

**Fox Creek Charter High School Inc.**

**Bullying Policy**

**in compliance with the South Carolina**

**“Safe School Climate Act”**

Fox Creek Charter High School prohibits the harassment, intimidation, or bullying of a student for any reason at any time. This includes all school sponsored events both on and off campus, during and outside of school hours.

“(A) A person may not engage in:

- (1) harassment, intimidation, or bullying; or
- (2) reprisal, retaliation, or false accusation against a victim, witness, or one with reliable information about an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying” (Section 59-63-130 Safe School Climate Act).

“(B) A school employee, student, or volunteer who witnesses, or has reliable information that a student has been subject to harassment, intimidation, or bullying shall report the incident to the appropriate school official.

“Harassment, intimidation, or bullying' means a gesture, an electronic communication, or a written, verbal, physical, or sexual act that is reasonably perceived to have the effect of:

- (a) harming a student physically or emotionally or damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of personal harm or property damage; or
- (b) insulting or demeaning a student or group of students causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school.

(2) 'School' means in a classroom, on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, at an official school bus stop, at a school-sponsored activity or event whether or not it is held on school premises, or at another program or function where the school is responsible for the child” (Section 59-63-120, Safe School Climate Act).

Appropriate student behavior excludes the previously mentioned behaviors. Appropriate student behaviors are outlined in the Fox Creek Charter High School Pupil Discipline Code as follows:

“We have developed guidelines to clarify our expectations for our students:

- Students will be focused on their academic work during school hours.
- Students will be civil and kind to each other and to the staff.
- Students will dress appropriately. Dress should not be disruptive, obscene, or offensive.

- Students will be on time to class and attend class regularly.
- Students will accept responsibility for helping to maintain our facilities.
- Students will not engage in inappropriate displays of affection.”

Consequences for bullying at Fox Creek Charter High School are defined in the Pupil Discipline Code as follows:

“CLASS IV

Class IV infractions are those that are harmful to persons or property and have consequences which tend to endanger oneself or others. Based on the judgment of the Principal or designee, a Class IV offense may result in a Board expulsion hearing with a recommendation for expulsion from Fox Creek High School. A student violating an offense in Class IV more than the listed number of times will be given a three (3) day out-of-school suspension and possible Board expulsion hearing. Three individual referrals of Class IV infractions may result in a Board expulsion hearing.

First Consequence:

- One (1) Day Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)
- Parent/Guardian conference required for reinstatement

Second Consequence:

- Two (2) Days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)

Third Consequence:

- Administrative Hearing

Infraction 21

- Threatening, intimidating, **bullying**, taunting, verbal abuse of another student, inciting a fight or disturbance. “

Remedial actions include parent/guardian conferences for student reinstatement to school and possible guidance counselor dependant upon nature of offense.

Persons including students, parents, personnel, etc. that witness or have knowledge of bullying should notify Fox Creek Charter High School Administration immediately. All notifications will remain anonymous upon request. Students wishing to remain anonymous to administrators may report bullying through our suggestions box in the main office.

Upon receipt of reports of bullying, administrators will promptly investigate accusations and students accused of bullying will be innocent until evidence of bullying is substantiated by the administration.

Persons including students, parents, personnel, etc. are prohibited from reprisal or retaliation against a person who reports an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

Student(s) found to have falsely accused (an)other student(s) of bullying in the opinion of the Fox Creek Charter High School administration upon finalizing investigations will be held to the penalties described in the Pupil Discipline Code for forgery or falsifying information as follows:

“CLASS V

Class V infractions are those that interfere with normal school operations for both students and school personnel. A student violating an infraction more than the listed number of times will be given a three (3) day out-of-school suspension (OSS) and possible Board expulsion hearing.

First Consequence:

One (1) day Behavior Management Center (BMC)  
Parent/Guardian conference required for reinstatement

Second Consequence:

One (1) day Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)

Third Consequence:

Two (2) days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)

Infraction 23

**Forgery or falsifying information.”**

The Fox Creek Charter High School Bullying Policy will be verbally communicated to our students the first week of school. The policy will be posted on our school website for parents and constituents to review.

The Fox Creek Charter High School Bullying Policy will be added to the Student Agenda and the Teacher Handbook for the 2007-2008 school year, our next publication cycle. Professional development on bullying will be provided to all faculty and staff annually starting with the 2006-2007 school year.

“(A) This article must not be interpreted to prevent a victim from seeking redress pursuant to another available civil or criminal law. This section does not create or alter tort liability.

(B) A school employee or volunteer who promptly reports an incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying to the appropriate school official designated by the local school district's policy, and who makes this report in compliance with the procedures in the district's policy, is immune from a cause of action for damages arising from failure to remedy the reported incident.” (Section 59-63-150, Safe School Climate Act).

Adopted into Policy by the Fox Creek Charter High School Board of Directors on

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