

1 **Board Policies**

**Blair-Taylor School District**

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4 **Series: 400**  
5 **Section: 440**  
6 **Policy #: 447.2**

**STUDENTS**  
**STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**  
**BULLYING**

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10 **Model Bullying Policy DRAFT 6/23/10**

11 **Introduction**

12 The Blair-Taylor School District strives to provide a safe, secure and respectful learning  
13 environment for all students in school buildings, on school grounds, and school buses and at  
14 school-sponsored activities. Bullying has a harmful social, physical, psychological and academic  
15 impact on bullies, victims and bystanders. The school district consistently and vigorously addresses  
16 bullying so that there is no disruption to the learning environment and learning process.

17 **Definition**

18 Bullying is deliberate or intentional behavior using words or actions, intended to cause fear,  
19 intimidation or harm. Bullying may be repeated behavior and involves an imbalance of power. The  
20 behavior may be motivated by an actual or perceived distinguishing characteristic, such as, but not  
21 limited to: age; national origin; race; ethnicity; religion; gender; gender identity; sexual orientation;  
22 physical attributes; physical or mental ability or disability; and social, economic or family status.

23 Bullying behavior can be:

- 24 1. Physical (e.g. assault, hitting or punching, kicking, theft, threatening behavior)
- 25 2. Verbal (e.g. threatening or intimidating language, teasing or name-calling, racist remarks)
- 26 3. Indirect (e.g. spreading cruel rumors, intimidation through gestures, social exclusion and  
27 sending insulting messages or pictures by mobile phone or using the internet – also known  
28 as cyber bullying)

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30 **Prohibition**

31 Bullying behavior is prohibited in all schools, buildings, property and educational environments,  
32 including any property or vehicle owned, leased or used by the school district. This includes public  
33 transportation regularly used by students to go to and from school. Educational environments  
34 include, but are not limited to, every activity under school supervision.

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38 **Procedure for Reporting/Retaliation**

39 All school staff members and school officials who observe or become aware of acts of bullying are  
40 required to report these acts to \_\_\_\_\_(a school staff member or  
41 administrator designated by the Board of Education to be a recipient of such reports.)

42 Any other person, including a student who is either a victim of the bullying or is aware of the  
43 bullying or any other concerned individual is encouraged to report the conduct to  
44 \_\_\_\_\_(a school staff member or administrator designated by the Board of  
45 Education to be a recipient of such reports.)

46 Reports of bullying may be made verbally or in writing and may be made confidentially. All such  
47 reports, whether verbal or in writing, will be taken seriously and a clear account of the incident is  
48 to be documented. A written record of the report, including all pertinent details, will be made by the  
49 recipient of the report.

50 The school official receiving a report of bullying shall immediately notify the school district  
51 employee assigned to investigate the report. The following school district employees have been  
52 identified as the investigator:

53 ( a list that contains the names of district employees and schools who have the responsibility to  
54 receive the information and conduct the investigation)

55 There shall be no retaliation against individuals making such reports. Individuals engaging in  
56 retaliatory behavior will be subject to disciplinary action.

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### 58 **Procedure for investigating reports of bullying**

59 The person assigned by the district to conduct an investigation of the bullying report shall, within  
60 one school day, interview the person(s) who are the victim(s) of the bullying and collect whatever  
61 other information is necessary to determine the facts and the seriousness of the report.

62 Parents and/or guardians of each pupil involved in the bullying will be notified prior to the  
63 conclusion of the investigation. The district shall maintain the confidentiality of the report and any  
64 related pupil records to the extent required by law.

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### 66 **Sanctions and supports**

67 If it is determined that students participated in bullying behavior or retaliated against anyone due to  
68 the reporting of bullying behavior, the school district administration and school board may take  
69 disciplinary action, including: suspension, expulsion and/or referral to law enforcement officials for  
70 possible legal action as appropriate. Pupil services staff will provide support for the identified  
71 victim(s).

### 72 **Disclosure and Public Reporting**

73 The policy will be distributed annually to all students enrolled in the school district, their parents  
74 and/or guardians and employees. It will also be distributed to organizations in the community  
75 having cooperative agreements with the schools. The school district will also provide a copy of the  
76 policy to any person who requests it.

77 Records will be maintained on the number and types of reports made, and sanctions imposed for  
78 incidents found to be in violation of the bullying policy.

79 An annual summary report shall be prepared and presented to the school board, which includes  
80 trends in bullying behavior and recommendations on how to further reduce bullying behavior. The  
81 annual report will be available to the public.

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84 **LEGAL REFERENCE : Wisconsin State Statute 118.46**

85 **First Reading: 07-19-10**

**Adopted: 08-16-10**

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87 **Clerk:** \_\_\_\_\_