

Pennsylvania Steam Academy Charter School

1500 North 3rd Street

Harrisburg, PA 17102

Board of Trustees Policy

Anti-Bullying Policy

The Board of Trustees recognizes the importance of a safe school environment to the educational process of the Pennsylvania Steam Academy Charter School. The Board has determined that a safe and civil environment in school is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards. Bullying, like other disruptive or violent behaviors that disrupt both a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate its students in a safe environment, is prohibited at School.

Because students learn by example, School administrators, faculty, staff and volunteers are directed to demonstrate appropriate behavior, treat others with civility and respect and refuse to tolerate bullying. "Bullying" is defined as an intentional electronic, written, verbal or physical act, or a series of acts:

- (1) directed at another student or students;
- (2) which occurs in a "school setting" or outside of school and materially and substantially interferes with the educational process or program at the school such as to create a sufficient nexus with the school, as allowed by law;
- (3) that is severe, persistent or pervasive; and
- (4) that has the effect of doing any of the following:
 - substantially interfering with a student's education;
 - creating a threatening environment; or
 - substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school;

A "school setting" shall mean in the School, on School grounds, on the School property, in School vehicles, at designated bus stops or at any activity sponsored, supervised or sanctioned by the School and any time spent necessarily traveling to and from these locations. Additionally, any student whose out of school conduct materially and substantially interferes with the educational process in the School is also subject to this policy.

Students shall conduct themselves in a manner in keeping with their levels of development, maturity, and demonstrated capabilities with a proper regard for the rights and welfare of other students, School staff, volunteers, and contractors.

The Board requires School officials to annually disseminate the policy to all School staff, students, and parents, along with a statement explaining that it applies to all applicable acts of bullying that occur in the School, on School grounds, on the School property, in School vehicles, at designated bus stops or at any activity sponsored, supervised or sanctioned by the School and any time spent necessarily traveling to and from these locations. Additionally, any student's out of School conduct that materially and substantially interferes with the educational process in the School is also subject to this policy.

Pennsylvania Steam Academy Charter School will comply with applicable federal and state laws relating to bullying, including but not limited to those requirements delineated in the Charter School Law, Title 22 of Chapter 12 of the Pennsylvania Code and the applicable House Bill 1067 amendments relating to bullying and safe schools.

Pennsylvania Steam Academy Charter School will comply with applicable federal and state laws, including Chapter 711 of Title 22 of the Pennsylvania Code and applicable provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA 2004) and its applicable implementing regulations regarding the discipline of special education students and thought-to-be eligible students who engage in an act of bullying.

Pennsylvania Steam Academy Charter School will further comply with applicable federal and state laws, including Chapter 15 of Title 22 of the Pennsylvania Code regarding Protected handicapped students and applicable sections of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and its applicable implementing regulations. Specifically, with regard to the PA Safe Schools Act, Pennsylvania Steam Academy Charter School shall annually provide the following information with the Safe School Report:

1. Board's Anti-Bullying Policy
2. Report of bullying incidents
3. Information on the development and implementation of any bullying prevention, intervention or education programs."

REVIEWED AND ADOPTED ON:

Carl C. Sennett October 12, 2021

President

Koranne Brougher

Secretary