

Riverton Elementary Bully Policy:

We Believe...

Riverton Elementary is committed to promoting an environment that supports the safety and well-being of individuals at the school. This policy applies whenever an individual is on school grounds, during school-sponsored activities, during travel to and from school, at a school-sponsored activity, at a bus stop, or on a bus. Riverton Elementary and the community will promote mutual respect, tolerance, and acceptance for all. Simply stated, we believe the school community will interact with each other in a positive, respectful, and caring manner through words and actions.

Bullying is...

... aggressive behavior that is intentional and that involves an imbalance of power or strength. A student is being bullied or victimized when he or she is exposed, repeatedly and over time, to negative actions on the part of one or more students.

- a. Physical bullying including but not limited to hitting and/or punching
- b. Verbal bullying including but not limited to teasing or name calling
- c. Non-verbal or emotional bullying including but not limited to intimidation through gestures, social exclusion and relational aggression
- d. The conduct described above constitutes bullying, regardless of whether the person against whom the conduct is committed directed, consented to, or acquiesced in the conduct.

Educating Students...

Riverton Elementary is working diligently to educate students, staff, and parents in effectively dealing with bullying. It is our goal that all students will develop the skills necessary to identify bullying behaviors, learn and apply strategies to address bullying behaviors, and seek adult assistance when repeated incidents occur. Learning opportunities occur in classroom lessons, during specified character building classes which include role-playing, videos, cooperation building activities, and in focus lessons on being friends, leaders, and developing a positive self-image.

Consequences for Bullying:

School employees cannot address a bullying concern if they are unaware of a problem. Students and/or parents should report repeated bullying incidents they endure or observe to teachers, the guidance counselor, or the administration. This can be done by a phone call, a note from the parent or student, or by speaking personally to an adult staff member at school.

Bullying reports will be investigated and will be handled by school staff. The privacy and safety of the student/parents of all involved will be protected. School interventions will vary to accommodate the

varying degrees of bullying incidents and the students involved. Students and parents need to trust school staff to work in the best interest of their child and understand that most bullying behaviors can be reduced and possibly eliminated once reported.