

South Pasadena Unified School District

ARROYO VISTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Bullying Prevention School Plan

I. School Statement

The South Pasadena Unified School District and Arroyo Vista, Marengo, and Monterey Hills Elementary Schools are committed to providing a safe working and learning environment, will not tolerate bullying or any behavior that infringes on the safety or well-being of students, employees, or any other persons within the District's jurisdiction, and will not tolerate retaliation in any form when bullying has been reported. District policy continues to require all schools and all personnel to promote among students and employees mutual respect, tolerance, and acceptance. "All students and staff of public primary, elementary, junior high and senior high have the inalienable right to attend campuses which are safe, secure and peaceful." [Article 1, Section 28 (c) of the California State Constitution]

II. Definition of Bullying

Bullying is a form of violence. The acts involve a real or perceived imbalance of power with the more powerful student, person, or group attacking those who are less powerful. Bullying is subjecting a person to abusive actions. Typically, bullying behavior is: **unprovoked, intentional, repeated over time, and includes the use of hurtful words and/or acts.**

Bullying may include, but is not limited to any gesture/nonverbal, written, verbal, social/psychological, cyber-related or physical act that is reasonably perceived as being motivated by general disrespect or by any actual or perceived characteristic, such as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, a mental, physical, or sensory disability, or on the basis of association with an individual who falls into one of the protected categories, that takes place on school property, at any school-sponsored function, or on a school bus, or that (1) places a student or school employee in reasonable fear of harm to his or her person or damage to his or her property; or (2) has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities, or benefits; or (3) has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

III. Indicators of Bullying Behavior

Bullying behaviors may include, but are not necessarily limited to the following:

- **Verbal:** Hurtful name calling, teasing, gossiping, making threats, making rude noises, or spreading rumors.
- **Nonverbal:** Posturing, making gang signs, leering, staring, stalking, destroying property, using graffiti or graphic images, or exhibiting inappropriate and/or threatening gestures or actions.
- **Physical:** Hitting, punching, pushing, shoving, poking, kicking, tripping, strangling, slapping, hair-pulling, fighting, beating, biting, spitting, or destroying property.

- ***Emotional/psychological:*** Rejecting, terrorizing, extorting, defaming, intimidating, humiliating, blackmailing, manipulating friendships, isolating, ostracizing, using peer pressure, or rating or tanking personal characteristics.
- ***Cyber Bullying:*** Sending insulting or threatening messages by phone or e-mail, Web sites, or any other electronic or written communication.

School Rules, Consequences, and Pro-Social Interventions for Bullying Behavior

Pro-Social Interventions:

1. Steps to Respect Bully Prevention Curriculum
2. Second Step/Role-Playing
3. Character Counts! Education Programs
4. Playground Rules are communicated and enforced by all stakeholders.
5. Students are expected to be engaged in appropriate playground games.
6. Classroom discussions about the Bullying Prevention Policy and strategies to prevent bullying.
7. *Think Sheets* or a *Multi-Flow Thinking Map* will be completed by involved students.

School Rules:

1. We shall not bully other students.
2. We shall try to help students who are bullied.
3. We shall make a point to include students who become easily left out.

Consequences:

1. Students will be counseled about the incident.
2. Parents will be contacted by the teacher and/or principal and will help to develop a few simple family rules for living without bullying.
3. Students will be restricted from the privilege where the incident occurred.
4. Students will be required to complete a "*Think Sheet*" and/or a "*Multi-flow Thinking Map*" regarding the incident.
5. Notify the appropriate law enforcement authorities, when necessary.

IV. School Resources

1. Steps To Respect Curriculum
2. Second Step Curriculum
3. Character Counts! Education Program
4. Counselor-teacher Student Success Team meetings