

Bullying Definitions¹

Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated over time.

The Board and administration of Falls City School District are firmly committed to not tolerating bullying in the school district. Students who engage in bullying other students may receive discipline consequences up to and including out-of-school suspension, loss of privileges including sports and activities participation and community services activities.

The Board directs that the information below will be included in the student handbooks. Students will receive instruction at least annually on this information, as well as:

1. Board policy JFCF - Harrassment/Intimidation/Bullying/Cyberbullying/Teen Dating Violence; and
2. Administrative regulation JFCF AR(1) - Harrassment/Intimidation/Bullying/Cyberbullying/Teen Dating Violence - Complaint Procedure.
 1. Definition of Bullying
 - a. Bullying involves an imbalance of power, such as popularity, physical strength, or access to embarrassing information. This power is used to control or harm others. Power imbalances do change over time and in different situations.
 - b. Bullying behaviors happen more than once or have the potential to happen more than once.
 2. Types of Bullying
 - a. Verbal bullying – writing or saying mean things, including:
 - (1) Teasing;
 - (2) Name calling;
 - (3) Inappropriate sexual remarks;
 - (4) Taunting;
 - (5) Threatening to cause harm.
 - b. Social bullying – involves hurting someone’s reputation or relationships, including:
 - (1) Leaving someone out on purpose;
 - (2) Telling other students not to be friends with someone;
 - (3) Spreading rumors about someone;
 - (4) Embarrassing someone in public.

¹Adapted from the website www.stopbullying.gov.

c. Physical Bullying – hurting a person’s body or possessions including:

- (1) Hitting, kicking, punching;
- (2) Spitting;
- (3) Tripping, pushing;
- (4) Taking or breaking someone’s things;
- (5) Making rude or mean hand gestures.

d. Where and when bullying happens

- (1) During or after school hours;
- (2) In school and on the playground;
- (3) Traveling to and from school, either walking or riding the bus;
- (4) In the neighborhood;
- (5) On the Internet.