



Book	Board of Trustees Policy
Section	200 Pupils
Title	SAP_Anti-Violent Behavior
Code	217
Status	Active
Adopted	September 11, 2017

**Agora Cyber Charter School
1018 W 8th Ave
King of Prussia, PA 19406
Board of Trustees Policy**

**STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM - ANTI-VIOLENT BEHAVIOR
POLICY**

Purpose

- To give students, parents, staff and the community at large a clear statement concerning Agora Cyber Charter School's ("Charter School") stand against violent behavior and the consequences that will follow violation of the policy. (See also the Charter School Anti-Weapons Policy.)

Objectives

- To ensure the safety of students and staff, their property, and the property of the Charter School.
- To maintain a safe, supportive, nurturing, non-punitive school environment highly conducive to learning.

Definition of Violence

- Violence occurs whenever anyone harms – or threatens to harm – a person's body, feelings, or possessions.
- A simpler definition for children: Violence is any mean word, look, sign, or act that hurts a person's body, feelings, or things.
- The act need not be deliberate. Unintentional violence is included in the definition and subject to the consequences as set forth in the Charter School's Code of Conduct.

No one is entitled to be violent. No form of violence will be tolerated from anybody at the Charter School, on Charter School -sponsored transportation, or at Charter School -sponsored activities away from the Charter School.

No Charter School student, staff member, or any other person shall be allowed – at any time, for any reason, whether in the Charter School building, on Charter School grounds, on school buses, or anywhere else during Charter School -sponsored events – to intimidate, threaten to harm, or cause harm to any person or property. Such unacceptable behavior includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Physical violence: Any act that does harm to a person or property by means of physical action. Physical violence against another person is any act that does bodily harm or that disregards potential harm. Physical violence against property is any act that damages, or that disregards potential damage to public or private property, whatever its monetary value.
 1. Examples of physical violence against a person include but are not limited to: blocking a path, forcing sex, grabbing, groping, hazing, hitting, slapping, punching, beating, kicking, stamping, pinching, prodding, jabbing, pulling hair, pushing, shoving, shooting, slashing, spitting, stabbing, torturing, and using a pet to attack or frighten.
 2. Examples of physical violence against property include but are not limited to: breaking restroom fixtures, breaking windows, defacing lockers, plugging up drains, writing graffiti, dumping books, strewing papers, gouging a name into furniture, injuring or killing a pet, playing “keep away” with possessions, ruining clothes, scratching the paint on a car or bike, slashing tires, spoiling homework, spraying with a hose or an aerosol can, throwing rocks/books, furniture.
- b. Social violence: Social behavior that hurts a person is violent. Much of it is a variety of ostracism: forced exclusion, treating a person as an “other” or one who doesn’t exist.
 1. Examples of social violence are conning a student out of money or into doing something, ignoring a child’s request for help, making fun of a person’s cherished beliefs, poisoning someone’s mind against another person, “protecting” a student for a fee, shunning a youngster on the playground, sabotaging a friendship, stealing, touching a person in an unwelcome manner, violating a person’s human rights or civil liberties.
 2. Examples of verbal violence are breaking a confidence, revealing a secret, calling a person names, constantly criticizing a person, deriding a heartfelt belief, heckling a speaker, insulting a person’s ethnic identity, insulting a person’s religious or nonreligious identity, insulting somebody’s loved one, lying, making a demeaning comment to a person’s face, making animal sounds or other noises intended to demean, making fun of a person’s ability/body/clothing, making fun of a person’s idea or opinion, malicious gossiping, mimicking or mocking, ordering a person around, ridiculing, shaming, speaking in an ominous tone of voice, spreading a nasty rumor, taunting, threatening to damage possessions, threatening to do bodily harm, threatening to kill, using profanity, using sarcasm, writing a derogatory comment in a public place, writing a note to scare someone or to get someone into trouble.

c. Visual violence: Visual violence overlaps physical, social, and verbal violence. The perpetrator wants the recipient to see and feel intimidated by the action.

1. Examples of visual violence are displaying a threatening tattoo, displaying an effigy or a voodoo doll, displaying a weapon, displaying gang colors in a threatening way, drawing degrading pictures of a person, exposing genitals, making sexually suggestive movements, glaring ("if looks could kill. . ."), gesturing obscenities/fake punches/gang signs/secret signs, posturing the body in a threatening manner, mimicking, showing intimate snapshots or videotapes, smirking/sneering, stalking, peeping, voyeurism, staring deliberately, sticking a finger down the throat to insult someone, sticking out the tongue as a hateful gesture, threatening with a fist.

d. Cyber violence: Cyber violence takes place using electronic technology. Electronic technology includes devices and equipment such as cell phones, computers, and tablets as well as communication tools including social media sites, text messages, chat, and websites. It is used to harass, threaten, embarrass, or target another person.

Examples of cyber violence or bullying include mean text messages or emails, rumors sent by email or posted on social networking sites, and embarrassing pictures, videos, websites, or fake profiles.

The administration of the Charter School will determine appropriate consequences for violating this policy in accordance with the Charter School's Code of Conduct. Consequences may include any or all of the following:

- Administering approved disciplinary practices or procedures
- Notifying the Chief Executive Officer
- Notifying parents, guardians, or legal custodians
- Notifying law enforcement officials
- Making a Safe Schools Act report and any other required reports
- Suspension from school
- Recommendation for expulsion by the Board of Trustees

TO THE EXTENT THAT ANYTHING IN THIS POLICY COULD BE CONSTRUED TO CONFLICT WITH APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS, THE APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS CONTROL. THIS POLICY IS NOT INTENDED TO CONFLICT WITH CHARTER REQUIREMENTS.