

BULLYING and HARASSMENT IN SCHOOLS

An Educational DVD from Texas Association of School Boards Legal Services

harass: to disturb persistently; torment, as with troubles or cares; bother continually; persecute. 2. to trouble by repeated attacks, injuries, etc., as in war or hostilities. *anger* *frustration* *isolation* *bullying* *shame*

HARASSMENT COMES IN MANY DIFFERENT FORMS, BUT THE FEELINGS IT CAUSES ARE UNIVERSAL: ANGER, FEAR, ISOLATION, SHAME.

Unfortunately, harassment happens in schools—and the perpetrators can be both students and employees. Knowing how to recognize and deal with harassment is essential in assisting victims and ensuring a more positive educational environment.

Bullying and Harassment in Schools, a new training DVD produced by TASB Legal Services, is designed to address the many faces of harassment and offer solutions for your school district. The DVD provides the tools needed to recognize, report, and respond to the following types of harassment:

- Employee-to-employee sexual harassment
- Employee-to-employee racial and other harassment
- Employee-to-student sexual harassment
- Student-to-student sexual and other harassment
- Student-to-student bullying

EDUCATE YOUR EDUCATORS

Teachers and campus administrators play an essential role in effectively intervening to stop bullying and harassment in schools. Besides learning how to identify and report harassment, they need to know what to do when they are victims themselves.

EDUCATE YOUR STUDENTS

Training should begin, not end, with school staff. The content of this DVD is appropriate for secondary school students and will give them basic information about recognizing and reporting bullying and harassment on campus.

PRACTICAL ANSWERS FOR EVERYONE

Bullying and Harassment in Schools not only covers laws and court cases but also offers practical answers to tough questions. Staff and students will learn key concepts and their application to everyday situations. The DVD is grouped into scenarios with an interactive menu so that a training administrator may tailor the program to the needs of your district.

EXPERT ADVICE

The DVD features real-life scenarios and interviews with leading experts in the field. Commentary is provided by the following:



Lisa A. Brown is a founding partner with the law firm of Thompson & Horton LLP in Houston, Texas, and serves on the National School Boards Association Council of School Attorneys Board of Directors. She speaks regularly and has written extensively in the area of school law. Brown is a contributor to two National School Boards Association publications on the prevention of sexual harassment and authored an appellate brief that was cited by the U.S. Supreme Court in one of the leading cases on student sexual harassment.



Thomas Hutton is an attorney with Patterson Buchanan Fobes Leitch & Kalzer, Inc., P.S. in Seattle, Washington. He was formerly a senior staff attorney with the National School Boards Association in Alexandria, Virginia. A frequent speaker, writer, and news media source on school law issues, Hutton's practice focuses on addressing the legal and policy needs of his public sector clients and on appellate advocacy.

A COMPLETE TRAINING PACKAGE

The standard *Bullying and Harassment in Schools* package includes:

- DVD
- Materials for use with the DVD (on CD)
- In-depth materials for administrators (on CD)
- Written guidance on how to use the video and materials for a campus in-service

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Additional copies of the DVD or the DVD/CD package are available from the Texas Association of School Boards at tasb.org/store.