



## 2013 Anti-Bullying Resolution

### Supporting Inclusion of Students in Anti-Bullying Policymaking

WHEREAS the State Board of Education affirms its commitment to strongly support the inclusion of students in the development of anti-bullying policies within school communities; and

WHEREAS RCW 28A.300.285(3) requires that district anti-bullying “policy and procedure should be adopted or amended through a process that includes representation of parents or guardians, school employees, volunteers, students, administrators, and community representatives;” and

WHEREAS, in compliance with RCW 28A.300.285, the Superintendent of Public Instruction provides a model harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention policy and procedure on the Safety Center webpage; and

WHEREAS thousands of people have supported a student-led online petition to involve students in the anti-bullying policy-making process and to allow students to form and organize groups to advocate for students’ rights in regards to bullying in Washington state; and

WHEREAS the State Board of Education is committed to promoting effective anti-bullying policies and procedures so that every student feels physically and emotionally safe, respected, and ready to learn; and

WHEREAS student involvement in the development of anti-bullying policies can increase the effectiveness of these policies, thus promoting an educational system that personalizes education for each student and respects diverse cultures, abilities, and learning styles; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington State Board of Education supports the inclusion of students in the adoption or amendment of any anti-bullying policy or procedure as required by RCW 28A.300.285.

Ben Rarick, *Executive Director*

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