**Bullying**

**Know the Law…. Know how to protect yourself and others!**

**Bullying is defined in FHN’s code of conduct as a LEVEL TWO offense.**

**“It is the repeated intentional behavior with intent to intimidate, inflict physical, emotional or mental suffering. This behavior includes acts of extortion (threatening or intimidating person for or with the intent of obtaining money or anything of value from that person) This may be considered a level three offense.”**

**Cyber-Bullying**

***Have you gotten a threatening text or had someone post something rude and insulting about you on Facebook? Is someone harassing or bullying you through electronic means like texting, email or Facebook? This form of bullying is called cyberbullying.***

**Some Examples of Cyber-bullying:**

**Sending mean embarrassing or degrading messages.**

**Creating websites that ridicule others or post vicious rumors.**

**Posting pictures of classmates and asking others to “rate” them…**

**Taking private pictures of someone (e.g. in the bathroom or locker room) and using a digital phone or camera to send them to others.**

The law in Missouri has changed!

* Cyber-bullying is a Criminal Act under The Megan Meier Law. This crime can range from a misdemeanor to a felony and can result in a fine, jail time or both.
* The law does not differentiate between an adult and a minor.
* This new law gives schools ability to discipline students for off-campus conduct that has a negative effect on the school environment!

**Remember... The school can prosecute you for the off campus bullying behaviors listed on the previous page!**

Protect yourself against Cyber-bullying…

Do not reveal personal information online.

Never say or write anything in a text, email or post online that you wouldn’t say in public in front of everyone.

Only send pictures or material that you don’t mind everyone seeing!

Do not let anyone know your passwords.

What do you do if you are the victim of Cyber-bullying?

*Report it!*

Tell your parents.

Tell your school administrators.

Save the evidence! (emails, IM’s, chats, webpages)

Tell the police if the person/s has threatened you, used obscene language or violated your privacy by taking private pictures of you.

If you know who the bully is, you can get an attorney and sue for damages.

### **If you are not sure if you are the victim of bullying or cyberbullying, talk to your parent or school counselor!**