The Warrick County Board of School Trustees prohibits acts of bullying of a student(s). The school board has determined that a safe and civil environment in school is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards. Bullying disrupts both a student’s ability to learn and a school’s ability to educate its students in a safe and disciplined environment. Since students learn by example, school administrators, faculty, staff and volunteers should demonstrate appropriate behavior by treating others with civility and respect, and refusing to tolerate harassment, intimidation or bullying.

I. Bullying, as defined by Indiana Code, means overt, unwanted, repeated acts or gestures, including verbal or written communications or images transmitted in any manner (including digitally or electronically), physical acts committed, aggression, or any other behaviors, that are committed by a student or group of students against another student with the intent to harass, ridicule, humiliate, intimidate, or harm the targeted student and create for the targeted student an objectively hostile school environment that:

a. Places the targeted student in reasonable fear of harm to the targeted student’s person or property;

b. Has a substantially detrimental effect on the targeted student’s physical or mental health;

c. Has the effect of substantially interfering with the targeted student’s academic performance; or

d. Has the effect of substantially interfering with the targeted student’s ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, and privileges provided by the school.

II. This term may not be interpreted to impose any burden or sanction on, or include in the definition of the term, the following:

a. Participating in a religious event.

b. Acting in an emergency involving the protection of a person or property from an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or substantial danger.

c. Participating in an activity consisting of the exercise of a student's rights protected under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution or Article I, Section 31 of the Constitution of the State of Indiana, or both.
d. Participating in an activity conducted by a nonprofit or governmental entity that provides recreation, education, training, or other care under the supervision of one or more adults.

e. Participating in an activity undertaken at the prior written direction of the student's parent.

f. Engaging in interstate or international travel from a location outside Indiana to another location outside Indiana.

The Board of School Trustees shall instruct the superintendent to adopt and implement discipline rules in compliance with Indiana Code that prohibit bullying and include provisions concerning education, parental involvement, and intervention. These discipline rules shall apply regardless of the location in which the bullying occurred when the bully and the targeted student are students within the school corporation, or disciplinary action is reasonably necessary to avoid substantial interferences with school discipline or prevent an unreasonable threat to the rights of others to a safe and peaceful learning environment.

LEGAL REFERENCE: I.C. 20-33-8-0.2
I.C. 20-33-8-13.5

ADOPTED: November 4, 2013