

During the first three years of implementation of the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act*, our school district has made progress in addressing and improving harassment, intimidation and bullying and the school climate and culture by consistently continuing and improving our school-wide Social Skills Program in an effort to decrease the number of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) incidents. Our district consistently commits to the following:

- Ensuring the Superintendent / Principal of the school addresses grades four through eight quarterly about setting goals for academic and personal social improvement;
- Providing yearly professional development for the Anti-Bullying Coordinator and Anti-Bullying Specialist;
- Providing ABR/HIB training to the entire faculty and staff at the beginning of each school year;
- Evaluating yearly surveys to keep pulse on the school climate;
- Implementing school-wide activities during the “*Week of Respect*” in October ;
- Inviting the Bergen County Prosecutor’s Office Gang Unit to speak annually to the seventh and eighth graders on self-respect and self-pride to avoid gang influences;
- Requiring the school’s Social worker and School Psychologist provide Social Skills lessons for all grades Kindergarten through eight on a variety of topics including ABR/HIB, respect and diversity;
- Having the D.A.R.E. work collaboratively with the Athletic Director in encouraging students to make positive choices when establishing friendships;
- Encouraging the Memorial School Student Council to sponsor Anti-bullying projects;
- Promoting the ideas and suggestions of the School Safety Team to keep the school’s climate positive and welcoming.

Under the Commissioner’s Program, the school grade is a raw score of data and the sum of the ratings for all indicators within each of the core elements on the School Self-Assessment (i.e., 68 of 75 points). The maximum total scores for a school is 75 points. **The Department of Education** issued grade is not represented as a letter grade.

In compliance with the law, the Superintendent is required to review the district and school grades with the Board of Education (BOE) at a public meeting and to post the grade on the district’s website. This will provide the BOE and the public with the opportunity to learn about the district’s implementation of the ABR and address any concerns. This information can assist in the annual review of HIB prevention programs, approaches and other initiatives, as required in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-17a, and the annual review of the BOE’s HIB policy, as required in N.J.S.A. 18A:3-15c.

The School Safety Team addressed the indicators of the core elements found in the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act* mandated school’s self-assessment. After submitting the self-assessment, the state has released the *New Jersey Department of Education School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bills of rights District and School Grade Report* shown below.