ANTI-BULLYING UPDATE



FAST actively promotes positive interpersonal relations

between all members of the school community, students and families. FAST has its students best interest at the forefront of all decisions.

FAST Students shall not engage in bullying behaviors. When any incidents of potential bullying occur, FAST follows the express procedures set forth in our Parent Student Handbook as written in the Fulton County Discipline Handbook. The <u>FAST Code of Conduct</u> is available on the FASTK8.org website at: http://www.fastk8.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/FASTParentStudentHandbook-2016-2017.pdf

What is Bullying?

- Willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on another when accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so; or
- Intentionally exhibiting a display of force as would give victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm; or
- Any *intentional* written, verbal, or physical act, which a reasonable person would perceive as being intended to threaten, harass or intimidate that: Causes substantial physical harm or bodily harm [...]; Has the effect of substantially interfering with victim student's education; Is so severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening [...] environment; or has effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of school.

What Happens When an Incident of Perceived Bullying Occurs

- Step 1: Student reports incident to a teacher, administrator or other staff member.
- Step 2: Teacher refers the incident to the Administrator overseeing discipline.
- Step 3: If the incident results in injury, school nurse calls parents and files discipline report.
- Step 4: Administrator speaks to students and teachers with information about the incident and takes written statements from all witnesses as well as any other involved parties.
- Step 5: Parents of all children involved are contacted and informed of the situation and any disciplinary actions pertaining to their own child in compliance with FERPA privacy laws.
- Step 6: Discipline is administered in compliance with Federal and State law, as well as the Fulton County Discipline Handbook, and in compliance with FERPA privacy laws.

What FAST is doing to Continue Its Anti-Bullying Procedures:

- A full-time counselor has been hired and will be coming on board for the 2017-2018 school year.
- School counselor will promote a campus-wide, student-centered, anti-bullying campaign.
- In addition to the school counselor, FAST will also bring on an Assistant Administrator of Student Discipline for the 2017-18 school year.
- Teachers have been and will continue to enforce positive messages about what bullying is, ways to stop bullying and how to prevent becoming a victim of bullying.
- FAST has and will continue to follow the Fulton County Code of Conduct, as written in the FAST Parent/Student Handbook, with regard to any isolated, potential acts of bullying.

Annette M. Higgins, M.Ed. Principal