

# Eastampton Township School District



Ambrose F. Duckett, III  
Superintendent/Principal

Ashlee Caldwell  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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August 2023

Dear ECS Parents and Guardians:

The New Jersey legislature passed and Governor Christie signed into law the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights that went into effect on September 1, 2011. This is a significant law that addresses a serious problem and has been implemented here in ECS.

The law provides a new definition of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB):

*“Harassment, intimidation or bullying” means any gesture, any written, verbal or physical act, or any electronic communication, whether it be a single incident or a series of incidents, that is reasonably perceived as being motivated either by any actual or perceived characteristic, such as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or a mental, physical or sensory (handicap) disability, or by any other distinguishing characteristic, that takes place on school property, at any school-sponsored function or on a school bus, or off school grounds as provided for in section 16 of P.L. 2010, Chapter 122, that substantially disrupts or interferes with the orderly operation of the school or the rights of other students and that:*

- a. A reasonable person should know, under the circumstances, will have the effect of physically or emotionally harming a student or damaging the student’s property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of physical or emotional harm to his person or damage to his property; or*
- b. Has the effect of insulting or demeaning any student or group of students in such a way as to cause substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school; or*
- c. Creates a hostile educational environment for the student by interfering with a student’s education or by severely or pervasively causing physical or emotional harm to the students.*

The regulations require that schools appoint staff members to serve in anti-bullying capacities. Here at ECS, Ray Robinson has been appointed as the District Anti-Bullying Coordinator; Erin D’Addona, Nicole Ragone, and Dawn Dilliplane have been appointed as Anti-Bullying Specialists.

Our entire staff has received training on this topic and members of our administrative team will be meeting with students to make them aware of the law and our procedures and practices. We had several presentations on HIB for students and parents last year, and we are scheduling

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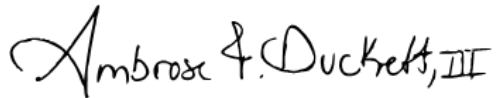
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presentations on HIB throughout this year for our students at every grade level. It is our goal to create a positive school climate where every child can feel safe and secure.

At the present time, you can access the Board approved HIB policy on our website. You can access all of the HIB reporting forms there as well. I ask that you speak to your children about HIB and join with us in teaching every child appropriate behaviors and how to deal with situations of HIB.

Should you have any issues regarding HIB or any questions about our policy or practices, please contact Erin D'Addona at ext. 118 or [edaddona@etsdnj.us](mailto:edaddona@etsdnj.us), Nicole Ragone at ext. 128 or [nragone@etsdnj.us](mailto:nragone@etsdnj.us), or Dawn Dilliplane at ext. 319 or [ddilliplane@etsdnj.us](mailto:ddilliplane@etsdnj.us).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ambrose F. Duckett, III". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

Ambrose F. Duckett, III  
Superintendent/Principal