

Reporting

Students, **volunteers**, or staff members who have witnessed or have reliable information that a student has been subjected to harassment, intimidation or bullying should report the incident immediately to the principal or his/her designee, who shall promptly initiate an investigation. The investigation shall include an assessment of what actions should be taken, as appropriate, to protect the student who has been found to be the victim of harassment, intimidation or bullying. Such actions may include the provision of support services to permit the student to feel safe and secure in attending school. **The option to report concerns anonymously must be made available to all ASD students, volunteers and staff members.** The Superintendent shall develop procedures to implement this policy.

False Report

Students, volunteers or staff members who knowingly or willfully make a false report of bullying may be subject to disciplinary action appropriate to their status or relationship with the district. This policy should not be interpreted to prohibit a reasoned and civil expression or exchange of opinions or debate that is protected by law and board policy.