

**BENJAMIN FRANKLIN CLASSICAL CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL
POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

NO. 0032

Title: **Bullying Prevention and Intervention**

Effective Date: June 9, 2011

Submitted By: Governance Committee

Supersedes Date:

Approved By: Board of Trustees

Version No: 1

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The Benjamin Franklin Classical Charter Public School is committed to maintaining a school environment where students are free from bullying and cyber-bullying and the effects thereof.

2. Scope

- 2.1. This policy applies to the entire BFCCPS community, including but not limited to students, employees, and parents/guardians.

3. Responsibility

- 3.1. The BFCCPS (Benjamin Franklin Classical Charter Public School) Board of Trustees (BOT) is responsible for interpreting the provisions of this policy.
- 3.2. The BFCCPS Head of School (HOS) is responsible for implementation and adherence of the provisions of this policy.

4. Definitions

- 4.1 M.G.L. c. 71, § 37O – Massachusetts General Laws, chapter 71, section 370
- 4.2 Bullying - as defined in M.G.L. c. 71, § 37O, is the repeated use by one or more students of a written, verbal, or electronic expression or a physical act or gesture or any combination thereof, directed at a target that:
 - i. causes physical or emotional harm to the target or damage to the target's property;
 - ii. places the target in reasonable fear of harm to himself or herself or of damage to his or her property;
 - iii. creates a hostile environment at school for the target;
 - iv. infringes on the rights of the target at school; or
 - v. materially and substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of a school.

4.3 Cyberbullying - is bullying through the use of technology or electronic devices such as telephones, cell phones, computers, and the Internet. It includes, but is not limited to, email, instant messages, text messages, and Internet postings. See M.G.L. c. 71, § 37O for the legal definition of cyberbullying.

5. Procedure

5.1. The BFCCPS Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan has been adopted by the Board of Trustees as policy and filed with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

5.2 BFCCPS will ensure that the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan is reviewed no less frequently than annually and updated as necessary.

6. Related Policy & Procedures

7. Appendix

7.1 BFCCPS Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan.