

## **Bullying**

Code # F-120

### **Policy:**

The Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union and its member districts recognize that students and staff should have a safe, orderly, civil, and positive learning environment. Bullying has no place and will not be tolerated in its schools. Bullying is a form of dangerous and disrespectful behavior that is not permitted or tolerated. Bullying is defined as any overt act or combination of acts directed against a student or staff member by another person or group. The behaviors are repeated over time, and are intended to ridicule, humiliate, or intimidate another.

Cyber Bullying is bullying using the internet, interactive and digital technologies or mobile phones. Although most cyber bullying occurs outside of the school, once it is brought to the school's attention, and it is determined to negatively impact a student's (or group of students') ability to learn, the school can and may take action.

Direct Bullying includes but is not limited to:

- Physical – hitting, kicking, shoving, spitting, and throwing objects.
- Verbal – taunting, teasing, racial slurs
- Non-verbal – threatening, obscene gestures

Indirect Bullying includes but is not limited to:

- Physical – getting another person to assault someone
- Verbal – spreading rumors
- Non-verbal – deliberate exclusion from a group or activity. The display or circulation of written or electronic materials or pictures.

The Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union and its member districts comply with the Safe Schools Initiative of 2004 (Non-Bullying Policy No 117, Harassment Policy No. 91)

|   | Date Adopted | Replaces Policy   |
|---|--------------|-------------------|
| Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union     | 9/27/10      |                   |
| Ira Town School District                | See RSWSU    |                   |
| Middletown Springs Town School District | 8/12/10      | None              |
| Poultney Town School District           | 8/17/10      |                   |
| Tinmouth Town School District           | 9/13/10      | Bullying 12/12/06 |
| Wells Town School District              | 10/26/10     |                   |