

School Phone Numbers

Smithtown East
Main Office- 631-382-2705
Smithtown West
Main Office- 631-382-2905
Accompsett Middle
Main Office- 631-382-2305
Great Hollow Middle
Main Office- 631-382-2805
Nesaquake Middle
Main Office- 631-382-5105
Accompsett Elementary
Main Office- 631-382-4155
Dogwood Elementary
Main Office- 631-382-4255
Mills Pond Elementary
Main Office- 631-382-4305
Mt Pleasant Elementary
Main Office- 631-382-4355
Smithtown Elementary
Main Office- 631-382-4505
St. James Elementary
Main Office- 631-382-4455
Tackan Elementary
Main Office- 631-382-2675

District-Wide Coordinator: Kevin
Colon
Administrator for Guidance and Related
Student Services 631-382-2014

*DASA documents & the Bullying
Reporting Form can be found @
www.smithtown.k12.ny.us*

DASA is the Dignity for All Students Act. The intent of the Dignity Act is to provide all public elementary and secondary school students with a safe and supportive environment free from discrimination, harassment, bullying, taunting, or intimidation, as well as to integrate civility, citizenship, and character education into the public school curriculum.

The Dignity Act was signed into law on September 13, 2010 and took effect on July 1, 2012. Amendments to the act are effective as of July 1, 2013.

The Dignity Act also amended Section 801-a of New York State Education Law regarding instruction in civility, citizenship, and character education by expanding the concepts of tolerance, respect for others and dignity to include: an awareness and sensitivity in the relations of people, including but not limited to, different races, weights, national origins, ethnic groups, religions, religious practices, mental or physical abilities, sexual orientations, gender identity, and sexes.

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/dignityact>



Dignity For All Students Act

A Guide for Students



What is bullying?

Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. Bullying includes actions such as making threats, spreading rumors, attacking someone physically or verbally, and excluding someone from a group on purpose.



Types of bullying:

- **Verbal:** This type of bullying usually involves name calling and or teasing
- **Social:** Spreading rumors, intentionally leaving others out of activities on purpose, breaking up friendships are all examples of social bullying.
- **Physical:** This traditional form of bullying involves hitting, punching, shoving and other acts of intentional physical harm.
- **Cyberbullying:** This method of bullying involves using the Internet, texting, email and other digital technologies to harm others.

Characteristics of a bully:

- **Imbalance of power:** Typically those who engage in bully-like behaviors use their strength, popularity or power to harm, control or manipulate others. They will usually target those who are weaker in size or may have a difficult time defending themselves.
- **Intent to cause harm:** A bully is a person who does not do things by accident. The bully intends to physically or emotionally injure a person or group of persons.

*"No one can make you feel inferior without your consent."
-Eleanor Roosevelt*



Characteristics of a bully continued:

- **Repetition**

Typically incidents of bullying are not a one-time thing. Bullies target the same person or group over and over again.

*<http://www.bullyingstatistics.org/content/cyberbullying.html>

What is cyberbullying?

Cyberbullying is bullying that takes place using electronic technology. Examples of cyberbullying include mean text messages or emails, rumors sent by email or posted on social networking sites, and embarrassing pictures, videos, websites, or fake profiles.

There are some things that may make a student feel as though he/she is being bullied but are not classified as bullying. For example:

Typical Peer Conflict

1. Equal power between students
2. Students involved may be friends
3. Negative actions do not follow a pattern
4. Conflict non pre-meditated and no real intention to cause harm
5. Both students play an active role.

Accidents or Misunderstandings

1. Someone says something and didn't know it would upset you, apologizes
2. Person is sad that you are upset
3. Someone borrows something without asking but gives it back when asked to
4. A person accidentally bumps into you or pushes past you, and says "sorry"
5. A person doesn't agree with everything you say but respects your opinion

*Isabel Burk, Director the Health Network Dignity Act Specialist

What should a student do if he/she is being bullied?

All employees of Smithtown Central School District are mandated reporters of the Dignity For All Students Act. If a student is being bullied contact someone immediately.

Who should a student contact if he/she is being bullied?

- Teacher
- School Counselor
- Social Worker
- Parent
- DAC Team at your school
- Administrator