

# **Mastery Charter Bullying Policy**

(24 PS 13-1303.1-A)

The Mastery Charter Bullying Policy is designed to create a safe respectful, cooperative community. Bullying is never acceptable at Mastery Charter. All bullying actions are taken seriously. Even the most minor bullying actions are considered precursors to potential greater violations and are therefore prohibited.

## **Bullying is defined as:**

Aggressive behavior intended to result in physical or emotional harm, to another student, that occurs repeatedly over time. Bullying typically occurs when there is an imbalance of power in a student relationship. Such behaviors include but are not limited to an individual or group carrying out:

- Physical aggression (hitting, kicking, etc...)
- Threats (verbal, written, stalking/following)
- Verbal aggression (name-calling, teasing)
- Slander/Libel (rumor spreading, gossip)
- Cyber-bullying (slander/libel via email, texting, blogging, websites, chat rooms, etc...)

In addition, any collaboration with an individual carrying out any of the above is also considered an act of bullying.

## **Complaint Procedures**

Students who have been bullied or witnessed bullying are required to report such incidents to a Dean or AP of School Culture (or other administrator). All reports of bullying will be investigated thoroughly and confirmed allegations will be met with interventions and consequences. Consequences are aligned with the Mastery Discipline Code as outlined in the Student/Parent Handbook.

## **Publication, Review and Training of Policy**

The Bullying Policy is posted in all schools at a prominent location as well as on the Mastery Charter website. The Policy will be reviewed at minimum, every three years. Training regarding the policy and associated interventions will occur yearly during teacher orientation and administrator training.