

Sussex County Charter School for Technology

Explanation of School Self-Assessment

Beginning with the September 2011-2012 school year, Sussex County Charter School for Technology has conscientiously implemented the requirements found in the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act (ABR)*, by complying with all parts of the act in reporting incidents of harassment, intimidation and bullying (HIB), in promoting awareness about HIB to staff, students, parents and the community, and in creating and maintaining a positive school climate in our school.

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) has posted school and district Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) grades as stated in the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act*. These grades were determined by a district self-assessment released by the New Jersey Department of Education Commissioner.

During the four years of implementation of the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act*, the school has made progress in addressing and improving harassment, intimidation and bullying education, training, and programs, and school climate and culture. Under the Commissioner's Program, the school grade is a raw score of data and the sum of the ratings on the School Self-Assessment (e.g., 65 of 78 points). A school district's grade is an average of the total scores of all schools in the school district; however, the grade our school received is not averaged with any other school since we are not part of a larger district. The department issued grade is not represented as a letter grade. It is important to note that in order to receive a perfect score of 78, the school must EXCEED (not just meet) the requirements in all 8 elements listed below.

School districts and schools must post the exact grade reports issued by the NJDOE without making any alternations to the PDF document to fulfill its responsibilities for posting the grades to the school's website.

Sussex County Charter School for Technology's 2013-2014 HIB Self-Assessment grade was 65/78 points.

The Core Elements of the HIB Self-Assessment are as follows:

1. HIB Programs, Approaches or Other Initiatives
2. Training on the BOE-Approved HIB Policy
3. Other Staff Instruction and Training Programs
4. Curriculum and Instruction on HIB and Related Information and Skills
5. HIB Personnel
6. School-Level HIB Incident Reporting Procedure
7. HIB Investigative Procedure

8. HIB Reporting

In order to foster safe and positive learning conditions for students, the school grade is part of an integrated process for reinforcing and strengthening a school's climate and culture through prevention and intervention efforts targeted toward harassment, intimidation, and bullying (HIB). School staff will use the data to educate staff and the community about current school practices and engage them in identifying and addressing areas for improvement.