# Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying

Roseland District Self Assessment 2022-2023

Lynn Cummings School Counselor Anti-Bullying Specialist

Roseland Board of Education Meeting October 19, 2023

# Background

How did the

NJ - Anti-Bullying Bill of RIghts Act come to be?

https://tylerclementi.org/

### **Connection: Suicide and HIB**

Rates of suicide ideation are much higher in students who have been bullied

The NJ ABR Law and HIB procedures are aimed at

- protecting students
- educating students
- and preventing mental health issues.

# Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights (ABR) Act

The goal of the ABR Act was to strengthen the standards and procedures for *preventing*, *reporting*, *investigating* and *responding* to incidents of harassment, intimidation and bullying (HIB) of students that occur on school grounds\* and off school grounds under specified circumstances (2010, with amendments in 2012, 2022).

# Self-Assessment of ABR/HIB

Annual Self-Assessment is intended to help the school district *evaluate efforts in implementing the ABR*. Through its School Safety Team, each school is required to evaluate the implementation of the ABR from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. The Self-Assessment tool includes eight core elements that address all of the ABR requirements for schools.

### **Eight Core Elements Evaluated**

HIB Programs, Approaches & other initiatives HIB Incident Reporting Procedures

HIB Investigation Procedures

Training on HIB Policy

**HIB Personnel** 

**HIB Reporting** 

Other Staff Instruction & Training Curriculum & Instruction on HIB

Each element includes indicators that are scored on a scale of o - 3 (three being "exceeds requirements").

#### **Self Assessment Score**

2022-2023

NOECKER HIB GRADE

77/78

Core Element 3, Indicator D: "Professional Development for The School Climate Team."

Noecker met (but did not exceed) this requirement

# Year End 2022 Action Plan: Parent Education Sessions

Noecker Administrators presented detailed information on the NJDOE HIB procedures and policies at...

**RBOE** Meeting

**HSA** Meeting

Coffee with Superintendent

# Self Reflection / Action Plan

### **Planning for 2023-2024**

- ABS will attend, then turnkey training,

  "Understanding the Power and Responsibilities of
  The School Climate Team." Nov 3, 2023
- Continue co-investigations of reported incidents
- Full implementation of NJDOE reporting forms
- Full implementation of Mental Health Risk Assessment procedures and forms created 2022-2023

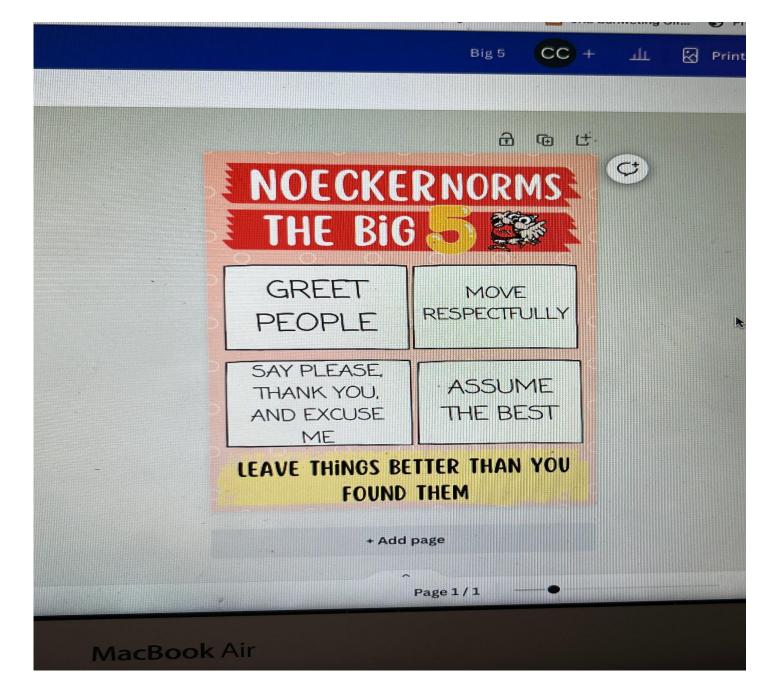
# Recommendations for School Anti-bullying Programs in the U.S

These recommendations are based on research findings and extensive literature review

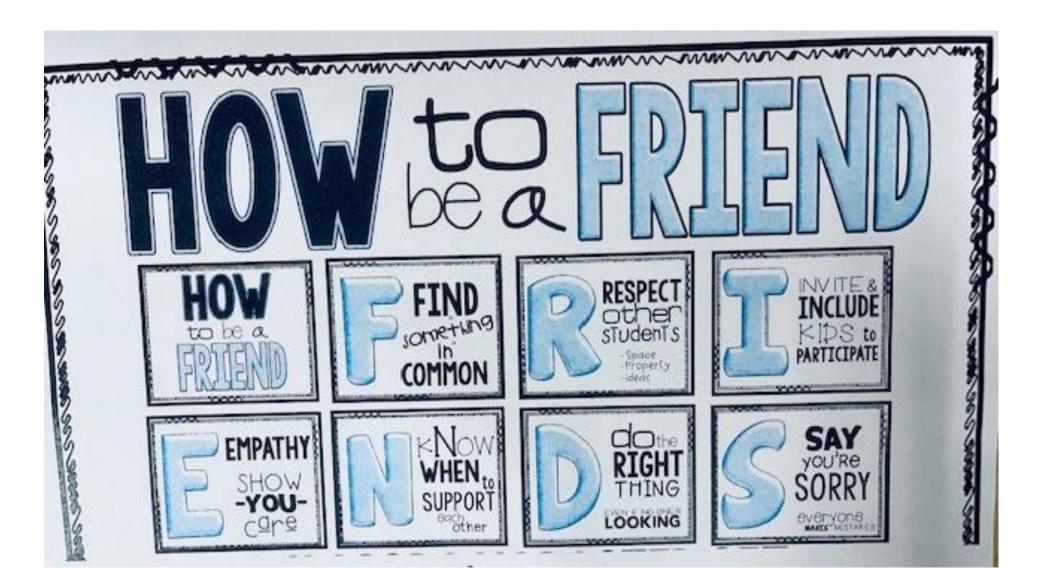
#### **Recommendations**

- Increase student engagement. Noecker Norms-Added "#5"
- Model caring behavior for students.
- Offer mentoring programs.
- Provide students with opportunities for service learning as a means of improving school engagement. Noecker-Gr 6 Gives back
- Address the difficult transition between elementary and middle school (from a single classroom teacher to teams of teachers with periods and class changes in a large school) (Lohaus et al., 2004).
- Start prevention programs early.
- Resist the temptation to use prefabricated curriculums that are not aligned to local conditions. *Noecker uses multiple curricula*





# Week of Respect 2023



# School Climate Initiatives 2023-2024

- Updated / Revised Health & Wellness Curriculum, Gr 5 & 6
- Mr. Giumara and Mrs. Cummings Summer 2023
- Minute Meetings Gr 3 & 4 October 2023
- Mandarin SEL Group October 2023
- Table to Table November 2023
- Coping Skills Cafe January 2024



# Minute Meetings

#### GRADE 3

How is school going? 98% great or good

Do you have friends at school? 100% yes

Grown up at school? 77%

Current problem? 96% No

**Winter Lunch Groups:** 

Making and Keeping Friends

**Building confidence** 

#### GRADE 4

How is school going? 95% great or good

Do you have friends at school? 94% yes

Grown up at school? 90% Yes/ maybe

Current problem? 90% No

**Winter Lunch Groups:** 

Making and keeping friends

**Building confidence** 

### 6th Grade Gives Back

**Examples:** Morning Announcements, Kinderg bus helpers,

Library help, Table to Table, etc

Art helpers.

#### **OF NOTE:**

Of all 6th grade students...

55% of grade - Morning Announcements

70% of grade - Kindergarten Bus Helper



#### Changes in HIB Requirements - began July 2022

- 1. Principal's Preliminary Determination reported annually to BOE by Superintendent
- 2. **Progressive consequences** spelled out in District Policy
- 3. New NJDOE Reporting Forms must be filled out in all cases; sent to the Superintendent.
- 4. *Guidance for Parents on the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act (ABR)*All schools and districts must post this NJDOE document on their websites.
- 5. School Climate State Coordinator newly created position within the NJDOE

### **NEW** RE: Older students

#### H.I.B results will now become a part of an offender's permanent record.

School student records are confidential. The question about whether a student has been suspended has recently been removed from the general portion of the common application. However, individual colleges are requesting the information and some colleges are now even requesting complete conduct records. These student records are also subject to subpoena.

The amendments to the law also include liability for parents. According to the law, parents who demonstrate willful or wanton disregard in the exercise of supervision and control over the conduct of a minor adjudicated to be delinquent of cyber harassment (a fourth-degree crime) may be liable in a civil action. In other words, parents can be sued for their child's communications via text messaging and social media.