

**Blythewood
Middle
School**

Anti - Bullying Policy

The BMS Commitment

The faculty and staff at BMS are committed to making our school a safe and caring place to all students. We will treat each other with respect and we will refuse to tolerate bullying in any form at our school. The procedures in this administrative rule are intended to accomplish the following:

- ❑ Discourage students from bullying.
- ❑ Promote a safe and drug-free school environment.
- ❑ Remedy in a speedy manner any consequences of bullying.
- ❑ Establish ongoing education and awareness of the problem of bullying.
- ❑ Provide information about how to report/address claims of bullying.

Definition of Bullying

Bullying is unfair and one sided. It happens when someone keeps hurting, frightening, threatening, or leaving someone out on purpose. Language that is intended to harass, humiliate and intimidate another student considered serious behavior. This includes racial slurs and threats of physical harm.

~~**BULLYING**~~

BMS Anti-Bullying Policy

Students shall avoid any conduct, behavior, or action that could be characterized as bullying. Bullying may include, but is not limited to the following:

- *Hurting someone physically by hitting, kicking, tripping, pushing, and so on.*
- *Stealing or damaging a student's property.*
- *Ganging up on someone.*
- *Teasing someone in a hurtful way.*
- *Using put-downs, such as insulting someone's race or making fun of someone for being a boy or a girl.*
- *Spreading rumors about someone.*
- *Leaving someone out on purpose or trying to get other students not to play with someone.*
- *Demeaning or systematically excluding any student or group.*

Bullying

- Bullying is **NOT** a one time incident.
- Bullying **IS** repeated abuse that occurs over time.
- Bullying will **NEVER** be tolerated by the faculty and staff at Blythewood Middle School.

Bullying

- Aggressive behavior or intentional “harm doing”
- Repeatedly carried out over time
- An interpersonal relationship characterized by an imbalance of power

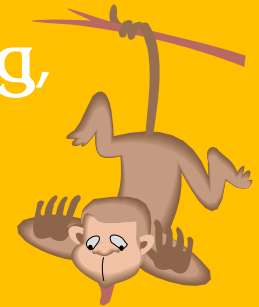
BMS Anti-Bullying Policy

Bullying is prohibited against members of the same sex as well as against members of the opposite sex. The students at Blythewood Middle School will be encouraged to do the following things to prevent bullying:

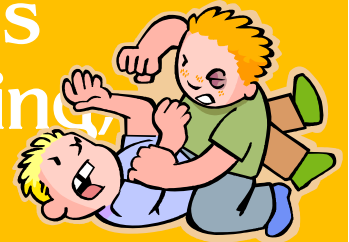
- *Treat each other respectfully.*
- *Refuse to bully others.*
- *Refuse to let others be bullied.*
- *Refused to watch, laugh, or join in when someone is being bullied.*
- *Try to include everyone in activities, especially those who are often left out.*
- *Report bullying to an adult.*

Types of Bullying

- **Emotional Bullying** - Verbal name calling, threatening, taunting, malicious teasing, spreading nasty rumors



- **Physical Bullying** - Harm to a person's body by hitting, kicking, pushing, choking etc.



- **Relational Bullying** - Damaging friendships, reputations, or denying acceptance into a group



Anti-Bullying Training

All students and staff members at BMS have been made aware of our Anti-Bullying Policy.



All students and staff have received training to that is designed to discourage bullying and promote a safe and caring school environment.

Anti-Bullying Training

The Anti-Bullying policy and information can be found in our student handbook and the BMS family calendar. Our [BMS Student Handbook](#) is available on our school website.

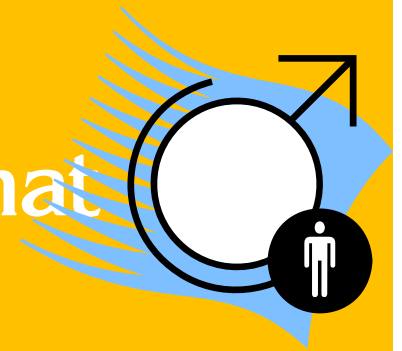
All students receive anti-bullying instruction research/evidence based anti-bullying program



All students sign a page 21 in their [agenda](#) and a contract acknowledging that they have received and understand the [BMS Anti-Bullying Policy](#).

Types of Bullying

- **Sexual Bullying** – Inappropriate touching, teasing or threatening that is sexual in nature



- **Racial Bullying** – using racial slurs, offensive gestures or making jokes about someone's cultural traditions or ethnic group



Cyber Bullying

Cyber-bullying is sometimes referred to as techno-bullying. Cyber bullying involves using the internet, cell phones or other mobile devices to send or display hurtful or intimidating text or pictures for the purpose of bullying others.



Reporting and Response Procedures



- Students who believe they have been bullied here at BMS are encouraged to immediately inform a teacher, counselor, administrator, or other school staff.
- Staff, students, or volunteers who witness or have reliable information that a student has been harassed or bullied are to report the matter to an administrator, teacher, counselor, teacher, or other school staff member immediately.
- Retaliation against students who report bullying is prohibited. Retaliation against those who participate in an investigation of bullying is prohibited. All incidents of retaliation shall be immediately reported to an administrator and are subject to disciplinary action.
- Students making false accusations of bullying as a means of reprisal, retaliation, or harassment are subject to disciplinary action.

Report Bullying Immediately

- You should report bullying to any member of the BMS Administrative staff.
 - 6th Grade Mrs. Eastwood Ext. 85422
SEastwood@Richland2.org
 - 7th Grade Dr. Thomas Ext. 85420
MThomas@Richland2.org
 - 8th Grade Ms. Boyd Ext. 85432
TBoyd@Richland2.org



Consequences

1st Offense

- Referral to administrator
- Conference between administrator and student
- Warning issued
- Referral to guidance
- Parent Contact

2nd Offense

- Referral to administrator
- Conference between administrator and student
- ISD for 1 day
- Parent Contact

3rd Offense

- Referral to administrator
- Conference between administrator and student
- Suspension
- Parent Contact

“Zero” Tolerance for Bullying

Engaging in bullying behavior on school property or when under the jurisdiction of the school, including while on a school bus, is considered a violation, is disorderly, disruptive, and/or an act of criminal nature. Such conduct may result in disciplinary action, including suspension, and/or expulsion in certain instances.



Blythewood Middle School

**Blythewood Middle School is
committed to providing a safe
a caring environment for all
students.**