

## **BULLYING AND OTHER FORMS OF AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR**

The Reedsburg Board of Education is committed to providing a safe, positive, productive, and nurturing educational environment for all of its students. Aggressive behavior toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This prohibition includes physical, verbal, and psychological abuse.

Aggressive behavior is defined as inappropriate conduct that is repeated enough, or serious enough, to negatively impact a student's educational, physical, or emotional well being. This type of behavior is a form of intimidation and harassment, although it need not be based on any of the legally protected characteristics, such as sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability. It includes, but is not limited to, such behaviors as stalking, bullying/cyberbullying, intimidating, menacing, coercion, name-calling, taunting, making threats, and hazing.

Any student that believes s/he has been or is the victim of aggressive behavior should immediately report the situation to the building principal or assistant principal, or the District Administrator. The student may also report concerns to a teacher or counselor who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate administrator or Board official. Complaints against the building principal may be filed with the District Administrator. Complaints against the District Administrator may be filed with the Board President.

There shall be no retaliation against students who file complaints or otherwise participate in an investigation concerning allegations of aggressive behavior. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation of Board policy and independent of whether a complaint is substantiated. Suspected retaliation may be reported in the same manner as aggressive behavior. Making intentionally false reports about aggressive behavior for the purpose of getting someone in trouble is similarly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Retaliation and making intentional false reports may result in disciplinary action. (§118.46.46(2) and Board Policy 5517.01)