



WEST WINDSOR—PLAINSBORO **REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

NEWS RELEASE

Date: January 6, 2015

Beginning with the September 2011-2012 school year, the West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District has conscientiously implemented the requirements found in the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act. Building off of long standing positive school culture and climate initiatives, WW-P is committed to providing all students with a safe learning environment that is free from harassment, intimidation, and bullying (HIB).

During the first three years of implementation of the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, WW-P has made progress in addressing and improving harassment, intimidation and bullying and the school climate and culture by 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.

The New Jersey Department of Education recently posted school and district grades as determined by a [Self-Assessment](#) released by the Commissioner last spring. The school grade is a raw score of data and the sum of the ratings for all indicators within each core element on the School Self-Assessment, e.g., 65 of 78 points. The maximum total score for a school is 78 points. The school district's grade is an average of the total scores of all schools in the school district. It is important to note that the Department of Education issued grade

is not represented as a letter grade. The Department is not issuing any associated value or ranking for the raw and average scores. The raw and average scores reflect the school and school district's degree of compliance with the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act (ABR), as determined primarily through each school's self-assessment of its implementation of the ABR.

While completing the Self-Assessment, the District learned that our district has demonstrated strengths in the following areas:

- Annual establishment of HIB programs
- Identification of HIB patterns by SST
- Week of Respect activities
- Ongoing, age appropriate HIB instruction
- Staff training including school/district leaders
- ABS / ABC training and collaboration
- Reporting procedures/ten-day investigation timeline
- Communication with parents of alleged offenders/victims

Further, the Self-Assessment helped WW-P to identify areas for improvement as follows:

- 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

Moving forward, the District will continue to work toward improvement in not only meeting but exceeding the expectations set forth by the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act. This commitment is an integral part of our comprehensive efforts to provide a safe learning environment for all students, and to prevent

and eliminate all forms of HIB. You may review results of the District's Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act by clicking [here](#).