



BERGEN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOLS /SPECIAL SERVICES

District Administrative Office

540 Farview Avenue, Paramus, New Jersey 07652 • Tel. (201) 343-6000 • Fax (201) 225-9067

September, 2017

Dear Parent/Guardians:

On November 22, 2010 the New Jersey Legislature passed the toughest Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights law in the nation. Although our students have an increased awareness of the law, we must continue to reinforce it. Today's adolescents heavily rely on social media in their daily lives and need to be mindful of the potential negative consequences in relation to Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB).

Our District has always made your child's learning environment a priority. We continue to develop and sustain safe, supportive and positive school climates that embrace the tenets of the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights law by integrating programs throughout the school year. As the Anti-Bullying Coordinator for the Bergen County Technical Schools, this letter confirms the District's commitment to enforcing this law.

HIB adversely impacts the overall well-being and physical safety of students. By law, schools can mitigate the negative effects of HIB by strengthening their standards and procedures for preventing, reporting, investigating, and responding to potential HIB incidents on and off school grounds, at school-sponsored functions or on a school bus. As a result, the District increases your child's awareness to the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights law through a variety of District-wide activities and initiatives developed by their Anti-Bullying Specialists.

As parents/guardians, your role is essential to assist us with implementing the law. It is important for you, as well as your child, to understand the New Jersey definition of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying, the consequences for violating the law and your rights as parents. I encourage you to visit our website, read our Board policies regarding HIB and Cyberbullying, and discuss it with your child. These may be accessed by clicking on the following link:

<http://www.straussesmay.com/seportal/Public/pubElanOnline.aspx?id=54cbd10ea7ad4e20b3f49089d28d1232>, and next to Search Policies type in "Harassment" to find our HIB and Cyberbullying Policies pursuant to the law. The District and campus websites offer additional HIB information regarding Self-Assessment Grades, Reporting Forms including Online Resources and can be found at www.bergen.org.

I thank you for your support and hope you are aware of our commitment to ensure the social/emotional and physical safety of your child. Should you need any further information or clarification, please feel free to contact me as the District Anti-Bullying Coordinator by email at patcos@bergen.org or by telephone at 201-343-6000 x4010. You can also contact your campus Anti-Bullying Specialist listed below:

Anti-Bullying Specialists per School

Laura Nardelli
BCTS – Teterboro
504 Route 46
Teterboro, NJ 07608
201-343-6000 x7712
launar@bergen.org

Nancy Sytsma
Bergen County Academies
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Nancy Sytsma
Applied Tech H.S.
400 Paramus Road
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Marie Bodganowich
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E 285 Pascack Road
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Sincerely,

Patricia Cosgrove

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Anti-Bullying Coordinator