



PAYMON ROUHANIFARD
SUPERINTENDENT

CAMDEN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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January 9, 2015

Dear Camden City School Community,

On January 5, 2011, the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act (ABR) was signed into law in the state of New Jersey. The act was designed to strengthen standards and procedures for preventing, reporting, and responding to incidents of harassment, intimidation, and bullying of students.

Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, the Camden City School District has conscientiously implemented the requirements found in the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act by actively training staff and contracted service providers on the harassment, intimidation, and bullying (HIB) policy, and implementing the mandated reporting and investigation process.

- During the first three years of implementation of the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, our School District has made progress in addressing and improving HIB and the school climate and culture by identifying a District anti-bullying coordinator, and selecting an anti-bullying specialist in each school throughout the District to provide interventions and supports to students involved in all reported incidents. The District continues to utilize the HIB reporting process and staff works hard to improve communication with parents regarding incidents of harassment, intimidation, and bullying.
- While completing the Self-Assessment, we learned that our School District has demonstrated strength in assembling the team of trained HIB personnel at the central office and at each school. We have also continued to have school and community trainings on the HIB policy, bullying awareness, and cyber safety. As an example, the District conducted a briefing on HIB for the City's crossing guards.

Looking Ahead

- The Self-Assessment helped our school district to prioritize the need for improving and implementing HIB-related programs and approaches and continue to provide awareness training programs and intervention support initiatives for students, families, and staff. The Office of Safety and Security plans to involve the Camden County Metro Police in the process of HIB program development, implementation, and assessment.
- During the upcoming school year, our school district will continue to seek your support in improving HIB initiatives throughout the district. Each school will use the 2014 School Safety Team Self-Assessment results as a tool to continue to strengthen efforts to improve school climate and culture and comply with the mandates with the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act.

Please contact the District Anti-Bullying Coordinator, Andrea Damiani, with any questions regarding the school district's self-assessment grades. She can be reached at (856) 966-2000, extension 38502.

Sincerely,

Paymon Rouhanifard
Superintendent