

The Classical Academy	Policies and Procedures
Policy Name:	Bullying Prevention and Education
Policy Number:	JICDE-TCA
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Category:	Students
Cabinet Level Owner:	Director of Academic Services

The Classical Academy (TCA) supports a secure and positive school climate, conducive to teaching and learning that is free from threat, harassment, and any type of bullying behavior. The purpose of this policy is to promote consistency of approach and to help create a climate in which all types of bullying are regarded as unacceptable.

## **Definitions**

**Bullying** is the use of coercion or intimidation to obtain control over another person or to cause physical, mental, or emotional harm to another person. Bullying can occur through written, verbal, or electronically transmitted expressions (i.e., cyberbullying) or by means of a physical act or gesture. Bullying is prohibited against any student for any reason, including but not limited to any such behavior that is directed toward a student on the basis of their academic performance or any basis protected by federal and state law, including disability, race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, religion, ancestry, the need for special education services, or any other protected class, whether such characteristic(s) is actual or perceived.

**Retaliation** is an act or communication intended as retribution against an individual who reports an act of bullying. Retaliation can also include knowingly making false accusations of bullying or acting to influence the investigation of, or the response to, a report of bullying.

**False accusations** of bullying are those made knowingly by an individual or group of individuals with the purpose of causing harm to another individual and which are false.

Bullying, retaliation, and false accusations are prohibited behaviors on district or school property, at district or school sanctioned activities or events, when students are being transported in any vehicle dispatched by the district or one of its schools, or off school property when such conduct has a nexus to school or any school curricular activity or event.

A student who engages in any act of bullying and/or a student who takes any retaliatory action against a student who reports in good faith an incident of bullying, is subject to appropriate disciplinary action, including suspension, expulsion, and/or referral to law enforcement authorities. (See policy and procedure on Suspension and Expulsion, JKD/JKE, JKD-R/JKE-R.) The severity and pattern, if any, of the bullying behavior shall be taken into consideration when disciplinary decisions are made. Bullying behavior that constitutes unlawful discrimination or harassment shall be subject to investigation and discipline under related administrative policies and procedures.

The President shall insure that TCA implements a comprehensive program to address bullying at all school levels. The goals of the program shall be to:

- 1. Send a clear message to students, staff, parents, and community members that bullying and retaliation against a student who reports bullying will not be tolerated;
- 2. Create a safe learning environment in which positive behaviors are recognized and supported;
- 3. Provide education to the community on what bullying is and how to report and respond to bullying;
- 4. Offer support to victims of bullying, such as counseling and peer mentoring;
- 5. Support interventions to modify bullying behavior and to develop peer support networks, social skills and confidence for all students; and to
- 6. Foster a partnership with parents and community members in order to help maintain a bully-free environment, which may include parent education.

This TCA Policy replaces ASD20 Policy JICDE.

## **Legal References**

C.R.S. §22-32-109(1)(II)(I) C.R.S. §22-32-109.1(2)(a)(I)(K)

## **Cross References**

AC-TCA Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity
AC-TCA-R1 Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity Procedure
AC-TCA-R2 Sexual Harassment Investigation Procedure
JICDA-TCA Code of Conduct
ASD20 JK Student Discipline
ASD20 JKD/JKE and JKD-R/JKE-R Suspension and Expulsion

## **Policy Revision History**

Date	Revision Details	Revised By
8/1/2023	Policy created	Director of Academic Services