

The Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act (ABR), which came into effect in the 2011-2012 school year, provided schools and districts across the State of New Jersey with many challenges. During the first four years of implementation, our School District has made progress in addressing and reporting harassment, intimidation and bullying and in the school climate and culture by following the intent of the law. The School District has implemented the [Olweus Bullying Prevention Program](#), which has provided a framework on which to work and has led to more instruction on harassment, intimidation and bullying (HIB) instruction that is directly imbedded in our curriculum at all levels. Each school's Safety Team is very active in educating students and staff and does an effective job of processing the paperwork and investigating any alleged incidents. Meeting all the timelines and making sure our students feel safe are always at the forefront of our activities.

Our students, staff and parents are becoming more familiar with the requirements of the law and are an intricate part of why we are improving on our reporting and investigation procedures. In order to be successful in bringing an end to harassment, intimidation and bullying (HIB) incidents, we need to recognize that this will only occur when we have schools, parents and students working as one to stop these negative behaviors. Functioning alone, we will not succeed.

As you review the School District's [Anti-Bullying Report Card](#), you will see our School District score is 74 out of a possible 78. Although we have improved our overall grade from 2014-15, the Ocean City School District will continue to evaluate and refine our programs in an effort to improve once again in the 2016-17 school year.