

Liberty Charter School Policy: Cyber Bullying

The Liberty Charter School Board of Directors, administrator and staff strive to provide a safe and positive learning climate for their students. Therefore, Liberty Charter School will maintain an educational environment in which cyber bullying of any kind will not be tolerated.

Definition: Cyber bullying includes, but is not limited to, the following uses of technology: harassing, teasing, intimidating, threatening, slandering or terrorizing another student, staff member, Governing Board or Liberty Charter School, by way of any technological tool, such as sending or posting inappropriate or derogatory email messages, instant messages, digital pictures or images, or website postings (including blogs) which has the effect of:

1. Physically, emotionally, mentally or harming the reputation of a student, staff, Governing Board Member, or Liberty Charter School.
2. Placing a student, staff member, Governing Board Member or Liberty Charter in reasonable fear of physical, emotional or mental harm.
3. Placing a student, staff member, Governing Board Member or Liberty Charter School in reasonable fear of damage to or loss of personal property; or
4. Creating an intimidating or hostile environment that substantially interferes with a student's educational opportunities.

All forms of bullying are unacceptable and, to the extent that cyber bullying actions are disruptive of the educational process at Liberty Charter, offenders will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Students who have been cyber bullied can report such incidents to the administrator or any staff member. Complaints of cyber bullying will be investigated promptly, and corrective action will be taken when a complaint is verified. Neither reprisals nor retaliation shall occur as a result of the submission of a complaint. The administrator/designee will inform the parents or guardians of the victim and also the parents or guardians of the accused.

The School District will inform students in the school's student handbook that cyber bullying of students will not be tolerated.

How to report cyber bullying:

A student can report a complaint of cyber bullying, orally or in writing, to the administrator or a staff member. If a parent initiates the complaint, the administrator/designee will follow-up with the student. Information will be gathered by the administrator/designee to determine if the alleged bullying or cyber bullying conduct occurred. After gathering the information, the administrator will determine the need for further investigation or the appropriate intervention, including disciplinary action, to ensure that the conduct ceases.

A violation of this Policy will subject the offending student to appropriate disciplinary action, consistent with the school's discipline policy, which will include a 4 hour Saturday School, suspension or expulsion depending on the severity of the bullying.

Adopted: October 2008

Amended: May 11th, 2010