



Bullying Prevention – Policy Brief

What is clear is that bullying persists in every Minnesota school district. A new analysis by the state departments of Health and Education found that 13 percent of Minnesota 6th, 9th and 12th graders are bullied regularly, once a week or more. If that 13 percent held for state's entire student population, it would mean that more than 100,000 students are bullied on a regular basis. Minnesota: [Weak on Bullying, MPR, May 16, 2011](#)

Asian Americans endure far more bullying at US schools than members of other ethnic groups, with teenagers of the community three times as likely to face taunts on the Internet, new data shows. 54 percent of Asian American teenagers reported bullying in the classroom compared to 31.3 percent of white students. Asian American students were over three times more likely to be bullied once or twice a month online than whites, 62 percent compared to 18.1. The figure was 38.4 percent for African Americans and 34.3 percent for Hispanics.

Policymakers see a range of reasons for the harassment, including language barriers faced by some Asian American students and a spike in racial abuse following the September 11, 2001 attacks against children perceived as Muslim.

[AAPI Nexus Report \(Oct. 2011\)](#) with data from a 2009 survey supported by the US Justice Department and Education Department

Nov. 29, 2012 – Governor Dayton creates Bullying Taskforce to study state laws and policies and make recommendation in a report due August 2012.

Minnesota is ranked dead last among states that have anti-bullying laws on the books according to a study by the U.S. Department of Education. (Twin Cities Daily Planet, Feb. 9, 2012.)

Minnesota Statute 121A.0695 SCHOOL BOARD POLICY; PROHIBITING INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING. Each school board shall adopt a written policy prohibiting intimidation and bullying of any student. The policy shall address intimidation and bullying in all forms, including, but not limited to, electronic forms and forms involving Internet use.

Implications:

1. Bullying is a serious issue that affects students' health, the school climate, academic achievement, and school liability
2. More than 160,000 children miss school every day out of fear of attack or intimidation
3. Children who are bullied are more likely to develop depression and anxiety disorders, and its effects can last a lifetime, and can lead to suicide. (Asian American Press, Feb. 5, 2012)
4. Bullying effects Asian students' success at school

Solution:

1. AAPI students' voices must be included in Governor Dayton's Report
2. MN must strengthen its law
3. Reporting must be an easier process
4. Student led education of peace and tolerance
5. There needs to be more integration & diversity programming

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