

JOYCE KILMER SCHOOL POLICY AGAINST BULLYING

*This is a version of the Kilmer's full and comprehensive anti-bullying policy.
The full policy can be found in the Kilmer School Handbook, Kilmer Faculty Handbook and on the Kilmer School website.*

BULLYING: DEFINITION

Bullying is the repeated use by one or more students of a written, verbal, or electronic expression, or a physical act or gesture, or any combination thereof, directed at a victim that:

- Causes physical or emotional harm to the victim or damage to the victim's property
- Places the victim in reasonable fear of harm to him/herself or of damage to his/her property
- Creates a hostile environment at school for the victim
- Infringes on the rights of the victim at school
- Materially and substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of the school.

Cyber-bullying is bullying through the use of technology or any electronic means, including the creation of web pages or blogs in which the creator impersonates another person or the distribution or posting of information online that creates any of the conditions listed above.

State law prohibits bullying:

- At school and at all school facilities
- At school-sponsored or school-related functions, whether on or off school grounds
- On school buses and school bus stops
- Through the use of technology or an electronic device owned, licensed or used by a school
- At non-school-related locations and through non-school technology or electronic devices, if the bullying affects the school environment.

HOW TO REPORT BULLYING

Anyone may report bullying at any time, including anonymously. Everyone is entitled to protection from retaliation for reporting bullying.

State law prohibits retaliation against a person who reports bullying, provides information during an investigation of bullying, or is a witness to or has reliable information about bullying.

To report bullying, a Kilmer student or parent/guardian may:

- Tell any staff member
- Tell a staff member he/she especially trusts
- Fill out a Bullying Report Form (available in the Main Office, in classrooms and on the Kilmer School website) and leave it in the Main Office
- Leave a note reporting the details of the bullying incident in the Main Office
- Tell a parent/guardian and ask them to report it to the Main Office
- **Call the BPS Bullying Hotline: (617) 592-2378**