

Dear Superintendent:

Aug. 5, 2003

Welcome back to school. Thank you for all of your efforts in promoting safe school environments for our children. As you know, a new state law, "The Anti-Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Act of 2002," requires each Washington school district to develop or amend a policy "that prohibits the harassment, intimidation, or bullying of any student" no later than Aug. 1, 2003.

Now that the deadline to adopt or amend these anti-bullying policies has arrived, we are asking for your help in providing information about the efforts of districts across the state to parents, community members and legislators. Further, since this law makes schools responsible for sharing their policies "with parents or guardians, students, volunteers, and school employees," we would like to learn more about the activities undertaken to support, enforce and promote this act within school districts.

We are requesting this information to build our own knowledge about how the anti-bullying legislation is being implemented in Washington schools, and we also plan to share our findings with the state legislature. We have requested that the House Education Committee hold a hearing Sept. 17-18 on this issue, and at that time we will share the results of our survey with Chair Dave Quall.

Please help us make our assessment as rich and informative as possible by providing – or having a staff person provide – the following **no later than August 18:**

1. a completed copy of the brief enclosed survey
2. a copy of your district's adopted or amended policy (please include date of adoption/last amended)
3. a copy of any procedures used to resolve harassment or bullying incidents and/or that outline training, communication or education around the policy
4. any reporting or complaint forms

Lauren Hafner, a master's student at the University of Washington, will be collecting the documents. Please send copies of policies, procedures, and report forms along with the survey to:

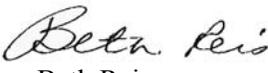
Lauren Hafner  
Safe Schools Coalition  
2124 Fourth Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98121

You should have received an email from her with an attached survey (identical to the one enclosed) which you may return via email if it is more convenient. Additionally, if you have electronic copies of policies, procedures, and report forms, you may send these to Lauren at: [hafner@u.washington.edu](mailto:hafner@u.washington.edu). Please contact her at 206-419-5923 or via email with any questions.

We know your time is limited during this busy time of year, but your response is critical for our efforts to help our schools maintain safe and enriching learning environments. Thank you for your continued support of this important issue.

Signed,

  
Jean Carpenter  
Executive Director  
Washington State Parent Teacher Association

  
Beth Reis  
Co-Chair  
Safe Schools Coalition

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