

Nevada's Anti-Bullying Laws



A Guide for Schools and Educators

Nevada Department of Education
Office for Safe and Respectful Learning Environment



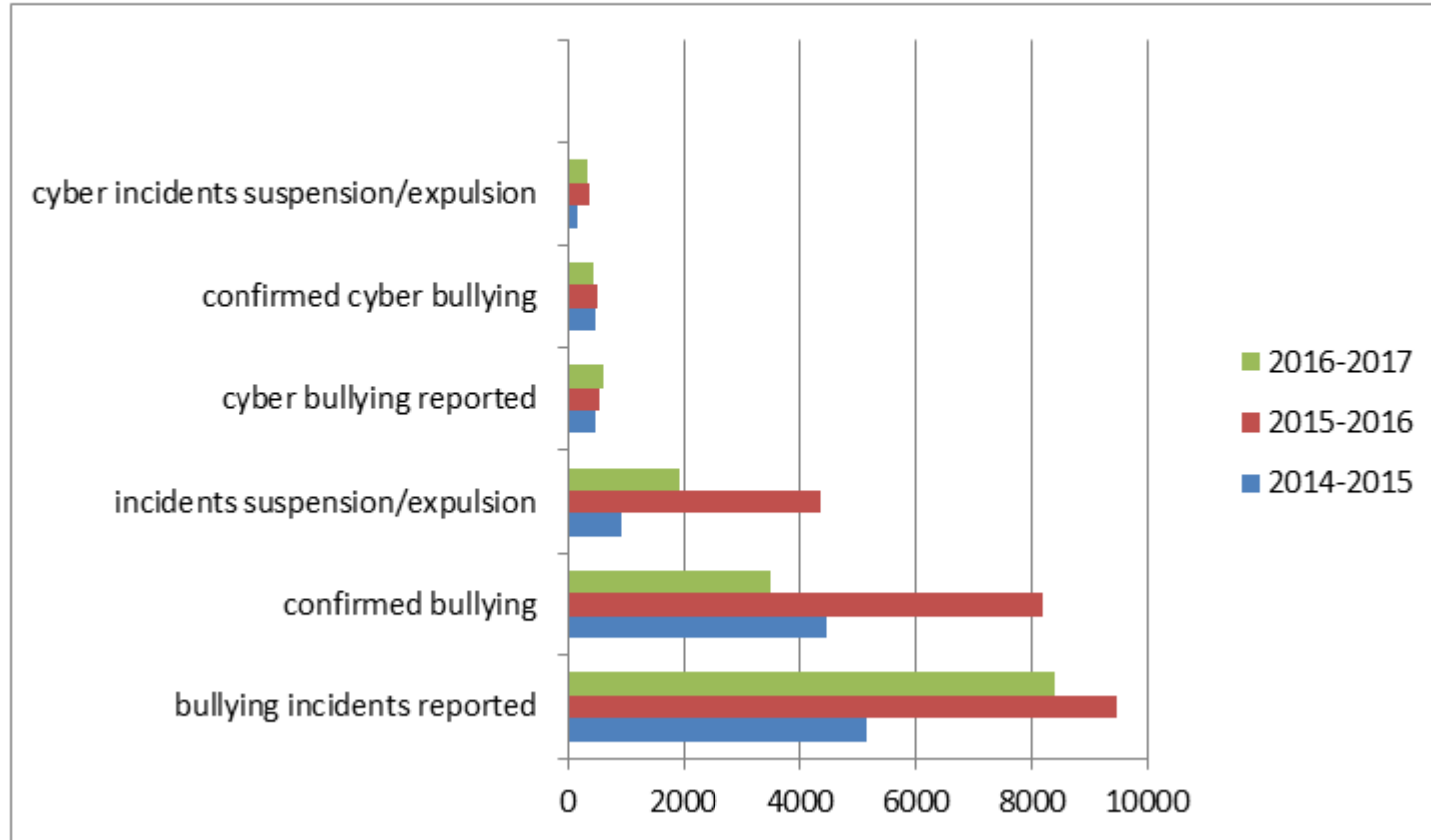
Why we do what we do...

Hailee's Law

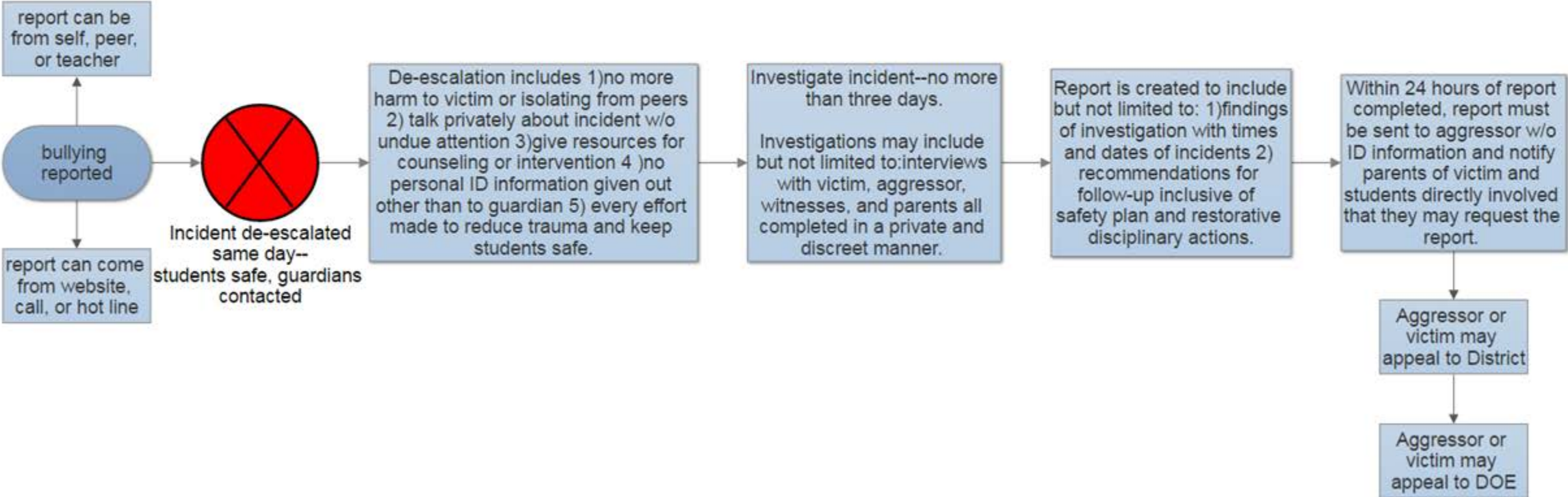


Nevada Bullying Data

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Bullying Incident Process



What is Bullying?

Does it?

- physically harm a person or damage the property of a person
- place a person in reasonable fear of physical harm or damage to the property of the person

Or.....



What is Bullying?

Does it?

- create an intimidating or hostile educational environment
- substantially interfere with the academic performance of a student or the ability of the student to participate in or benefit from services, activities or privileges provided by a school

Or.....



What is Bullying?

Does it?

- target someone based on their actual or perceived race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability of a person, sex or any other distinguishing characteristic or background of a person, or target someone based on their association with another person having one or more of those actual or perceived characteristics



Why did the definition change?

By intervening immediately, we communicate to students that all forms of bullying are unacceptable and we encourage an environment that is safe and respectful for all students.



Bullying can be:

- communicated verbally, electronically (*cyberbullying*) or in writing, or any combination of those
- a single severe and willful act
- a criminal act too (in some instances)



Bullying can be:

- repeated or pervasive taunting, name-calling, belittling, mocking or use of put-downs or demeaning humor
- behavior that is intended to harm another person by damaging or manipulating his or her relationships with others, such as spreading false rumors



Bullying can be:

- repeated or pervasive nonverbal threats or intimidation such as the use of aggressive, menacing or disrespectful gestures
- threats of harm to a person, to his or her possessions or to other persons



Bullying can be:

- blackmail, extortion or demands for protection money, or involuntary loans or donations
- blocking access to any property or facility of a school
- stalking
- physically harmful contact with or injury to another person or his or her property



Exceptions:

Nevada's bullying laws do NOT apply to children in pre-kindergarten or to incidents that occur from one adult to another adult in a school setting.



What if a crime was committed?

- If law enforcement begins a criminal investigation, the school may stop their investigation into bullying until the criminal investigation is completed.
- The school must still create a safety plan for each student that was directly involved.



Reporting procedures for adults/staff:

- Any school district employee who witnesses bullying or receives a report that bullying has happened shall report it to the principal or designee as soon as practical and no later than during the same day on which the report was received or the bullying witnessed.
- Notification to principal can happen via text, email, phone call, etc.



Reporting procedures for students:

- Tell a trusted adult in your school: a counselor, teacher, coach, principal, etc.
- Online at bullyfreezone.nv.gov
- 24-hour hotline: (775)-698-0150
- Text STANDUP to 839863



Upon Receiving a Report:

1. The school will make sure that all students involved are safe.
2. The school will notify the parents of any student that was directly involved.
3. The school will create a safety plan for each student that was directly involved.
4. The principal will meet with each student that was directly involved in order to determine if bullying did or did not occur.



Upon Receiving a Report:

5. Once the principal finishes their investigation they will give a confidential copy of the report to the parents of the reported aggressor. The parents of the reported victim can also request a copy.
6. Sometime in the next 10 days, the principal will meet with each student that was directly involved to make sure that the safety plan is working.



Timelines:

- All school employees must report possible incidents of bullying to the principal on the same day.
- The school must immediately make sure that all students involved are safe.
- The notification to parents of students that were directly involved that the school will be conducting a bullying investigation must be done by the time the school's office closes on the same school day that the report was made.



Timelines:

- The principal must start the investigation immediately.
- The investigation must be completed within 2 days (3 days if parent contact was delayed).
- The principal must meet with all students that were directly involved within 10 days to make sure that the safety plan is still working.



My child was bullying: what happens now?

- The school will recommend a plan that will help your child to see that harm that their actions have caused, ways to repair that harm, and how to keep your child from bullying or cyberbullying in the future.
- The school may also impose restorative disciplinary action or create a plan that supports the physical and emotional well-being of your child.



Your rights:

- If your child is found to have committed an act of bullying you may appeal the decision through your school district's appeal process. Contact your school district's main office for more information.
- If you have appealed through your school district but you still do not agree with the decision you may appeal through the Nevada Department of Education's *Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment*. The appeal must be done within 30 days. Visit bullyfreezone.nv.gov or call (775)-687-9134.



Your rights:

- If the school finds that bullying did not occur information concerning the incident must not be included in the record of the reported aggressor.
- If your child is found to be a victim of bullying you may request that they be placed at another school within your district. Contact your school district's main office for more information.



Your rights:

- If a child is investigated for bullying but the school team finds that the actions were a result of the child's disability and those actions are addressed under the child's IEP (individualized educational program) the school cannot apply the bullying laws. The school must still notify the parents of all reported victims.



For more information:

Visit

bullyfreezone.nv.org

or contact

the

Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment

at

(775)-687-9134.

