



**TO:** School Board Members

**FROM:** Tye Michaels, Director of Human Resources

**DATE:** January 26, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Administrative Review of Policy 514, Bullying Prohibition

## **BACKGROUND**

An administrative review of Policy 514, Bullying Prohibition, has been performed. The policy adheres to the district's processes and procedures currently in place. The district's current policy was reviewed against MSBA's model policy and continues to match that language. Based on this review, no changes are recommended at this time. This policy was last reviewed in January of 2023.

School District 197 reviews its policies on a 3-year cycle unless otherwise required by law. Typically, recommended policy changes are brought to the school board for three readings, with approval at the third reading. However, when the administration is recommending minor or no changes to the policy, it is labeled as an "administrative review." Consistent changes the board has asked to be applied to policies are considered minor. One example is using more inclusive language such as using "parent/guardian" instead of just "parent." When labeled an "administrative review" the policy is placed on the consent agenda for a single reading with a recommendation to approve the policy as presented. As a reminder, board members always have the opportunity to remove a policy from the consent agenda to discuss it as part of the main agenda.

This policy was also reviewed using the district's Four-Way Equity Test. While bullying can impact all students, it can have a disproportionate impact on students in protected classes. This policy helps protect students who are experiencing bullying by defining and prohibiting bullying behaviors along with laying out an expected process for reporting and responding to bullying when it occurs.

## **RESOLUTION**

***BE IT RESOLVED*** by the School Board of School District 197 to approve Policy 514, Bullying Prohibition, as presented.