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# West Windsor – Plainsboro Regional School District



## 2013-2014 Violence and Vandalism Report

# Week of Respect Activities

October 6-10, 2014

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- The week of October 6th – 10<sup>th</sup> was designated as the **Week of Respect** in accordance with the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights. School districts throughout the state are required to observe the week by providing age appropriate instruction focusing on preventing **Harassment, Intimidation** or **Bullying**.

# Mission Statement

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WW-P is committed to providing all students with a safe learning environment that is free from harassment, intimidation, and bullying (HIB). This commitment is an integral part of our comprehensive efforts to provide learning, and to prevent and eliminate all forms of HIB through the following practices: adhering to the 2011 New Jersey Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights legislation; training all staff to identify, report, and address HIB behaviors in a timely fashion; and proactively educating parents, students, Board of Education members, and the community to establish HIB expectations and the communication of our commitment to safety and respectful behavior for all.

# Elementary Activities

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## IT TAKES A WHOLE SCHOOL TO STOP BULLYING!

### DUTCH NECK SCHOOL

**RESPECT Banner** – The art teacher will hang a banner with LARGE letters spelling “At Dutch Neck School we promise to RESPECT others”. **Classes may go anytime during the week to sign.**

- **Monday 10/6 - Wear Yellow**, the color that represents Respect.
- **Tuesday 10/7 - Hand” activity** – Put a Stop to Bullying (activity provided)
- **Wednesday 10/8 - Poem reading in morning over P.A.** – *You Belong* by Naomi Drew
- **Thursday 10/9 - Write or Draw**, “When I think of Peace, I think about . . .” (in class activity)
- **Friday 10/10 - Respect the Environment. WEAR GREEN.** Clean desks, clean up classroom or work in garden, take a nature walk.

# Elementary Activities

## MAURICE HAWK SCHOOL

We will have daily themes related to bring respectful.

Monday- ***“Orange” you glad we’re a bully free school?***- Wear orange clothing

Tuesday- ***Team up against bullying***- Wear team jerseys or uniforms

Wednesday- ***I’m too bright to bully***- Wear bright colors

Thursday- ***Sock-it to bullying***- Wear crazy or mismatched socks

Friday- ***Hats off to being respectful***- Wear a hat to school

Win-Win guideline posters will be placed in every classroom and in the hallways of Hawk School.

Morning Meetings will include review of Win-Win guidelines and discussion.

Each class will recite and sign an anti-bullying pledge.

The school counselor will continue to present lessons concentrated on conflict resolution, friendship and acceptance.

Grade level anti-bullying presentations will have been presented to all students by this week with a focus on being kind, respectful and making good choices.

Students will show respect for each other when they participate in teambuilding activities on Field Day this month.

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Hawk Patrol and Hawk Ambassadors will receive bracelets with a bully-free message as they are role models in our school.

# Elementary Activities

## TOWN CENTER

Respect Lessons with every class in school Sept-Oct

Respect PowerPoint

Teachers will discuss 1 or 2 slides from the PowerPoint during Morning Meeting

Discussion questions about how to show respect will be prompted

Morning Announcements

A fact/quote about showing respect will be shared over the loudspeaker

Daily Challenge to show respect

Promote **River of Respect**

Recommend read-alouds for teachers to use during the week

Morning Meetings (Responsive Classroom activity) will focus on respect for ourselves, others and our school; done in the classrooms

Character Theme for the month of October is Respect; Every news broadcast (if working) for the month will include a note or idea about respect and how to exhibit it at Town Center

Continue our ongoing motivational program entitled The River of Respect that recognizes students who consistently display respectful behavior

Hanging banner in front hall that says "Our school is a Place Where Everyone Fits"

Media center will display a variety of books focusing on respect

PTA sponsored assembly called "The Mystery of The Character Surprise" by Doug Scheer

# Elementary Activities

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## Wicoff School

The character education theme for September/October is *Teamwork*. This will be incorporated throughout lesson plans, counselor visits and school wide activities.

Wicoff will participate in *National Walk Your Child to School Day* on October 8th in coordination with the Plainsboro Police Department. The students will make posters with safety tips which will be displayed along the route of the walk. Staff will emphasize respect for community members during this activity. An assembly program will follow which will be led by the Mayor of Plainsboro and representatives from the Police Department.

Wake Up Wicoff – Students will make weekly announcements over the loudspeaker incorporating quotes dealing with respect.

Every Friday the principal will lead the school in the *Pledge of Allegiance* and discuss respect and share quotes, poems, etc.

We will kick-off our Bus Buddies Program (bus safety) during the Week of Respect.

The guidance counselor will share important information regarding anti-bullying through her parent monthly newsletter.

# Elementary Activities

## Millstone River School

On-going lessons in all 4<sup>th</sup>-grade and 5<sup>th</sup>-grade classes focusing on bully-proofing strategies/assertiveness skills facilitated by our guidance counselor.

Morning announcements will include daily discussion questions urging students to practice respectful behavior.

Each teacher will receive a suggested annotated reading list and a variety of classroom lessons to use as a springboard for student discussion and activity.

Each teacher will receive a copy of a "Respect Pledge" to read and sign with classmates. The pledge will be hung in the classrooms as a reminder of expected behavior.

## Village School

Read alouds and discussions in the classrooms by principal and guidance counselor focusing on respect.

In line with our character education program, the Week of Respect and the morning announcements, we provide respect-themed quotes for students to share with the school community as the "thought for the day".

Librarian has books and audio visual materials pulled and available relating to character education and anti-bullying.

Counselor will provide teachers with optional lessons that they can do with their class.

Counselor will continue to present classroom lessons on conflict resolution, anti-bullying, friendship and acceptance.



# Middle School Activities

## Community Middle School

- School wide – Spirit Days, each day designated to acknowledge and celebrate our differences (please see attached PPT)
- Team 7A - We wanted to focus on verbal and indirect bullying. Students will write about whether a given scenario is an example of harmless teasing or hurtful language. Then students will discuss their thoughts in small groups. We'll end with a whole class sharing out and clear definitions/examples of harmless teasing between friends and hurtful language that could be classified as bullying. (This was touched upon at the first-day-of-school assembly, but we thought it would be beneficial to talk in more detail within class time.) (please see attached PDF)
- Team 6C - Will be holding a team meeting promoting respect and creating and signing a banner pledging respect for the "Week of Respect" October 6-10 during flex.
- MD Program – will learn about Mahatma Gandhi/Martin Luther King – filling out KWHL Chart and doing research on these peaceful, non-violent men
- Team 8C – Will be discussing issues revealed within *The Outsiders* and as daily Words of the Day
- Team 6D - our team has students create a "Random Acts of Kindness" chain – students record acts of kindness they complete themselves, or have witnessed, on a slip of paper. This slip of paper gets added as a link to the chain of acts. We display this in the sixth grade concourse after a week, so the students can see all the acts of kindness they have completed in just one short week.
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Computer Cycle – Students will be focusing on cyber-bullying – forms it may take, consequences, resources for students if they are cyber-bullied or they witness it, and how they may go from a bystander to an upstander. This will involve a look at case studies and videos which will be discussed in small groups and as a class. Students will work in pairs on a final project which involves choosing a cyber-bullying scenario and illustrating/scripting an appropriate response to it using Google slides.
- Team 7C – Anti-Bullying Lesson. As students enter the classroom, they will see quotes from middle school-aged children about bullying. Once settled down, students will view YouTube video, "Don't Laugh at Me" ([www.youtube.com/watch?v=HTNVXlirF4Y](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HTNVXlirF4Y) (3:24)). In groups of 4, students are given a mini poster of a body. They are to fill in how bullying affects people academically, emotionally/socially, and physically. After a few minutes, share with other groups. Video clips from "What Would You Do" shown to students – both physical/verbal bullying and cyber bullying. As a follow-up to videos, ask students to write on butcher paper what they would do and what they want adults to do. How we, as adults, should handle the situations in order to help those being bullied. Students then brainstorm scenarios that they have seen, with results that were both favorable and unfavorable. How would they change the results? Make a list of "safe" adults that they feel they can talk to. Additional YouTube and United Streaming videos – this is intended as a day-long team activity. If time doesn't permit this much, pick and choose which activities we want to complete.

# Middle School Activities

## Grover Middle School

- Themes (attire and focus for each day) will be shared with faculty in weekly principal's bulletin in September. Each day's theme will be associated with a "Pillar of Character," as described in the assembly program to take place on Thursday of the week and all teachers will be encouraged to take part and motivate student participation (dress to the theme!). Themes also will be posted at each counselor's door and teachers will be encouraged to post/share as well. PTSA blast is sending them to parents. They will scroll on hallway TVs the week prior. Associated quotes for each "Pillar" will be read during the morning announcements and will be featured as part of classroom discussions during grade-level FLEX periods.

Monday 10/6- Courage

Tuesday 10/7- Integrity

Wednesday 10/8- Leadership

Thursday 10/9- Service

Friday 10/10- School Pride

- Encourage teachers wherever possible to incorporate the theme/quote (and/or respect in general) into lessons for the week of 10/7-10/11.

Wednesday 10/9: Character Does Matter Assemblies: "If Not Me, Then Who?" (Theater)

6th Grade 8:00

7th Grade 8:55

8th Grade 9:45

- Adopting of a Fallen Hero (Thomas Grover) in whose name we demonstrate the Greatness of Grover as we do the right thing and serve humanity.
- Bracelets to be distributed in the team class to which students return after the assembly.
- Grade level teams will identify a year-long service initiative and will brainstorm actions that they can take to make a difference
- 6th Grade Lifeskills (TBD- Monday/Friday) Wendy Alley will facilitate lessons on respect as it pertains to school climate. Go over the JAG Pledge. Tie in "If Not Me, Then Who."
- -Introduction to cyber safety.

# High School Activities

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## High School North

- Daily quotes and “challenge” statements in announcements
- Peer group activities with peer leaders
- Teacher emails of possible activities to incorporate the respect theme
- Each day a new subject under the theme of respect:
  - Monday – respect the environment
  - Tuesday - respect friends/fellow students
  - Wednesday – respect the school
  - Thursday – respect family
  - Friday – respect yourself

# High School Activities

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- **High School South**

**Trivia Table at Lunch**

Peer Leader Facilitated with my support

Lunch during week, each day in a different commons area

Students answer an HIB related question for a piece of candy

Students can write the name of someone who they respect and why on a band of paper which will be turned into a chain of respect at the end of the week and hung in the commons or main office

Display HIB Facts Tri-Fold

**Student made posters**

Hung throughout the commons for the month of October

**Raise the Jolly Roger!!**

Students will be provided with stickies to write anonymous nice things about their teachers and peers. These accumulate at the bottom of the pole and gradually fill the space, to "Raise the Jolly Roger"

**Morning Quotes**

Read over loudspeaker each morning - perhaps in conjunction with Dennis's morning email

**B.E. A. P.I.R.A.T.E.**

Year Long Initiative Kick Off with distribution of signs and bracelets to all teachers

**Peer Group Discussion**

HIB related topics, and focus on school culture and climate, primarily on connectedness

# Definition of HIB

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“Any gesture, any written, verbal or physical act, or any electronic communication, whether it be a single incident or a series of incidents, that is reasonably perceived as being motivated either by any actual or perceived characteristic, such as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or a mental, physical or sensory [handicap] disability, or by any other distinguishing characteristic, that takes place on school property, at any school-sponsored function [or], on a school bus, or off school grounds as provided for in section 16 of P.L.2010, CHAPTER 122, that substantially disrupts or interferes with the orderly operation of the school or the rights of other students“

# Evidence of HIB:

The student knowingly engaged in racist, homophobic, or other stereotyping behavior with the specific objective of hurting, intimidating or harassing another student

The student knowingly engaged in behavior with the specific objective of hurting, intimidating, or harassing another student

The student knowingly engaged in harassing, intimidating, or bullying behavior but was not aware of the potential negative impact on the victim

The student unknowingly engaged in harassing, intimidating, or bullying behavior and had no awareness of the potential negative impact on the victim

The student was “showing off” with friends or reacting to a personal (emotional) situation, and the victim was arbitrarily and impulsively targeted

The student engaged in harassing, intimidating, or bullying behavior in direct response to a real or imagined threat initiated by the other student

The student engaged in behavior that may be considered inappropriate, rude, disrespectful, or unkind, but the behavior does not violate school HIB guidelines

The student did not engage in any behavior which meets the definition of HIB. Student has been cleared of any actionable offense.

The student was a victim of an HIB incident.  
OR The student was not a victim of an HIB incident.

# Factual Findings

**Intentional (with hate speech) and designed to harass, intimidate, or bully**

**Intentional (without hate speech) and designed to Harass, intimidate or bully**

**Intentional, but not designed to harass, intimidate or bully**

**Unintentional**

**Unrelated**

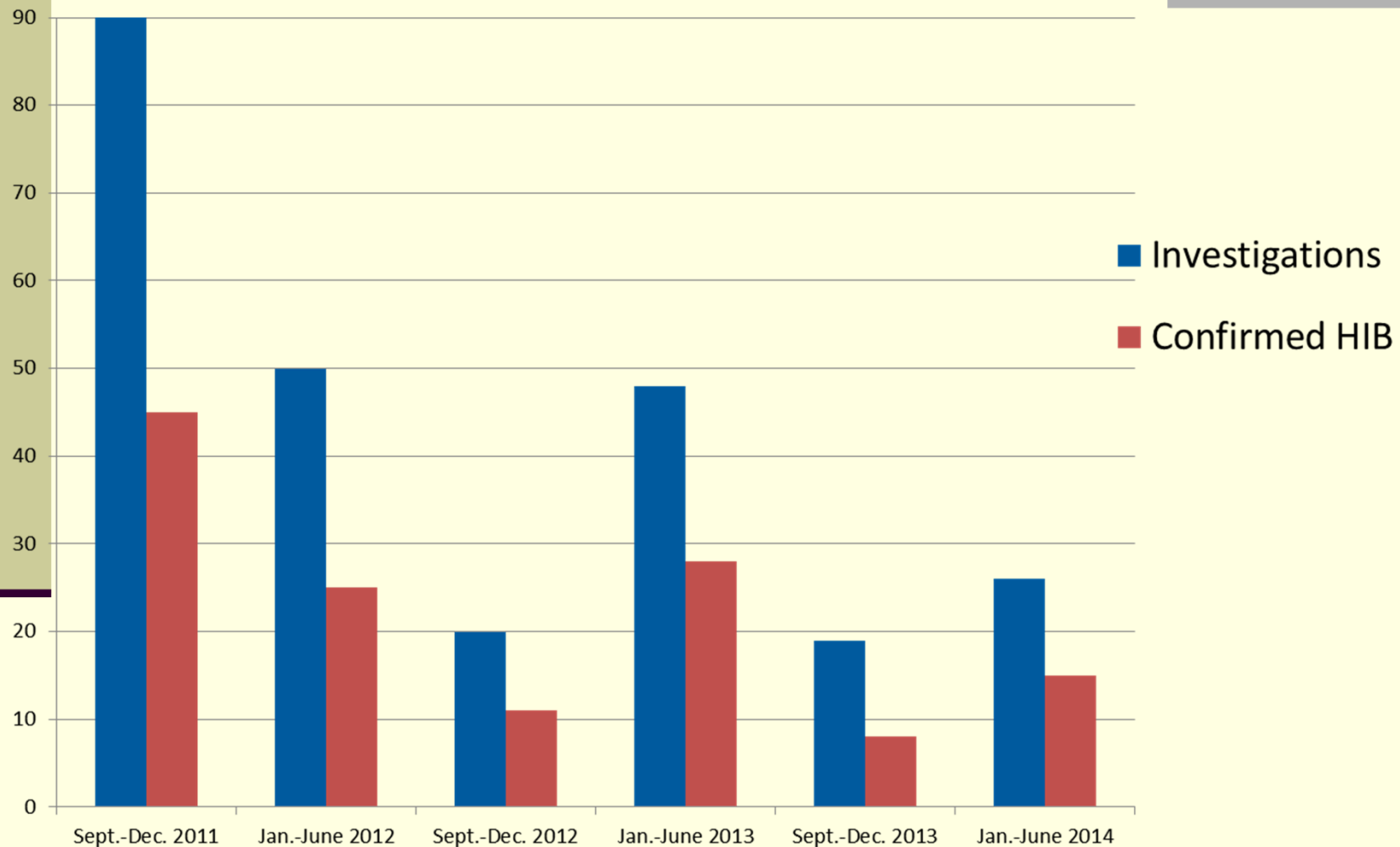
**Self-Defense / Retaliation**

**Non-Actionable HIB**

**Non-HIB**

**HIB-Victim**

# WW-P Investigations/ Confirmed HIB Sept. 2011-June 2014 (3 Year Timeline)



# HIB: Patterns & Trends

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- Similar Data Trend to Fall 2012
- Males as Offenders / Females as Victims
- SPED as Victims
- Unstructured Activities
- Minimally Supervised Settings
- Online / Texting Cases
- HIB vs. Non-HIB Identification
- Victim / Bystander Reporting



# Recommendations

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- HIB policy training for contracted service providers and volunteers, including instruction on preventing HIB on the basis of protected categories
- Providing members of the SST with professional development on best school climate practices
- Annual assessments of HIB programs, approaches and initiatives

## Count of Incidents by Reporting Category

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	<u>12-13</u>	<u>13-14</u>
HIB	27	8
Violence	24	12
Vandalism	13	12
Weapons	2	1
Substance abuse	14	11
Threat	0	0
Total	80	44

# Incident Category Totals by School

(Middle Schools & High Schools)

School Name	Violence	Vandalism	Weapons	Substance Abuse
Community Middle School	2	5	0	0
Grover Middle School	1	2	0	0
High School North	7	2	1	4
High School South	0	2	0	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>

# Cost of Vandalism

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	<u>12-13</u>	<u>13-14</u>
Incidents involving cost to district	0	0
Total cost to district	\$0	\$0

# Actions Taken

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	<u>12-13</u>	<u>13-14</u>
Police notified (no complaint)	19	5
Police notified (complaint filed)	14	10
Expulsion	0	0
Removal to alternative programs	1	2

# Victim Information

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	<u>12-13</u>	<u>13-14</u>
Regular education student	30	11
Student with a disability	11	5
Student from other school	0	0
Non-student	0	0
School personnel	4	1
Total	45	17
Victim of violent criminal offense	1	1

# Offender Information

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	<u>12-13</u>	<u>13-14</u>
Regular education student	55	27
Student with a disability	27	18
Student from other district	0	0
Non-student	0	0
Unknown	0	1
Total	85	46

# In-District Activities To Recognize School Violence and Vandalism Awareness Week

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## Grades K-3

- Character themes for the month include respect, teamwork and community
- Crisis teams met to review plans and procedures
- Morning quotes and read aloud books focused on positive character.

## Grades 4-5 Teachers & Counselors Facilitating:

- Classroom group discussions regarding conflict resolution, anti-bullying, friendship and acceptance.
- SHR will offer Daily Kindness Challenge for students. Theme days will be planned to remind students of the week: i.e., put a cap on bullying day, team up against bullying, etc.



# In-District Activities To Recognize School Violence and Vandalism Awareness Week

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## Community Middle School (6-8)

- Team 6C - For School Violence Awareness Week, October 20-24 during flex, we will be travelling outside to the outdoor classroom to promote a positive learning environment, connectedness, respect for surroundings, and model positive behavior.
- MD Program – will learn about Mahatma Ghandi/Martin Luther King – filling out KWHL Chart and doing research on these peaceful, non-violent men
- Team 8C – Will be discussing issues revealed within The Outsiders and as daily Words of the Day
- Team 6D - our team shows the movie “Remember the Titans” and students complete a viewing guide with questions directed towards meaningful discussions about School Violence. We then debrief in homerooms about their reactions to the guiding questions.

## Grover Middle School (6-8)

- Students will sign a gigantic Thank You Card to the Juvenile Dept of West Windsor Police during lunches on Mon-Thurs. On Friday, we will invite a couple of Juvenile Detectives to come into one of the lunches to be presented with the card.
- We are in the process of scheduling a law enforcement officer or member of the prosecutor’s office to speak with grade level students in the theater during their flex time about some dangers of social media and how they can create safety issues in the school. Details on the date/time are not solidified yet.

# In-District Activities To Recognize School Violence and Vandalism Awareness Week

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## ■ High School North (9-12)

Students will sign a poster that will be available each day during lunch that week  
Statistics will be posted throughout the school  
Statistics will be announced each day  
Peer group will include discussions on this theme

## ■ High School South (9-12)

**Bulletin Board** with statistics on school violence from [www.safeschoolweek.org](http://www.safeschoolweek.org)

**Mix it Up** at Lunch – students are challenged to meet students that they do not know well by sitting with them at lunch for one day

Continue **B.E.A.P.I.R.A.T.E.** Program and distribute wristbands to teachers to hand out to students

Senior **Health Class Lesson** on safe and healthy relationships

Freshman **Peer Group** discussion and activity

Display **Chair of Respect** from Week of Respect

# Proactive Programs for Student Development

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- School counselors/Anti-bullying Specialists
- Student Assistance Counselors (6-12)
- Assembly Programs
- Peer leaders
- Character Education Programs
- Coaches Council and Captains Council
- Many clubs and organizations will be promoting programs about aspects of students' social and emotional development

# Current Administrative Focus

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- Review of Student Code of Conduct
- Implementation of the State Mandated Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Policy
- Review of the District Crisis Plan