by the school. Bullying, as defined in this policy, includes cyberbullying.</p>
<p>2. Definitions 24 P.S. 1303.1-A</p>	<p><b>Bullying</b> means an intentional electronic, written, verbal or physical act or series of acts directed at another student or students, which occurs in a school setting that is severe, persistent or pervasive and has the effect of doing any of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Substantial interference with a student’s education.</li> <li>2. Creation of a threatening environment.</li> <li>3. Substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school.</li> </ol> <p>The above acts or series of acts may be through an intermediary.</p>
<p>24 P.S. 1303.1-A</p>	<p>School setting shall include, but not be limited to, the school, school grounds, school vehicles or district provided transportation, bus stops, and any activity sponsored, supervised or sanctioned by the district.</p> <p>Bullying, when using electronic media, will be termed “cyberbullying.”</p>
<p>3. Authority 24 P.S. 1303.1-A</p>	<p>The Board prohibits all forms of bullying by district students.</p> <p>The Board directs that complaints of bullying shall be investigated promptly, and corrective action shall be taken when allegations are verified. Confidentiality of all parties shall be maintained, consistent with the district’s legal and investigative obligations. No reprisals or retaliation shall occur as a result of good faith reports of bullying.</p>



## 249. BULLYING

Pol. 219, 906	<p><u>Appeal Procedure</u></p> <p>A student or parent/guardian who is dissatisfied with the disposition of a bullying incident may appeal the decision, as set forth in Policy 219, Complaint Process, for students, and/or Policy 906, Public Complaints.</p>
24 P.S. 1303.1-A	<p><u>Preventative Measures</u></p> <p>This policy will be posted on the district website, posted at a prominent location within each school building, and available in every classroom. The building principal will ensure that the policy and procedures for reporting bullying incidents are reviewed with all students and staff members at least once each school year. Each staff member shall be responsible for maintaining an educational environment free of bullying. All students will be informed that bullying will not be tolerated in any form and will be encouraged to report any bullying.</p>
24 P.S. 1303.1-A	<p><u>Policy Review</u></p> <p>The policy will be reviewed and approved every three (3) years.</p>
	<p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. 1302-A</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. 1303.1</p> <p>State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code 12.3</p> <p>Board Policy – 218, 219, 233, 236, 248, 906</p>