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CENTER FOR APPLIED BEHAVIORAL INSTRUCTION (CABI) BULLYING PREVENTION PLAN

Teaching Appropriate Behavior Through Skills-Building

Upon the Program Director or designee determining that bullying or retaliation has occurred, the law requires that CABI use a range of responses that balance the need for accountability with the need to teach appropriate behavior. M.G.L. c. 71, § 37O (d) (v). Skill-building approaches that the Program Director may consider include:

- offering individualized skill-building sessions based on the school's/district's anti-bullying curricula;
- providing relevant educational activities for individual students or groups of students, in consultation with appropriate school personnel;
- implementing a range of academic and nonacademic positive behavioral supports to help students understand pro-social ways to achieve their goals;
- meeting with parents and guardians to engage parental support and to reinforce the anti-bullying curricula and social skills building activities at home;
- adopting behavior support plans to include a focus on developing specific social skills; and
- making a referral for evaluation.

Taking Disciplinary Action

If the Program Director or designee decides that disciplinary action is appropriate, the disciplinary action will be determined on the basis of facts found by the Program Director or designee, including the nature of the conduct, the age of the student(s) involved, and the need to balance accountability with the teaching of appropriate behavior. Discipline will be consistent with the Plan and with the school's code of conduct.

Discipline procedures for students with disabilities are governed by the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA), which should be read in cooperation with state laws regarding student discipline.

If the Program Director or designee determines that a student knowingly made a false allegation of bullying or retaliation, that student may be subject to disciplinary action.

Promoting Safety for the Target and Others

The Program Director or designee will consider what adjustments, if any, are needed in the school environment to enhance the target's sense of safety and that of others as well. One strategy that the Program Director or designee may use is to increase adult supervision at transition times and in locations where bullying is known to have occurred or is likely to occur.

Within a reasonable period of time following the determination and the ordering of remedial and/or disciplinary action, the Program Director or designee will contact the target to determine whether there has been a recurrence of the prohibited conduct and whether additional supportive measures are needed. If so, the Program Director or designee will work with appropriate school staff to implement them immediately.

The plan shall be posted on the Center for Applied Behavioral Instruction's website and CABI's Program Director shall be responsible for the implementation and oversight of the plan.