

BULLYING

The Central Pennsylvania Institute of Science and Technology strives to provide a safe and positive learning environment for students and recognizes that bullying of students has a negative effect of the educational environment of a school. Students who are bullied, intimidated, or fearful of others may not be able to take full advantage of the educational opportunities offered. Therefore, CPI strives to offer all students an educational environment free from bullying.

Bullying shall be defined as “negative actions on the part of one or more students toward another student”. This could include, but is not limited to, unwelcome verbal, written, electronic, or physical conduct directed at a student by another student or students, or by an adult. Electronic bullying is also referred to as cyber-bullying.

Cyber-bullying is defined as the use of electronic device mediums such as but not limited to computers, cell phones, and pagers to bully (defined above) others through methods such as posting comments or pictures on blogs, websites, text messaging, instant messaging and email. Cyber-bullying behavior is not to be confused with terroristic threats, which can be communicated through similar methods.

Negative actions are defined as actions that are sufficiently severe or pervasive to create an intimidating, hostile, or abusive environment that substantially interferes with the educational process. Such actions could include but are not limited to hitting, pushing, pinching, restraining, or other physical contact. Bullying can also be carried out by words, by threatening, taunting, teasing, and calling names. Making faces or obscene gestures, spreading rumors, or refusing to comply with another person’s wishes are also considered forms of bullying.

Proven occurrences of bullying will be handled according to CPI’s disciplinary structure and referred to the local authorities as deemed necessary by administration.