



BERGEN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOLS / SPECIAL SERVICES

District Administrative Office

540 Farview Avenue, Paramus NJ 07652 · Tel. (201) 343-6000

September 1, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians:

On November 22, 2010, the New Jersey Legislature passed the toughest Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights law in the nation. Although our students have an increased awareness of the law, we must continue to reinforce it. Today's adolescents heavily rely on social media in their daily lives and need to be mindful of the potential negative consequences in relation to Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB).

Our District has always made your child's learning environment a priority. We continue to develop and sustain safe, supportive and positive school climates that embrace the tenets of the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights law by integrating trainings and programs throughout the school year. As the Anti-Bullying Coordinator for Bergen County Special Services, my letter confirms the District's commitment to enforcing this law.

HIB adversely impacts the overall well-being and physical safety of students. By law, schools can mitigate the negative effects of HIB by strengthening their standards and procedures for preventing, reporting, investigating, and responding to potential HIB incidents on and off school grounds, at school-sponsored functions or on a school bus. As a result, the District increases your child's awareness of the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights law through a variety of District-wide activities and initiatives developed by their Anti-Bullying Specialists.

As parents/guardians, your role is essential to assist us with implementing the law. It is important for you, as well as your child, to understand the New Jersey definition of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying, the consequences for violating the law, and your rights as parents. I encourage you to visit our website, read our Board policies regarding HIB and Cyberbullying, and discuss them with your child. These may be accessed by following this [link](#) and typing "Harassment" next to Search Policies. The District and continuum websites offer additional HIB information regarding Self-Assessment Grades, Reporting Forms and Online Resources. This information can be found in the HIB section of our website at www.bergen.org, or by following this [link](#).

I thank you for your support and hope you are aware of our commitment to ensure the social, emotional and physical safety of your child. Should you need any further information or clarification, please feel free to contact me as the District Anti-Bullying Coordinator by email at brisor@bergen.org or by phone at (201) 343-6000 ext. 4010. You can also contact your program Anti-Bullying Specialist listed below.

Sincerely,

Bridget Sorem

Bridget Sorem
Anti-Bullying Coordinator

Bergen County Special Services - Anti-Bullying Specialists by Continuum

Continuum	HIB Specialist	Programs	Contact Information
Autism	Lori Bornstein	Washington Elementary	lorbor@bergen.org 201-343-6000 x6471
Autism	Lisa Diaz	Washington New Bridges	lisdia@bergen.org 201-343-6000 x8676
Behavior Skills	Deborah Bizien	Brownstone	debbiz@bergen.org 201-343-6000 x8674
Behavior Skills	Nicole Fried	Evergreen	nicfrie@bergen.org 201-302-5200 x5620
Behavior Skills	Erik Jensen	NOVA North & Elementary; Visions Emerson	erijen@bergen.org 201-343-6000 x5811
Behavior Skills	Elisa Steccato	Gateway/ Venture	eliste@bergen.org 201-343-6000 x3509
Behavior Skills	Keith Robertson	North Street School	keirob@bergen.org 201-336-3958
Communication Skills	Dana Dispoto	HIP Godwin	dandis@bergen.org 201-343-6000 x6487
Communication Skills	Rachel Ramirez	HIP Highland	racframi@bergen.org 201-343-6000 x8681
Communication Skills	Kristin Rainbolt	SHIP Midland Park	krirai@bergen.org 201-343-6000 x6495

Communication Skills	Gina Donatien	HIP Union street	gindon@bergen.org 201-343-6000 x6402
Life Skills	Katharine Dobbins	Transition Center at Wood-Ridge	katdob@bergen.org 201-343-600 x3605
Life Skills	Jean Marie DeVoe-Hall	Springboard	jeadev@bergen.org 201-343-6000 x8536
Multiply Handicapped	Erin Davis	Bleshman Regional	eridav@bergen.org 201-343-6000 x6448
Multiply Handicapped	Kellie Berkoff	Visions Paramus	kelber@bergen.org 201-343-6000 x6451