

# Anti – Bullying Policy

**Purpose:** The Plains Alternative Learning Center (ALC) is committed to providing all staff and students the opportunity to interact socially and educationally in a non-threatening learning atmosphere. The ALC is tuned into the negative effects of bullying in the educational environment and recognizes that it interferes with the everyday learning process of a student. Bullying of a student, by another student, while on school property, including transportation, is strictly prohibited.

**Definition:** Bullying shall mean unwelcome verbal, written or physical conduct directed at a student by another student (s) that has the deliberate intent to hurt, embarrass, or humiliate the other person.

- Physically harming a student (kicking, hitting, spiting, pushing, and invading one's personal space in an aggressive manner)
- Having a student feel that they are in reasonable fear of physical harm.
- Psychological harm by spreading rumors, manipulating social relationships, and engaging in social exclusion or intimidation.
- Cyber-bullying, through the utilization of the internet through email, instant messaging, or personal profile websites such as My-Space.

The ALC expects anyone, including students, educators, family members or any other community member, who witnesses or has other knowledge of an incident of bullying, will report the incident to a staff member immediately and with the promise of confidentiality, if desired. Upon awareness of the bullying, school administration will investigate the incident(s), devise a plan to remedy the incident, and then follow through with the appropriate consequences. The disciplinary action may include counseling, a parent conference, in-school suspension, or other consequences as provided in the ALC 2008-2009 Student Handbook.

**Any student who retaliates against another student for reporting bullying or extortion or for assisting or testifying in the investigation or hearing may be subject to disciplinary action.**