Local Law 51- Reporting on student-to-student bullying, harassment, intimidation and discrimination

Pursuant to Local Law 51 of 2018, the Department of Education is required to provide reports on student-to-student bullying, harassment, including sexual harassment, intimidation and discrimination twice a year (May 31 and November 30). Per the legislation and in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), any value from one (1) to five (5) has been redacted.

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Resources and supports to schools

Since School Year 2016-2017, the DOE has implemented a number of school climate measures to support the whole child and to ensure the academic and social-emotional success of every student. In School Year 2017-2018, the City committed to $8 million for initiatives specifically targeted at addressing bullying, including the creation of an electronic Online Complaint Reporting System, additional workshops, trainings, and targeted school-based supports. This work is complemented by the City’s $47 million annual investment in school resources and mental health supports and is further supported by a $23 million investment in anti-bias training for all staff.

For School Year 2019-2020 (SY19-20), the DOE launched the start of the Resilient Kids, Safer Schools climate package, including the expansion of restorative practices in middle and high schools and a new partnership with Sanford Harmony to introduce social-emotional learning in elementary schools.

During SY19-20, the DOE continued to provide resources and supports to schools with respect to preventing, reporting, and addressing incidents of student-to-student discrimination, harassment, intimidation and/or bullying, including sexual harassment including:

- Anti-bullying training modules for supportive and inclusive learning environments for all school staff, including:
  - Respect for All (RFA) Conversations, an online training available to all school staff and administrators to develop best practices on maintaining safe and inclusive learning environments
  - Trainings for students, aimed at empowering them to become allies rather than bystanders
  - Training materials and resources to address bullying, harassment, and biased-based behavior towards various populations
  - Training addressing system enhancements and policy changes outlined in Chancellor’s Regulation A-832 (school polices about student-to-student discrimination, harassment, intimidation and/or bullying, including sexual harassment)
Note: All principals completed the certifications regarding training required by the Regulation in their Consolidated Youth Development Plans, which are updated annually.

- Online behavior and digital citizenship curriculum and education for educators, as part of the requirements outlined in the Children's Internet Protection Act.
- Targeted social-emotional and restorative curriculum resources and training for approximately 600 middle and high schools and approximately 230 elementary schools.
- Implicit bias and culturally responsive practices trainings to confront bias for school staff.
- Designation of at least one dedicated School Climate Manager (staffed within NYCDOE Borough Citywide Offices, or BCOs) for each school, who is responsible for supporting schools with bullying allegations, classroom management, and developing and sustaining systems to ensure a positive school environment.
- Offered training to social workers on dating violence prevention hosted by Day One NY.
- Offered training to school staff on LGBTQ+ inclusion.
- Provided training for school-based Sexual Harassment Prevention (SHP) Liaisons on student-to-student sexual harassment in accordance with the requirements of Chancellor’s Regulation A831.
- Training on the DOE’s policies on bullying prevention and intervention for New York Police Department (NYPD) School Safety Agent recruits from the graduating classes on 9/19/2019 and 1/29/2020, as part of their training in the NYPD – School Safety Division Academy.

Resources and Supports to schools beginning in SY19-20:

- Deployment of the Online Complaint Reporting System for parents, students and other individuals (other than staff) to submit complaints of student-to-student discrimination, harassment, intimidation and/or bullying, including sexual harassment.
• Enhancements to the Online Occurrence Reporting System (OORS), the system of record for reporting all incidents in NYC public schools, and the Suspensions and Office of Hearings Online (SOHO), the system of record for documenting all removals and suspensions in NYC public schools.

• Monthly school data reports and targeted supports and interventions to schools from BCO staff.

• Borough crisis teams School Response Clinicians, provided in partnership with ThriveNYC, who are deployed in response to urgent crises to provide immediate clinical care.

• Due to unprecedented health, economic, and social impacts of COVID-19 and racial injustices on NYC students, families, and schools, the DOE connected students and staff to mental health care and, in Spring 2020, launched:
  
  o Support-the-Supporters social-emotional learning (SEL) professional learning circles for educators to articulate their emotions and develop strategies for wellness together.

  o Trauma training series and recorded webinars for all school administrators and school crisis teams to enhance trauma-informed care, including understanding common reactions to trauma (especially in students) and how to cope with grief and loss.

• One Title IX Liaison aligned with each BCO who will conduct investigations and provide support to schools regarding Title IX incidents.

• Age-appropriate student-to-student sexual harassment prevention presentations (based on policies outlined in Chancellor’s Regulation A-831) for school staff to share with elementary, middle, and high school students.

**Description of Trends Reflected in Data Reported**

• From March 23, 2020 through the end of the school year, DOE schools operated remotely as the result of the COVID-19 public health crisis. This transition to remote learning impacted the nature and number of bullying complaints and material incidents.

• Out of all complaints, 29% were for high schools, 23% were elementary, 27% were for middle schools, and 11% were for K-8.
• Of all material incidents, 31% were for high schools, 29% were for middle schools, 18% were for elementary schools, and 10% were for K-8 schools.

• Out of all incidents that were bias-related, 32% occurred in middle schools, 30% occurred in high schools, 21% occurred in elementary schools, and 8% occurred in K-8 schools.

Schools who completed training pursuant to Chancellor’s Regulation A-832

• All principals completed the certifications regarding training required by the Regulation in their Consolidated Youth Development Plans which are updated annually.

• Educated students in appropriate online behavior and digital citizenship as part of the requirements outlined in the Children’s Internet Protection Act.