

# Memo

**To:** Mason Staff  
**From:** Mark Dillingham  
**Date:** January 6, 2012  
**Re:** Bullying Task Force Timeline

Hi Everyone. I hope that your Christmas and New Year celebrations were enjoyable!

In late November, a small group of staff (Bruce Barbour, Karen Harvey, Liz Dyste-Bales, Rick Schramm, and me) started to work on developing a revised bullying definition. This group was a smaller working team culled from the twelve-member Bullying Task Force Sub-committee. Not only did we create a bullying definition, but we also worked on overhauling the district's bullying policy. Our draft policy/definition is currently being reviewed by our legal council to ensure that all required elements of the recently passed bullying legislation are included in our document.

You are most likely aware that building climate surveys have been developed to be administered to students grades 2-12. The high school and middle school have both surveyed students in various aspects related to bullying in their buildings. The elementary buildings plan to complete this task in late January or early February.

Following is a timeline of events for our bullying work at the district level for the remainder of the 2011-12 school year.

- Bullying Definition/Policy Committee to review revised definition/revised policy on **Tuesday, January 17 at 9:30 a.m.** at the Harvey Education Center.
- Bullying Task Force Sub-committee to review new definition and policy, and analyze building bullying climate survey data on **Thursday, February 23 at 4:00 p.m. at the Harvey Education Center.**
- Full Bullying Task Force meeting to discuss policy, survey, and parent resources on **Thursday, April 26 at 4:00 p.m. at the Harvey Education Center.**
- Kevin Honeycutt parent presentation on bullying, cyber bullying, and social media issues to be held on **Thursday, May 3 at 7:00 p.m. in the Mason High School Auditorium.**

Once the various committees have had the opportunity to review the work completed, the revised policy will be sent to the Policy and Curriculum Sub-committee of the Board of Education for their input and approval. It will then need to go through the full Board of Education for two readings. At that point, our revised policy and definition will be sent to the State of Michigan, as required, and will be disseminated through the Leadership Team to all staff. **The revised policy/definition will need to be included in all student handbooks in 2012-13.**

Discussion will ensue at the Leadership Team to help determine how best we might make our students aware of this revised policy later this spring, once approved by our Board of Education.

MD:ml