Lorain City Schools have developed a zero tolerance policy towards any and all forms of Bullying.

**What is bullying?**

 Bullying in Ohio schools is defined in Ohio law [Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3313.666(B)(E)] as any intentional written, verbal, graphic or physical act that a student or group of students exhibits toward another particular student more than once, and that behavior both:

 • Causes mental or physical harm to the other student; and

• Is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment for the other student.

**Cyber Bullying**

The State Board model policy adds a definition of cyber bullying as repetitive, hostile behavior with the intent to harm others through the use of information and communication technologies such as Web sites, instant messages, camera phones or Ipods.

 **What should parents do if their child is bullied at school or at school events?**

 • Be aware of their child’s experiences at school;

 • Ask to see the school district’s official anti-bullying policy and learn about bullying’s consequences;

• Report bullying problems to school officials immediately; and

• Call local law enforcement if they believe a child is in danger.

 If a child has experienced a confrontation with a bully, parents can build the child’s confidence with reassurances that:

• He or she is not at fault; the bully’s behavior is the problem;

• Everyone is entitled to respect; he or she does not deserve to be bullied; and

• The parent will work with the child’s teacher, principal, school counselor and school staff to ensure that the bully’s behavior is addressed and that the victim will be protected.

 **Facts to know about bullying:**

• Bullying is disrespectful and can be dangerous, humiliating and life threatening.

• Bullying of a sexual nature constitutes sexual harassment.

• Bullying includes electronically transmitted acts; “cyber bullying” occurs when a perpetrator conveys his/her message through the Internet or a cell phone, personal digital assistant (PDA) or other wireless hand-held device.

• Bullying on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, disability or sexual orientation is a form of bias or hate and should not be dismissed as teasing.

• Bullying behavior that continues into adulthood may turn into violent behavior toward strangers, friends and family.

• A lifetime of consequences may follow both the target and the bully. Anti-Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying State Partners and Resources

**Lorain City Schools partner with the following agencies to assist in anti-bullying education for all of our students K-12:**

• Lorain Police Department

• Campus Impact

• 100 Men

• Girl Scouts

• Boys and Girls Club

• CAST Program (Coping and Support Training) facilitated by LCS School Social Workers

• Peer Mediation

• Lorain County Mental Health Board

• Red Flags Program

• Nancy Lowrie Counseling Service

• NAACP

• LCCC

• Common Ground

**Anti-Bullying Support Websites:**

<http://bullying.org/>

http://educate.crisisprevention.com/ppc\_BullyingPreventionResourcesGuide.html?code=IT M093SBRG&src=Pay-erClick&utm\_source=msn&utm\_medium=cpc&utm\_campaign=school%2Bbullying

 <http://www.stopbullying.gov/>

Lorain City Schools Bullying Policy:

Policy: JFCF / JFCF-R Lorain City Schools 2014-2015 Bullying Reporting Data: 1st Semester (1/30/15) 2nd Semester (6/12/15)

**Lorain City Schools Bullying Hot Line: (440)-233-2300**