

The following Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan (BPIP) is designed to reflect The High Road School of Massachusetts' (HRSM) commitment to providing all students with a safe learning environment that is free from bullying, cyberbullying, and retaliation. HRSM will support this commitment in all aspects of our school community, including curricula, instructional programs, staff development, extracurricular activities, and parent or guardian involvement.

High Road School defines as the repeated use by one or more students or adults, including school staff, of a written, verbal, or electronic expression or a physical act or gesture or any combination thereof, directed at a target that:

1. Causes physical or emotional harm to the target or damage to the target's property;
2. Places the target in reasonable fear of harm to himself or herself or of damage to his or her property;
3. Creates a hostile environment at school for the target.
4. Infringes on the rights of the target at school; or
5. Materially and substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of a school.

Cyber-bullying occurs when someone bullies through the Internet, mobile phones or other electronic means.<sup>[1]</sup> Examples include:

sending mean-spirited text, e-mail, or instant messages.

posting inappropriate pictures or messages about others in blogs or on web sites

using someone else's username to spread rumors or lies about someone.

The administrative team will immediately investigate promptly all reports of bullying or retaliation and, in doing so, will consider all available information known, including the nature of the allegation(s) and the ages of the students involved.

High Road School provides training to all staff on the School Bullying Intervention Plan as well as ongoing professional development using the MARC (Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center) Curriculum. Professional development will also address ways to prevent and respond to bullying or retaliation for students with disabilities that must be considered when developing students' Individualized Education Programs (IEPs).

Counseling services, social skills groups, and positive behavioral supports are already embedded within the curriculum. In addition, our national curriculum specialist will provide trainings using the following programs:

- The Olweus Bullying Prevention Program,
- The Halzelden Cyber Bullying Curriculum for Grades 6-12
- MARC (Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center) Curriculum.

[Policy: Bullying Prevention and Intervention](#)