Parents...

All EACS students and staff agree to join together to stop bullying in our schools. Your child’s school has planned activities throughout the school year to increase bullying awareness, including an anti-bullying pledge for students and staff.

We encourage your support of this effort to ensure all students have a safe learning environment.

Resources

In an effort to provide information regarding bullying, East Allen County Schools utilizes several resources, such as:

McMillen Center for Health Education
Fort Wayne, In

www.olweus.org
www.stompoutbullying.org
www.rachelschallenge.org

Support students who have been or are being bullied

Talk to teachers/staff about incidents, concerns or issues related to bullying.

Always treat everyone with respect, despite differences.

Never standby or join in;

Do something if I see or hear of bullying.

Understand it is everyone’s job to stop bullying;

Protect our school and community by taking a stand against bullying.

East Allen County Schools
1240 State Road 930 East
New Haven, Indiana 46774
What Is Bullying?

EACS defines bullying as any repeated hurtful pattern of physical acts or gestures, or any verbal, written, or electronically communicated expression that:

1. A reasonable person should expect will have the effect of:
   a. Physically harming a student or damaging a student’s property;
   b. Placing a student in reasonable fear of physical harm or damage to his/her property; or

2. Is so severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, hostile educational environment for the student who is bullied.

Bullying is NOT:

- A rite of passage;
- A normal part of childhood;
- Only a teen problem
- Conflict. **It is abuse.** It involves people who are not similar in strength.

Who Is Involved?

Students Who are Bullied (Target):
Students deserve to feel safe at school. But when they experience bullying, students may experience:
- Depression
- Low self-esteem
- Health problems
- Poor grades
- Suicidal thoughts

Students Who Bully (Bully):
Students who intentionally bully others should be held accountable for their actions. Those who bully their peers are also more likely than those students who do not bully others to:
- Get into frequent fights
- Steal and vandalize property
- Drink alcohol and smoke
- Report poor grades
- Perceive a negative climate at school
- Carry a weapon

Students Who Standby (Bystander):
Students who see bullying happen also may feel that they are in an unsafe environment. Bystanders may feel:
- Fearful
- Powerless to act
- Guilty for not acting
- Tempted to participate

Types of Bullying

- Physical—harming another person’s body
- Verbal—name calling, offensive remarks, mocking, put-downs
- Social/Emotional—spreading rumors, gossiping, excluding
- Cyber—threatening email/text messages, social media

Reporting Bullying

Any student or parent who believes s/he has been or is currently the target of a bully should immediately report the situation to the building principal or assistant principal. The report may also be made to a teacher or counselor who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate administrator.

Every student is encouraged, and every staff member is required, to report any situation that they believe to be bullying behavior directed to another student.