



DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT

The **Dignity for All Students Act (DASA)** is intended to give students in public schools an educational environment free from discrimination and harassment. It protects against all forms of harassment, particularly those based on a student's actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender or sex.

The Dignity Act will prohibit activities that create a hostile environment at school and school sponsored events. These activities can include aggressive conduct, threats, intimidation or abuse that unreasonably and substantially interferes with another student's educational performance. The Dignity Act also creates a framework for promoting a more positive school culture through sensitivity training and classroom curricula on diversity.

HOW WILL THE DIGNITY ACT WORK?

- The Dignity Act amends state education law to require that schools incorporate curricula on diversity and sensitivity into lessons on civility and citizenship.
- One employee from each school will need to attend an intensive training program. This person will become the school's designated contact for handling bullying. They will be trained to recognize and respond effectively to harassment and bullying, and implement strategies to prevent it.

- Incidents of bullying will be reported to the New York State Education Department on at least an annual basis so the state can evaluate schools' performance. Your local school district will probably manage reporting.
- Schools and districts will need to draft age-appropriate, plain language versions of the statute to appear in student codes of conduct.

Although, Olweus Bullying Prevention Program insures compliance for the New York State Dignity for All Students Act (DASA), many schools may be unable to make an ongoing commitment to an evidence based program such as Olweus.

For schools interested in another option BiasHELP will provide DASA specific compliance training. This training will cover all aspects of the law and prepare participating schools for compliance.

Training Costs

One day training

\$750.00 per school; (up to 10 people)

Each additional staff \$100.00

OVERVIEW OF TRAINING

- Updating Anti Bullying Policies & Guidelines.
- Awareness of sensitivity issues facing staff.
- Recognize, respond and report bullying and harassment.
- Strategies on preventing bullying and harassment.

If you are interested in any of our programs or want to report bullying, technobullying or any bias incident call the

BiasHELP hotline at 1-877-363-2427

visit our websites at

BiasHELP.org or **STOPtechNObullying.org**

or e-mail **Education@biashelp.org**

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