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SCHOOL LAW GROUP

**BULLYING PREVENTION NOTIFICATION
EFFORTS MUST BE ONGOING**

Given the white hot focus on matters related to bullying and bullying prevention, compliance with all procedures and requirements related to these obligations are magnified. The existing provisions of Section 27-23.7 of the School Code regarding bullying prevention have been revised. The changes are not extensive, but they can add to school district obligations under the School Code. Currently schools must have a policy which is posted on the District website, included in the student handbook, distributed annually to parents, students and school staff, must post it where other policies, rules or standards are currently posted in the school and now must also implement these additional “notice” requirements:

“... [a school bullying policy complying with the School Code is to be] provided periodically throughout the school year student to students and faculty ...”

and

“School personnel available for help with a bully or to make a report about bullying shall be made known to parents or legal guardians, students and school personnel.”

Depending on your current practices, these amendments may require changes to District practices (periodic notice during school year to students and faculty) and to your bullying policy or procedure (personnel available to help with bullying “shall be made known” to parents and staff).

To access a copy of the public act making these changes:

P.A. 100-0137

For any questions or comments you might have regarding this newsletter, please feel free to contact:

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