Regular Meeting

Tuesday, August 4, 2026 6:30 PM
South Park High School, 2005 Eagle Ridge Drive, South Park, PA 15129

1.	**PRELIMINARY MATTERS**	
1.A.	Call to Order	**Speaker(s):** John Innocenti
1.B.	Pledge of Allegiance	**Speaker(s):** John Innocenti
1.C.	Attendance	
1.D.	Executive Session Announcement	
2.	**PRESENTATION**	
3.	**GUESTS & VISITORS**	
4.	**PUBLIC COMMENTS**	
5.	**MINUTES**	
5.A.	Minutes	
6.	**FINANCE**	
6.A.	Payment of Bills	
6.B.	Pressley Ridge Agreement	
6.C.	Waterfront Learning Addendum	
6.D.	Comprehensive Services Agreement	
6.E.	Title I Agreement	
6.F.	Watson Institute Agreements	
6.G.	School Lunch Prices	
6.H.	Memorandum of Understanding	
6.I.	Fall Coaching Salaries	
6.J.	Crossroads Speech & Hearing, Inc. Agreement	
7.	**PERSONNEL**	
7.A.	Extra Duty Resignation	
7.B.	Extra Duty Hires	
7.C.	Cyber Instruction	
7.D.	Assistant Band Director	

7.E. Tenure

7.F. Family Medical Leave Approval

7.G. SEIU Resignation

7.H. Cafeteria New Hires

7.I. Cafeteria Substitutes

7.J. Special Education Director

7.K. Long-Term Substitutes

7.L. Safety Coordinator Hire

7.M. Hiring Permission

7.N. Multimedia Intern Extension

7.O. Assistant Varsity Football Coach Resignation

7.P. Assistant Varsity Football Coach Hire

7.Q. Varsity Basketball Coach Resignation

7.R. Coach Hires

7.S. Varsity Coach Approval

8. **EDUCATION**

8.A. 2026-2027 Handbook

8.B. Keystone Testing Schedule

8.C. Early Admission Request

9. **BOARD/STAFF ENRICHMENT**

10. **POLICIES**

10.A. Policy Approval

11. **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

11.A. Technology Equipment

11.B. Science Curriculum

11.C. Football Equipment

12. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

13. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

14. **ADJOURNEMENT**

SOUTH PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING – June 23, 2026

An Executive Session was held prior to the meeting to discuss personnel and legal matters.

Members present
John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller, and Nicholas Rudolph

Absent
Patrick Sable

Others Present
Wayne Gdovic, Chelsea Campolongo, William Andrews, Patrick Harrigan

Notice of this meeting has been properly posted and advertised in accordance with Act 84 of 1986. The Board of Directors met at 6:32 pm. The meeting was called to order at South Park High School by President John Innocenti.

GUESTS & VISITORS

Sheila Petruska
Pigeon Petruska
Jamie Christian
Patti Elkin
Diana Klein
Bob Brill
Melanie Lauritzen

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jamie Christian - Gym Class
Sharon Adams - Township Board of Supervisors
Sheila Petruska - HS Chill Room
Pigeon Petruska - School Bullying

MINUTES

5.1 Approval of Minutes – May 2026

Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on 14, 2026

Motion by Angela Girol, seconded by David Giusti.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

FINANCE

6.1 Payment of Bills
Motion to approve the payment of bills.

Motion by Nicholas Rudolph, seconded by Wayne Perry.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

6.2 Treasurer's Report
Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report from May 2026.

Motion by Wayne Perry, seconded by David Giusti.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

6.3 ACLD Tillotson School Agreement
Motion to approve the attached agreement between the South Park School District and ACLD Tillotson School.

Motion by Nicholas Rudolph, seconded by Wayne Perry.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

6.4 2026-2027 Final Budget
Motion to adopt a Budget Resolution in the amount of $47,157,900 as attached, for the 2026-2027 school year, and levy real estate taxes at the rate of 30.31 mills effective July 1, 2026. (Vote by Roll Call)
Per capita (Sec. 679) $5.00
Per capita (Act 511) $5.00
Earned income .5%

Real estate transfer .5%
Occupation privilege $5.00
Amusement 5%

Motion by Wayne Perry, seconded by Nicholas Rudolph.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller
No: Brenda Lindsay

6.5 Millage

Motion to approve Resolution # 26-27-02 setting the millage rate for the 2026-20267 school year at 30-31 mills and for re-enacting Act 511 taxes, earned income tax, per capita tax, occupational privilege tax, amusement tax, and real estate transfer tax without substantial change, as attached.

Motion by Nicholas Rudolph, seconded by Wayne Perry.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

6.6 School Board Treasurer

Motion to approve Patrick Sable as School Board Treasurer, effective July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027.

Motion by Gary Smith, seconded by Wayne Perry.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

6.7 Duquesne University Student Agreement

Motion to approve an agreement between South Park School District and Duquesne University through St. Anthony's School Programs to provide post-secondary educational services for Students A & B, as attached.

Motion by Wayne Perry, seconded by Nicholas Rudolph.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

6.8 Wesley Schools Agreements

Motion to approve the attached Wesley Schools Agreements for the 2026-2027 school year.

Motion by Nicholas Rudolph, seconded by David Giusti.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

6.9 Chill Program Renewal

Motion to renew an agreement with Allegheny Clinic and the AHN Chill Project to provide professional behavioral health services to the South Park School District for the 2026-2027 School Year. The program will include a Chill Room and School-Based Services at South Park Middle School, South Park Elementary Center, and South Park High School.

Motion by David Giusti, seconded by Nicholas Rudolph.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

6.10 Pressley Ridge

Motion to approve the attached addendum between Pressley Ridge and the South Park School District for the 2026-2027 school year.

Motion by Gary Smith, seconded by Nicholas Rudolph.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

6.11 CCP Castle Shannon Professional Services Agreement

Motion to approve an agreement between South Park School District and UPMC Children's Community Pediatrics in Castle Shannon to provide school health services in grades K-12, as attached.

Motion by Angela Girol, seconded by Brenda Lindsay.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

6.12 Keystone Agenda

Motion to approve the addition of Keystone Agenda, a replacement for BoardDocs as the District's school board meeting management platform, beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, as attached.

Motion by David Giusti, seconded by Angela Girol.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

6.13 Kennedy School of Driving Agreement

Motion to approve an agreement with Kennedy School of Driving as attached.

Motion by Nicholas Rudolph, seconded by David Giusti.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

6.14 UPMC Sports Medicine

Motion to approve the attached agreement with UPMC to provide Athletic Training and Physician Services for a 3-year term.

Motion by Nicholas Rudolph, seconded by Christopher Miller.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

6.15 McGraw-Hill Reveal Math Pilot

Motion to approve the McGraw-Hill Reveal Math Pilot for grades K-8 for the 2026-2027 School Year at a total cost of $7,362.92, as attached.

Motion by Brenda Lindsay, seconded by Angela Girol.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

PERSONNEL

7.1 Child Rearing Leave Requests
Motion to approve the attached requests for Child Rearing Leave during the 2026-2027 school year:
a) Alexandra Hasis, teacher, from October to December 2026, as attached
b) Victoria Meucci, teacher, from August 2026 to October 2026, as attached.

Motion by Brenda Lindsay, seconded by Nicholas Rudolph.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

7.2 Coach Position Change
Motion to move Jim Deshields from Volunteer Varsity Golf Coach to Varsity Golf Assistant Coach/JV Coach, pending receipt of required documentation.

Motion by Wayne Perry, seconded by David Giusti.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

7.3 Volunteer Coach Hires
Motion to hire the following coaches, as per the terms and conditions of the Coach's Contract and pending receipt of required documentation and/or clearances.
a) Matt Slogan - Varsity Golf
b) Marty Rieck - Varsity Football

Motion by Wayne Perry, second by Gary Smith.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

7.4 Marching Band Pit Instructor Position Change
Motion to move Madeline Linz from 100% Marching Band Pit Instructor to 50%, effective with the 2026-2027 school year.

Motion by Wayne Perry, second by Nicholas Rudolph.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

7.5 Marching Band Pit Instructor
Motion to hire Marissa Virgin as a 50% Marching Band Pit Instructor, effective with the 2026-2027 school year, pending receipt of required documentation and clearances.

Motion by Wayne Perry, second by David Giusti.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

7.6 Extra Duty Resignation
Motion to approve the resignation of Mikayla Ridgeway as the Assistant Band Director, effective immediately, as attached.

Motion by Nicholas Rudolph, second by Wayne Perry.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

7.7 Temporary Summer Employment
Motion to approve Tina Ference as a Paraprofessional for the 2025-2026 Extended School Year Program (ESY) at a rate of $21.84 per hour. All required documentation and clearances have been received.

Motion by Nicholas Rudolph, seconded by Angela Girol.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

7.8 Practicum Student
Motion to approve a request from Grant Neiport, a school counseling student from Duquesne University, to complete a 100-hour school practicum under the supervision of Bethany Chicora-Lewis, high school counselor, during the Fall 2026 semester, pending receipt of required documentation and clearances.

Motion by Gary Smith, seconded by Brenda Lindsay.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

7.9 Speech and Language Externship
Motion to approve a request from Isabel Irwin, a Misericordia University student, to complete her fieldwork rotation at South Park School District under the supervision of Lauren Lippert, speech teacher. The placement will begin on August 31, 2026, and conclude on December 14, 2026, pending receipt of required documentation and clearances.

Motion by Nicholas Rudolph, seconded by Angela Girol.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

7.10 ASL Instructor
Motion to hire Sheri Morgan as a .5 (50%) American Sign Language instructor, effective with the 2026-2027 school year, pending receipt of required documentation and clearances, including receipt of certification from the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Motion by Gary Smith, seconded by Wayne Perry.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

7.11 Middle School Nurse
Motion to hire Karlie Way as Middle School Nurse, beginning with the 2026-2027 school year at a rate of $28/hr, pending receipt of required documentation and clearances.

Motion by David Giusti, seconded by Wayne Perry.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

7.12 School Psychologist Resignation
Motion to accept the resignation of Lexi Dutrieuille, School Psychologist, effective on or before Monday, August 16, 2026, at the discretion of the Superintendent of Schools.

Motion by Gary Smith, seconded by Nicholas Rudolph.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

7.13 Employment Contract Extension
Motion to extend the employment contract of Patrick Colligan, Director of Athletics, for a period of one year from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027.

Motion by Wayne Perry, seconded by Angela Girol.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

7.14 Coach Hire
Motion to approve Haley Radcliffe as an Assistant Varsity Cross Country Coach. All required paperwork and clearances have been received.

Motion by Gary Smith, seconded by Angela Girol.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

EDUCATION

8.1 Field Trip Requests
Motion to approve the attached ESY CBI Field Trip requests.

Motion by Nicholas Rudolph, second by Wayne Perry.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

8.2 Matthews Bus Company New Hires
Motion to approve the following bus drivers, van drivers, and/or monitors to be hired by Matthew's Bus Company. Pending receipt of required paperwork and clearances.
a) Kenneth Pokorny

Motion by Nicholas Rudolph, second by Wayne Perry.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

DISCUSSION ITEMS

13.1 Executive Session - Personnel, Act 44 & Safety Presentation

ADJOURNEMENT

15.1 Adjourn Meeting
Motion to adjourn at 7:33 PM

Motion by David Giusti, seconded by Wayne Perry.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

_____ _____

John Innocenti
Board President

Chelsea Campolongo
Board Secretary

SOUTH PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING – July 9, 2026

An Executive Session was held prior to the meeting to discuss personnel and legal matters.

Members present
John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Patrick Sable, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller

Absent
Nicholas Rudolph

Others Present
Wayne Gdovic, Chelsea Campolongo, William Andrews, Patrick Harrigan

Notice of this meeting has been properly posted and advertised in accordance with Act 84 of 1986. The Board of Directors met at 6:30 pm. The meeting was called to order at South Park High School by President John Innocenti.

PRESENTATION
Baseball, Softball, Tennis Recognition

GUESTS & VISITORS
Melissa Dubyak
Kelly Aultz
Sekely
Mr. Hochendoner
Melanie Lauritzen
Bob Brill
Linda McCormick
Dawn Kempton
Dan Dubyak
Wendy Mattas
Joe Sekura
Jessica Jasek

FINANCE

6.1 Payment of Bills
Motion to approve the payment of bills

Motion by Angela Girol, seconded by David Giusti
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller, Nicholas Rudolph

6.2 Treasurer's Report

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report from June, 2026

Motion by David Giusti, seconded by Gary Smith

Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller, Nicholas Rudolph

6.3 2026-2027 Technology Contract Renewals

Motion to approve the following contract renewals for technology infrastructure and software for the 2026-2027 school year:
DNSMadeEasy domain renewal- $60
Squarespace domain registration - $150
CCI projected network outsourcing support - $11,550
CCI switch maintenance and support - $4,620
AIU3 SentinelOne MDR - $10,395
BFF erate consulting service - $3,600
Ideal Integrations Veeam backup and replication - $1,650
Ideal Integrations Dell PowerEdge R640 warranty - $4,950
Ideal Integrations HPE Nimble support - $4,715
Howard Edu VMware license - $8,458
Precision Copy Products managed print services - $7,623
PowerSchool LLC SM notifications/SDD/MessageSender - $13,860
PowerSchool LLC eFinancePLUS - $41,580
PowerSchool LLC PSSIS / SSL Cert / PD+ / PowerPack / LevelData / PSSP / 504 - $57,255
PowerSchool LLC Enrollment Registration - $12,870
PowerSchool LLC SmartFind Express - $3,435
IU13 Microsoft EES volume licensing - $13,200
IU13 CyberNut - $4,413
PHI health etools software - $3,960
Freund Resources sqlreports - $660
Lenovo warranty program fee - $250

Park Bench Software visual pst report creator PSSIS - $660
Veeam cloud backup and replication (off-site storage) - $4,950
Finalsite website hosting - $10,400
MBA report creator and attendance monitor plugins PSSIS - $3,660
GovConnection Adobe Creative Cloud - $8,580
LightSpeed Chromebook content management - $19,500
Instructure Canvas LMS - $17,490
Screencastify screen recording software - $3,465
Kami PDF editor w/Canvas integration - $6,600
Telestream Wirecast renewal - $660
Texthelp read&write - $4,950
Edpuzzle software - $8,025

Motion by Wayne Perry, seconded by David Giusti

Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller, Nicholas Rudolph

6.4 Homestead Farmstead Resolution

Motion to approve resolution #26-27-01 implementing the Act 1 Homestead and Farmstead exclusion for the 2026-2027 school year, as attached. Taxpayers registered for the Homestead Farmstead will receive a $367.26 discount on their school tax bills.

Motion by Wayne Perry, seconded by David Giusti

Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller, Nicholas Rudolph

PERSONNEL

7.2 School Psychologist

Motion to hire Cameron Craig as a 10-month School Psychologist at a salary of $58,350, effective with the 2026-2027 school year. Pending receipt of required documentation and clearances.

Motion by Wayne Perry, seconded by David Giusti

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller, Nicholas Rudolph

7.3 SPEA Resignation

Motion to approve the resignation of Taylor Germovsek, effective June 30, 2026, per the terms and conditions of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Motion by Brenda Lindsay, seconded by Wayne Perry

Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller, Nicholas Rudolph

7.4 Safety and Security Coordinator Resignation

Motion to approve the resignation of Michael Petruzzi from the Safety and Security Coordinator position, effective June 30, 2026

Motion by Wayne Perry, seconded by David Giusti

Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller, Nicholas Rudolph

7.5 Interim Director of Special Education

Motion to approve an agreement with Kathleen Woodell as the Interim Director of Special Education, from July 10, 2026, to December 31, 2026, at $80 per hour. All required paperwork and clearances are on file.

Motion by Brenda Lindsay, seconded by Wayne Perry

Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller, Nicholas Rudolph

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Executive Session

ADJOURNEMENT

Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn at 6:53 PM

Motion by David Giusti, seconded by Wayne Perry

Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: John Innocenti, Wayne Perry, Nicholas Rudolph, Angela Girol, Brenda Lindsay, Gary Smith, David Giusti, Christopher Miller, Nicholas Rudolph

_____	_____
John Innocenti	Chelsea Campolongo
Board President	Board Secretary

Purpose

South Park School District recognizes that bullying of students has a negative effect on the educational environment of its schools. Students who are bullied, intimidated or fearful of other students may not be able to take full advantage of the educational opportunities offered by the school district. Bullying of a student by another student is strictly prohibited on school property, in school buildings, on school buses, and at school-sponsored events and/or activities whether occurring on or off campus.

Definitions

Bullying means an intentional electronic, written, verbal or physical act or series of acts directed at another student or students, which occurs in a school setting:[1]

1. Physically harming a student (e.g., hitting, kicking, spitting, pushing, and invading one's personal space in an aggressive manner).

2. Damaging, extorting or taking a student's personal property.

3. Placing a student in reasonable fear of physical harm.

4. Placing a student in emotional unrest by spreading rumors, manipulating social relationships or environment, engaging in social exclusion, extortion, intimidation, and ridicule.

5. Creating an intimidating or hostile environment that substantially interferes with a student's educational opportunities.

6. Creating verbal statements or written remarks that are taunting, malicious, threatening or sexual.

7. Substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

Bullying, as defined in this policy, includes cyberbullying. The term **bullying** shall not be interpreted to infringe upon a student's right to engage in legally protected speech or conduct.

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.

In order to be considered bullying, the behavior must be aggressive and include:

1. An Imbalance of Power: Kids who bully use their power—such as physical strength, access to embarrassing information, or popularity—to control or harm others. Power imbalances can change over time and in different situations, even if they involve the same people.

2. Repetition: Bullying behaviors happen more than once.

School setting means in the school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop or at any activity sponsored, supervised or sanctioned by the school.[1]

Authority

The school district will not tolerate known acts of bullying occurring on school district property, at school-sponsored activities scheduled on or off school grounds or during the time students necessarily spend traveling to and from school or school-sponsored activities, including bus stops and routes of travel to and from the bus stops or to school property or school-sponsored events.

The Board encourages students who believe they or others have been bullied to promptly report such incidents to the building principal or designee.

Students are encouraged to use the district's report form, available from the building principal, or to put the complaint in writing; however, oral complaints shall be accepted and documented. The person accepting the complaint shall handle the report objectively, neutrally and professionally, setting aside personal biases that might favor or disfavor the student filing the complaint or those accused of a violation of this policy.

The Board directs that verbal and written complaints of bullying shall be investigated promptly, and appropriate corrective or preventative action be taken when allegations are substantiated. The Board directs that any complaint of bullying brought pursuant to this policy shall also be reviewed for conduct which may not be proven to be bullying under this policy but merits review and possible action under other Board policies.

When a student's behavior indicates a threat to the safety of the student, other students, school employees, school facilities, the community or others, district staff shall report the student to the threat assessment team, in accordance with applicable law and Board policy.

Title IX Sexual Harassment and Other Discrimination

Every report of alleged bullying that can be interpreted at the outset to fall within the provisions of policies addressing potential violations of laws against discrimination and discriminatory harassment shall be handled as a joint, concurrent investigation into all allegations and coordinated with the full participation of the Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator. If, in the course of a bullying investigation, potential issues of discrimination or discriminatory harassment are identified, the Title IX Coordinator shall be promptly notified, and the investigation shall be conducted jointly and concurrently to address the issues of alleged discrimination as well as the incidents of alleged bullying.[2][3]

Confidentiality

Confidentiality of all parties, witnesses, the allegations, the filing of a complaint and the investigation shall be handled in accordance with applicable law, regulations, this policy and the district's legal and investigative obligations.

South Park School District recognizes that both the complaining student and the alleged bully/extorter have strong interest in maintaining the confidentiality of the allegations and related information. The privacy of the complaining student, the individual(s)

against whom the complaint is filed, and the witnesses will be respected as much as possible, consistent with legal obligations to investigate, to take appropriate action, and to comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and any discovery or disclosure obligations. As limited by FERPA protections, the principal or his/her designee may inform the complaining student/parents/guardians of the outcome of the investigation.

Retaliation

Reprisal or retaliation relating to reports of bullying or participation in an investigation of allegations of bullying is prohibited and shall be subject to disciplinary action.

Delegation of Responsibility

The district expects employees who observe or become aware of an act of bullying or extortion to take immediate, appropriate steps to intervene. If an employee believes that his/her intervention has not resolved the matter, or if the bullying or extortion persists, s/he shall report the bullying or extortion to the school principal for further investigation. If proper reporting is not engaged in by the employee in a position to observe the conduct, the district reserves the right to impose discipline on the employee as deemed appropriate under the circumstances.

Each student shall be responsible to respect the rights of others and to ensure an atmosphere free from bullying.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that this policy and administrative regulations are reviewed annually with students.[1]

The Superintendent or designee, in cooperation with other appropriate administrators, shall review this policy every three (3) years and recommend necessary revisions to the Board.[1]

District administration shall annually provide the following information with the Safe School Report:[1]

1. Board's Bullying Policy.
2. Report of bullying incidents.
3. Information on the development and implementation of any bullying prevention, intervention or education programs.

Guidelines

The Code of Student Conduct, which shall contain this policy, shall be disseminated annually to students.[1][4][5]

This policy shall be accessible in every classroom. The policy shall be posted in a prominent location within each school building and on the district website.[1]

Student, Parent/Guardian and Employee Reporting

The school district strongly encourages all students and parents/guardians who become aware of any act of bullying to immediately report that conduct. Students may report acts of bullying to their teachers, building principal or other school employees supervising school-sponsored activities. Parents/Guardians may contact the building principal to report acts of bullying.

If employees cannot reasonably remediate acts of bullying through their own intervention, they should report the bullying to the building principal.

Investigation Procedures

Each building principal or designee is authorized to investigate reports of bullying brought to their attention by students, parents/guardians or school employees or bus drivers. Any investigation of a report may include meetings with students, parents/guardians or employees, a review of student records, and other reasonable efforts to understand the facts surrounding a reported incident.

The Board prohibits any retaliatory behavior directed against complainants, victims, witnesses, and/or other individuals who participate in the investigation of allegations of bullying.

Education

The district will annually develop, implement, evaluate and update bullying prevention and intervention programs and activities. Programs and activities shall provide district staff and students with appropriate training for effectively responding to, intervening in and reporting incidents of bullying. The school district will educate annually all students about appropriate online behavior including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response.[1][6][7][8]

Consequences/Discipline for Violations

Consequences for students who are found to have bullied others may include counseling, a parent/guardian conference, detention, suspension, expulsion, a loss of school privileges and/or exclusion from school-sponsored activities as defined in the Code of Student Conduct.[1][4][9]

Depending upon the severity of a particular situation, the building principal may also take appropriate steps to ensure students safety. Such steps may include the separating and supervising the students involved; providing employee support for students as needed; reporting incidents to law enforcement, if appropriate; and the implementation of a safety plan and/or a supervision plan with parents/guardians.

Interplay with Other School District Policies

Nothing in this policy shall prevent school employees from enforcing, imposing discipline or fulfilling their professional responsibilities under other school district policies or student disciplinary rules.

This policy shall not be interpreted as preventing a student or parent/guardian from filing a complaint under the school district's anti-harassment policy.

Legal

1. 24 P.S. 1303.1-A
2. Pol. 103
3. Pol. 103.1
4. Pol. 218
5. 22 PA Code 12.3
6. 20 U.S.C. 7118
7. 24 P.S. 1302-A
8. Pol. 236
9. Pol. 233

Pol. 113.1