

#### SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 64

# POLICY 200 Learning and Working Environment

"Inspire learners, Integrate sustainability, Involve community"

Section: Learning and Working Environments

Dates of Revisions: Date of Adoption and

Resolution Number: June 13, 2018 -76/18

### **Rationale:**

The School District No. 64 Board of Education recognises everyone's right to working and learning environments in which the safety and security of everyone is assured and mutual respect is paramount. With respect to schools, it understands that:

# Safe schools:

- make it easy and safe for students and their parents to inform school authorities of safety concerns
- make a "big deal" about bullying, harassment and intimidation

## Caring schools:

- enable parents to advocate for their children's well-being,
- enable students to help each other promote appropriate adult-student relationships

## Orderly schools:

- plan for things to "go right" and are ready to respond appropriately if or when things "go wrong,
- minimize distractions from purposeful learning activities,
- are characterized by a climate of mutual respect and responsibility"

# **Policy:**

The board expects staff, students, parents and other members of the school communities to join it in establishing and sustaining environments in which:

a. the values shared by the board and community are evident;

- b. everyone either has the awareness, skills and attitudes necessary to support and promote them; or is helped to acquire and practice them
- c. everyone recognizes and accepts personal and social responsibility for promoting such learning and working environments;
- d. everyone- students, staff and visitors- is treated fairly and with respect
- e. diversity is recognized as a strength.

The board commits to promoting environments that are free from violence, bullying/cyberbullying and any form of harassment, including that based on gender, race, religious beliefs or sexual orientation by:

- a. promoting the long term prevention of violence, bullying and harassment in schools and other places of work
- b. providing opportunities for district employees to develop skills necessary to recognize, respond to and report violence, bullying or harassment; and
- c. ensuring that schools develop Codes of Conduct that reflect the values the board shares with its school communities, and encourage desirable behaviours on the part of students.

#### **References:**

- The Human Rights Act of British Columbia
- Ministry of Education. Safe, Caring and Orderly Schools: A Guide (2008)
- Policies 100, 210