

Harbor
Hill
Open
House

DASA
Dignity for All
Students Act
Overview
September 29, 2016

The Dignity For All Students Act

The Dignity Act prohibits acts of harassment and bullying, including cyberbullying, and/or discrimination, by employees or students on school property or at a school function, including but not limited to such conduct based on a student's actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, or sex. Cyberbullying is defined as harassment or bullying which takes place through any form of electronic communication.

The Goals of the Dignity Act

Establish and maintain a school environment free of discrimination, harassment and bullying

Enhance the school environment so that no student shall be subjected to harassment, discrimination or bullying by students or employees

To raise sensitivity to potential acts of discrimination, harassment or bullying directed at students or adults on school property or at school functions

Enable staff to prevent and respond to incidents of harassment, discrimination and bullying

Harassment and Bullying

Harassment and Bullying means the creation of a hostile environment by conduct or threats, intimidation or abuse, including cyberbullying.

Individuals who bully use their power to control or harm others. The person bullying has a goal to cause harm. Bullying behaviors generally happen more than once or have the potential to happen more than once.

Cyberbullying means harassment or bullying that occurs through any form of electronic communication.

Examples of Bullying

Verbal: Name-calling, teasing, inappropriate sexual comments, taunting and threatening to cause harm

Social: Spreading rumors about someone, excluding others on purpose, telling other children not to be friends with someone or embarrassing someone in public

Physical: Hitting, punching, shoving, kicking, pinching, spitting, tripping, pushing, taking or breaking someone's things and making mean or rude hand gestures

Code of Conduct

Our school's **Code of Conduct** includes provisions prohibiting discrimination and harassment against any student by employees or students, and provisions for responding to such acts.

Our school's Code of Conduct is available on our school's webpage at www.roslynschools.org.

Reporting Incidents and Concerns

Students are encouraged and expected to make a verbal and/or written complaint to any school personnel.

Staff members will promptly notify Harbor Hill's Dignity Act Coordinators, Jessica Kemler, Principal and Mary Wood, Assistant Principal, of the report.

Retaliation by any school employee or student against any individual who, in good faith, reports or assists in the investigation of harassment, bullying and/or discrimination is prohibited under law.

Response to Reports

Reports of bullying, harassment and discrimination will be promptly investigated in accordance with District policies and procedures.

We will take prompt actions to end the harassment, bullying or discrimination, eliminate any hostile environment and ensure the safety of all students.

A Positive School Environment

Students are safe

Students are supported

Students are challenged

Students are socially capable

A Safe and Supportive School

Staff Training

School Presentations and Assemblies

Character Education

Social Emotional Learning

Communication

Making Good Choices

Students participated in , grade specific presentations to help prepare them for the year ahead, including:

School rules

Students' rights and responsibilities

Expectations for behavior

Strategies for handling and resolving conflicts

We have encouraged students to ask the important adults in their lives for help with any situations that make them feel uncomfortable or upset.

Making Good Choices Presentations are available on our school's webpage.

School-wide Programs

The Promise Pledge
Second Step
Bucket Fillers
Peaceful School Bus
Book of the Month
Support Staff
Expressions of Kindness
Letters of Gratitude to Local Heroes
Book Collection
District Thanksgiving Food Drive
Toy Collections
Coat Collections
Valentines for Veterans



The Promise

- . I **WILL** speak up instead of acting like a bystander.
- . I **CHOOSE** to participate in activities that don't involve teasing.
- . I **FORGIVE** others if they make poor choices.
- . I **MODEL** good behavior.
- . I **ACCEPT** others for their differences.
- . I **INCLUDE** others in group situations.
- . I **WILL** talk to an adult when there is a problem I cannot manage on my own.
- . I **AM** powerful in making a difference in my school.

Resources

New York State's Dignity for All Students Act

www.p12.nysed.gov/dignityact

Roslyn Public Schools

www.roslynschools.org

Questions?

