

# Galway Central School District

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## Dignity For All Students

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New York State's Dignity for All Students Act (The Dignity Act) seeks to provide the State's public elementary and secondary school students with a safe and supportive environment free from discrimination, intimidation, taunting, harassment, and bullying on school property, a school bus and/or at a school function.

Galway CSD Dignity Act Coordinators:

[Jennifer Hall](#), Director of Pupil Services/Special Education, 882-1033 x3244

[Andy Huszar](#), Psychologist, 882-1033 x3247

[Christine Bornt](#), Social Worker, 882-1033 x4908

Galway offers DASA Certification Training: 6hr course for those seeking the new NYSED regulations for Training in Harassment, Bullying, Cyberbullying and Discrimination in Schools: Prevention and Intervention.

Upcoming Galway Trainings

Hours: 8am - 2pm Cost: \$60 (1 day trainings)

Contact: Brita Donovan [bmdonovan@galwaycsd.org](mailto:bmdonovan@galwaycsd.org)

July 28, 2018

August 25, 2018

November 3, 2018

February 2, 2019

March 9, 2019

June 1, 2019

## DEFINITIONS

*Bullying* is aggressive behavior that is intentional and that involves an imbalance of power. Most often, it is repeated over time. ( *From the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program*) There are three kinds – verbal, physical, and social or relational.

Harassment means the creation of a hostile environment by conduct or by verbal threats, intimidation or abuse that has or would have the effect of unreasonably and substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities or benefits, or mental, emotional or physical well-being; or conduct, verbal threats, intimidation or abuse that reasonably causes or would reasonably be expected to cause a student to fear for his or her physical safety; such conduct, verbal threats, intimidation or abuse includes but is not limited to conduct, verbal threats, intimidation or abuse based on a person's actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender or sex (*Education Law §11[7]*).

Sexual Harassment is serious or perceived behavior of a sexual nature which makes someone uncomfortable. That person may become upset or avoid coming to school because of the behavior aimed at them. These behaviors include, but are not limited to:

- Unwelcome sexual advances asking for sexual favors
- Jokes, comments, rumors, threats
- Physical touching, pinching, grabbing
- Sending texts, emails, posting on Facebook or other social networks comments or pictures that are sexual

The CDC has just released a uniform definition of bullying (2/14)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Education, the Health Resources and Services Administration, and with input from researchers and practitioners, developed a uniform definition of bullying.

**Bullying Definition:** Any unwanted aggressive behavior(s) by another youth or group of youths who are not siblings or current dating partners that involves an observed or perceived power imbalance and is repeated multiple times or is highly likely to be repeated. Bullying may inflict harm or distress on the targeted youth including physical, psychological, social, or educational harm. <sup>1</sup> A young person can be a perpetrator, a victim, or both (also known as "bully/victim").

Bullying can occur in-person and through technology. Electronic aggression or cyber-bullying is bullying that happens through email, chat rooms, instant message, a website, text message, or social media. <sup>2</sup>

*What is Cyberbullying?*

Cyberbullying is **bullying** that takes place using electronic technology. Electronic technology includes devices and equipment such as cell phones, computers, and tablets as well as communication tools including social media sites, text messages, chat, and websites.