

## **HARASSMENT AND BULLYING PREVENTION POLICY: NO PESH'N YO!**

Anderson Valley Unified School District's policy is "to provide a safe, supportive environment in which all students can learn and excel without being bullied or harassed." **Harassment** is behavior that is threatening or offensive to others. **Bullying** is behavior which threatens or hurts someone, especially one weaker or smaller than the bully.

There are school and district-wide rules which do not allow bullying or harassment to happen at any school event, at lunch, on or off campus. Students are expected to be respectful to one another and follow these rules;

1. We will not harass (bother) or bully others.
2. We will try to help students who are harassed or bullied.
3. We will make it a point to include students who are easily left out.
4. If we know that somebody is being harassed or bullied, we will tell a teacher and/or an adult at home.

**Harassment** happens when one or more students bother another student, resulting in hurting or offending that student. **Bullying** happens when one or more students harass a student over a period of time. We will not allow either of these behaviors and if they happen, the consequences can include detentions, suspension or expulsion depending on how serious the offense was and the number of times it has been repeated.

**Harassment and Bullying** behaviors include **Physical, Emotional, Social Harassment**, so No **P.E.S.H.**'n.

**Physical behaviors** include threatening to harm another student bodily by hitting or fighting, pushing, tripping or kicking, scratching or biting him/her, damaging or stealing someone else's property and marking on or damaging school property.

**Emotional behaviors** include actions that lower someone's self-esteem or feeling of safety, like making insulting remarks or gestures, calling someone names, teasing about someone's appearance, giving someone "dirty" looks, making harassing phone calls, insulting someone's size, race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or athletic ability, defacing school work or property, and writing graffiti that attacks a person or group.

**Social behaviors** include gossiping, spreading rumors, teasing a student publicly about his/her appearance or relationships, ignoring or excluding someone from a group, harassing a student by passing notes, sending email or writing graffiti, playing mean tricks on someone to embarrass him/her, and getting your friends to not talk to a particular student.