

MARSHALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SERIES 400 STUDENTS

443.72

CYBERBULLYING

The Marshall School District's computer network and the internet, whether accessed on campus or off campus, during or after school hours, may not be used for the purpose of harassment. All forms of harassment over the internet, commonly referred to as "cyberbullying", are unacceptable and viewed as a violation of this policy and the District's acceptable use policy/procedures.

Malicious use of the District's computer system to develop programs or to institute practices that harass other users or gain unauthorized access to any entity on the system and/or damage the components of any entity on the network is prohibited. Users are responsible for the appropriateness of the material they transmit over the system. Hate mail, harassment, discriminatory remarks, or other antisocial behaviors are expressly prohibited.

Cyberbullying includes, but is not limited to the following misuses of technology: harassing, teasing, intimidating, threatening, or terrorizing another person by sending or posting inappropriate and hurtful e-mail messages, instant messages, text messages, digital pictures or images, web site postings, including blogs. It is also recognized that the author (poster or sender) of the inappropriate material is often disguised (logged on) as someone else.

Students and community members, who believe they have been the victims of such misuses of technology, as described in this policy, should not erase the offending material from the system. A copy of the material should be printed and brought to the attention of the building principal, district administrator or designee.

The administration shall fully investigate all reports of cyberbullying. This may also include contacting law enforcement.

In situations in which the cyberbullying originated from a non-school computer, but brought to the attention of school officials, any disciplinary action shall be based upon whether the conduct is determined to be substantially disruptive to the educational process so that it markedly interrupts or severely impedes the day to day operations of a school. In addition, such conduct must also be in violation of publicized school policy. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to, harassment, or making a threat off school grounds that is intended to endanger the health, safety or property of others at school, a district employee or school board member.

Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to, the loss of computer privileges, detention, suspension or expulsion for verified perpetrators of cyberbullying. In addition, when any kind of

threat is communicated or when a hate crime is committed, this shall be reported to law enforcement.

Legal References:

Cross Reference: 443.71 Anti Bullying
Board Exhibit 443.71 Bullying Incident Report

Date of Adoption: December 16, 2009

Date of Revision: July 17, 2013