

WAC 132Q-10-215 Assault, intimidation, bullying, verbal threats.

Assault, physical abuse, verbal abuse, threat(s), intimidation, bullying, or other conduct which harms, threatens, or is reasonably perceived as threatening the health or safety of another person or another person's property. For purposes of this paragraph:

(1) Assault involves one person causing or attempting to cause bodily harm to another person: With a firearm; with a deadly weapon; with a weapon or other instrument or thing likely to produce bodily harm; with force that is likely to produce bodily harm or death; through the administration, exposure or transmission of poison, a destructive or noxious substance, or the human immunodeficiency virus; by strangulation or suffocation. It also includes actions which are intended to prevent or resist the execution of any lawful process, apprehension or detention of a person by a security officer or law enforcement.

(2) Bullying and intimidation - Any intentional written, verbal, or physical act including, but not limited to, one shown to be motivated by the victim's race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or mental, physical or sensory disability, or other distinguishing characteristics, when the intentional electronic, written, verbal, or physical act is so severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment and:

(a) Physically harms a student or damages the student's property;

(b) Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education; or

(c) Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

Nothing in this section requires the affected student to actually possess a characteristic that is a basis for the bullying or intimidation.

(3) Cyberbullying - Is bullying conducted using electronic communications including, but not limited to, electronic mail, instant messaging, electronic bulletin boards, and social media sites.

(4) Verbal threats - Include threats against a specific person or group of persons and places that person, or members of the specific group of persons, in reasonable fear of harm to person or property. The fear must be a fear that a reasonable person would have under all circumstances. If the threats are because of a person's perception of a victim's race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or mental, physical or sensory disability, the fear must be fear that a reasonable person who is a member of the victim's race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, or sexual orientation, or who has the same mental, physical, or sensory disability as the victim would have. Words alone do not constitute malicious harassment unless the context or circumstances surrounding the words indicate the words are a threat.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140. WSR 15-15-161, § 132Q-10-215, filed 7/21/15, effective 8/21/15.]