



BERGEN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOLS / SPECIAL SERVICES

District Administrative Office

540 Farview Avenue, Paramus, New Jersey 07652 • Tel. (201) 343-6000 • Fax (201) 225-9067

September, 2018

Dear Parent/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 programs throughout the school year. As the Anti-Bullying Coordinator for Bergen County Special Services, this 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 to 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 it with your child. These may be accessed by clicking on the following link:

<http://www.straussesmay.com/seportal/Public/pubELANOnline.aspx?id=c3d786587a2d4210afa45ab6ca7fce7e>,

and next to Search Policies type in "Harassment" to find our HIB and Cyberbullying Policies pursuant to the law. The District and continuum websites offer additional HIB information regarding Self-Assessment Grades, Reporting Forms including Online Resources and can be found at www.bergen.org.

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 patcos@bergen.org or by telephone at 201-343-6000 x4010. You can also contact your program Anti-Bullying Specialist listed below.

Sincerely,

Patricia Cosgrove

Patricia Cosgrove
Anti-Bullying Coordinator

ABS Specialists by Continuum for 2018-19

Contact	Email Address	Program(s)	Phone Number or Extension
<u>Autism Continuum</u>			
Maureen O'Malley	mauoma@bergen.org	Washington Elementary	x6475
Joan Vogel	joavog@bergen.org	Washington New Bridges	x4532
<u>Behavior Skills Continuum</u>			
Deborah Bizien	debbiz@bergen.org	Brownstone	x8674
Nicole Fried	nicfrie@bergen.org	Evergreen/Bogota	201-302-5200 x5620
Melissa Brockway	melbro@bergen.org	NOVA Ridgewood	201-670-2750 x55134 or x55128
Ellen Plaut	ellpla@bergen.org	NOVA-North & Elem; Visions	x5811
Kristin Rainbolt	krirai@bergen.org	Gateway/Venture	x3509 (G); x4561 (V)
Reginald Marc	regmar@bergen.org	North Street School	201-336-3958
<u>Communication Skills Continuum</u>			
Dana Dispoto	dandis@bergen.org	Godwin/Highland	x6487
Gina Donatien	gindon@bergen.org	SHIP Hackensack	x6402
Melissa Brockway	melbro@bergen.org	SHIP Midland Park	x6496
Gina Donatien	gindon@bergen.org	HIP Union Street	x6402
<u>Life Skills Continuum</u>			
Lori Bornstein	lorbor@bergen.org	Transition Center @ WR	x3605
Jean Marie DeVoe-Hall	jeadev@bergen.org	Springboard/North	x8536
<u>Multiply Handicapped Continuum</u>			
Kellie Berkoff	kelber@bergen.org	Visions Paramus/Saddle Brook	x6541
Theresa Levi	thelev@bergen.org	Bleshman Regional	x6447