

Louisiana PTA Resolution Against Bullying

Whereas, Bullying in schools and at related school sponsored events is a pervasive problem that can have serious negative consequences for the school climate and for the right of students to learn in safe environment without fear, and one that can have negative lifelong consequences on the bully, the student who is bullied, as well as those who witness bullying; and

Whereas, Bullying is comprised of direct behaviors such as teasing, taunting, threatening, hitting, stealing and cyber bullying, that are initiated by one or more students against another student, as well as indirect behaviors such as spreading rumors and acting in other ways to cause a student to be socially isolated through intentional exclusion, with all such behaviors, direct or indirect, amounting to physical or psychological intimidation occurring repeatedly over time to create an ongoing pattern of harassment and abuse that lead to life threatening situations.

Whereas, Bullying for too long has gone ignored and unchallenged, with parents, who are often unaware of the bullying problem, neglecting to talk about it with their children; with students feeling that adult intervention is infrequent and ineffective and will only bring more harassment from bullies; and with some adults viewing bullying as a harmless rite of passage that is best ignored; and

Whereas, Those who stand by passively watching or actively encouraging bullying are also affected by these hostile acts; they encourage bullying by creating an audience, they may become desensitized to cruelty, they may learn to imitate bullying behavior and become bullies themselves, and/or they may be fearful for their own safety, adding to their own insecurity; now therefore be it

Resolved, That Louisiana PTA, of the State of Louisiana, and its constituent organizations, does by virtue of this resolution, and in support of Louisiana Legislature Act 861, Year 2012 and other policies and programs that address the prevention, intervention, and elimination of bullying; and be it

Resolved, That Louisiana PTA and its constituent organizations endeavor, via education literature, programs, and projects for parents, students and school personnel, to bring about an atmosphere of zero tolerance for bullying behavior, and an attitude that bullying behavior is unacceptable and will not be tolerated in homes, schools, playgrounds, buses, school activities, or any place children congregate; and be it further

Resolved, That Louisiana PTA and its constituent organizations work with the appropriate agencies, organizations and the Louisiana School Boards, in a state effort support Louisiana Legislative Act 861, to inform the general public about the risks and cost of bullying for both the bully, the student who is bullied, as well as those who witness bullying, and bring about a change in societal attitudes toward bullying.

