STUDENTS BE 5145.05c

Mendocino County Office of Education ANTI-BULLYING/INTIMIDATION POLICY

Every student is entitled to a safe school environment free from discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying.

Mendocino County Office of Education (MCOE) Board Policy 5145.05 – Anti-Bullying and/or Intimidation can be found on the MCOE website. Copies are also available in the school principal's office.

MCOE prohibits discrimination, harassment, intimidation and bullying based on the actual or perceived characteristics set forth in Penal Code section 422.55 and Education Code section 220, including actual or perceived gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnic group identification, race, ancestry, national origin, religion, color, or mental or physical disability, or age, or on the basis of a person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics, in any program or activity that receives or benefits from state or federal funding. Bullying is defined in Education Code section 48900(r).

- 1. School personnel must immediately intervene if they witness an act of discrimination, harassment, intimidation or bullying provided it is safe to do so.
- 2. Acts of discrimination, bullying or intimidation should be brought to the attention of the school principal.
- 3. You may make an anonymous complaint by contacting the principal. If there is sufficient corroborating information, MCOE will commence an investigation.
- 4. Complaints of bullying, intimidation or discrimination will be considered confidential. However, it may be necessary to disclose certain information in order to effectively investigate.
- 5. Students who violate the MCOE's policies on bullying or discrimination may be subject to discipline, including suspension and expulsion.
- 6. MCOE prohibits retaliation against individuals who make complaints of bullying/intimidation or provide information related to such complaints.
- 7. Students and parents also may contact the school principal at 467-5060 or peterk@mcoe.us.

MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Exhibit Approved: September 10, 2012