



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

January 26, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents and Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Carol Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent *Carol*

SUBJECT: Bullying Policies

On December 6, 2011, Matt's Safe School Law (MCL 380.1310b) was signed into law by Governor Snyder. The law requires that not later than six months after the effective date of the legislation, the board of a local education agency (LEA) or intermediate school district (ISD) or board of directors of a public school academy (PSA) shall adopt and implement a policy prohibiting bullying. This act further requires that not later than 30 days after adopting this policy, the board or board of directors shall submit a copy of its policy to the Michigan Department of Education (MDE). An application, titled "Anti-Bullying Policy," is currently available in the Michigan Electronic Grant System Plus (MEGS+) for the submission of these policies. No other form of submission will be accepted.

If the LEA, ISD, or PSA is adopting an existing policy which contains all of the required components in the law, it must be submitted in the MEGS+ system no later than February 6, 2012. If a new or updated policy will be adopted, at least one public hearing must be held by the board or board of directors before its adoption. It must then be submitted in MEGS+ no later than 30 days after adoption, or June 6, 2012, whichever is first.

The LEA, ISD, or PSA may view the Michigan State Board of Education's Model Anti-Bullying Policy template, which includes all of the required and encouraged components in the law, at:

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/SBE_Model_AntiBullying_Policy_Revised_9.8_172355_7.pdf.

Questions regarding the content of this memo may be directed to Jill Byelich in the Coordinated School Health and Safety Programs Unit at byelichj1@michigan.gov or (517) 373-3623.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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