

Liberty Charter School
Policy: Cyber Bullying

The Liberty Charter School Board of Directors, administrator and staff strive to provide a safe and appositve 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 misuse of technology: harassing, teasing, intimidating, threatening, or terrorizing another student or staff member by way of any technological tool, such as sending or posting inappropriate or derogatory email messages, instant messages, text messages, digital pictures or images, or website postings (including blogs) which has the effect of:

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

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.

1. 1st offense of Cyber Bullying to result in a 4 hr. session of Saturday School.
2. 2nd offense to result in student appearing before the Governing Board.

A violation of this Policy will subject the offending student to appropriate disciplinary action, consistent with the school's discipline policy, which may include suspension, expulsion, or notification to the appropriate authorities.

Adopted: April 2008
Amended: May 2010