

ANTI-BULLYING

Bullying is **prohibited** by the Rush County School Corporation ("Corporation"). Students who commit any acts of bullying are subject to discipline, including but not limited to suspension, expulsion, arrest, and/or prosecution.

Definition

"Bullying" is defined as overt, unwanted, repeated acts or gestures, including verbal or written communications or images transmitted in any manner (including digitally or electronically); physical acts committed; aggression; or any other behaviors committed by a student or group of students against another student with the intent to harass, ridicule, humiliate, intimidate, or harm the targeted student, creating for the targeted student an objectively hostile school environment that:

- (1) places the targeted student in reasonable fear of harm to his or her person or property;
- (2) has a substantially detrimental effect on the targeted student's physical or mental health;
- (3) has the effect of substantially interfering with the targeted student's academic performance; or
- (4) has the effect of substantially interfering with the targeted student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by the Corporation.

Bullying does **not** include, and should not be interpreted to impose any burden or sanction on, the following:

- a. participating in a religious event;
- b. acting in an emergency involving the protection of a person or property from an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or substantial danger;
- c. participating in an activity consisting of the exercise of a student's freedom of speech rights;
- d. participating in an activity conducted by a nonprofit or governmental entity that provides recreation, education, training, or other care under the supervision of one (1) or more adults;
- e. participating in an activity undertaken at the prior written direction of the student's parent; or
- f. engaging in interstate or international travel from a location outside Indiana to another location outside Indiana.