

New Jersey Department of Education

School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act*

School Name: Empowerment Academy Charter School

School Year: July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024



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Core Element #1: HIB Programs, Approaches or Other Initiatives (N.J.S.A. 18A:37-17a)		
Indicators		Score (0-3)
A.	The school annually <i>established</i> HIB programs, approaches or other initiatives.	2
B.	The school annually <i>implemented</i> and documented HIB programs, approaches, or other initiatives.	2
C.	The school annually <i>assessed</i> HIB programs, approaches or other initiatives.	2
D.	The school's HIB programs, approaches or other initiatives were designed to <i>create school-wide</i> conditions to prevent and address HIB.	3
E.	The school safety/school climate team (SS/SCT) <i>identified patterns</i> of HIB and <i>reviewed</i> school climate and school policies for the prevention of HIB.	1
SUB-TOTAL (possible 15)		10

Core Element #2: Training on the BOE-approved HIB Policy and Procedures (N.J.S.A. 18A:37-17b and c)		
Indicators		Score (0-3)
A.	School employees, contracted service providers and volunteers were provided <i>training</i> on the HIB policy.	2
B.	The HIB policy training included instruction on preventing HIB on the basis of <i>protected categories</i> enumerated in the ABR and <i>other distinguishing characteristics</i> that may incite incidents of discrimination or HIB.	2
C.	The HIB policy was <i>discussed</i> with students, in accordance with the district's process for these discussions.	2
SUB-TOTAL (possible 9)		6

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Core Element #3: Other Staff Instruction and Training Programs (N.J.S.A. 18A:6-112, N.J.S.A. 18A:37-22d, N.J.S.A. 18A:37-26a, N.J.S.A. 18A:37-21d, N.J.S.A. 18A:26-8.2)

Indicators		Score (0-3)
A.	Each teaching staff member completed at least 2 hours of <i>instruction in suicide prevention that included information on HIB</i> , in each five-year professional development period.	1
B.	Each teaching staff member completed at least 2 hours of <i>instruction on HIB prevention</i> , in each five-year professional development period.	1
C.	The school anti-bullying specialist (ABS) was given <i>time during the usual school schedule</i> to participate in in-service training in preparation to act as the ABS.	3
D.	The members of the school safety/school climate team (SS/SCT) were provided with professional development in effective practices of successful school climate programs or approaches.	1
E.	School building leaders* have received information on the prevention of harassment, intimidation and bullying as part of their training on issues of school ethics, school law and school governance.	2
SUB-TOTAL (possible 15)		8

Core Element #4: Curriculum and Instruction on HIB and Related Information and Skills (N.J.S.A. 18A:37-29)

Indicators	Score (0-3)
A. The school <i>provided ongoing, age-appropriate instruction</i> on preventing HIB in accordance with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.	1
B. The school observed the <i>"Week of Respect,"</i> during the week beginning with the first Monday in October of each year, <i>recognizing the importance of character education</i> by providing age-appropriate instruction focusing on HIB prevention.	3
SUB-TOTAL (possible 6)	4

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Core Element #5: HIB Personnel (N.J.S.A. 18A:37-20a, N.J.S.A. 18A:37-20c, N.J.S.A. 18A:37-21a)		
Indicators	Score (0-3)	
A. The principal <i>appointed</i> a school anti-bullying specialist (ABS).	1	
B. The ABS <i>met</i> at least two times per school year with the district anti-bullying coordinator (ABC).	0	
C. The school safety/school climate team (SS/SCT) <i>met</i> at least two times per school year to develop, foster and maintain a positive school climate by focusing on the ongoing, systemic process and practices in the school and to address school climate issues including HIB.	0	
SUB-TOTAL (possible 9)		1

Core Element #6: School-Level HIB Incident Reporting Procedure (N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15b(5), N.J.S.A. 18A: 37-15b(6)(a))		
Option A		
Indicators	Score (0-3)	
A. The school <i>implemented</i> the district's procedure for reporting HIB that includes all required elements.	1	
B. The school <i>implemented</i> the district's procedure for reporting new information on a prior HIB report.	1	
SUB-TOTAL (possible 6)		2

School Name: Empowerment Academy Charter School

School Year: July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

Core Element #7: HIB Investigation Procedure (N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15b(5) and (6)(a) and (b))

Option A

Indicators		Score (0-3)
A.	<i>Notification</i> to parents of alleged offenders and alleged victims in each reported HIB incident.	2
B.	<i>Completion</i> of the investigation within 10 school days of the written incident report.	1
C.	Preparation of a <i>written report</i> on the findings of each HIB investigation	2
D.	Indicator D. Results of the investigation reported to the chief school administrator (CSA) within <i>2 school days</i> of completion of the investigation.	1
SUB-TOTAL (possible 12)		6

Core Element #8: HIB Reporting (N.J.S.A. 18A:17- 46)

Indicators		Score (0-3)
A.	The school has a <i>procedure for ensuring</i> that staff member reports (i.e., verbal and written) include the required information for all incidents of violence, vandalism and HIB.	2
B.	The official grades received from the NJDOE, for the Self-Assessment from the previous reporting period, for the school and for the school district are posted on the home page of the school's website per the ABR and the requirements of the NJDOE.	0
SUB-TOTAL (possible 6)		2

TOTAL SCORE (possible 78)

39

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Preliminary Determination	
Did your school district's policy permit the use of a preliminary determination for reports of HIB during the 2023-2024 school year?	No
During the 2023-2024 school year, how many times was a preliminary determination made in your school that an incident or complaint was outside the scope of the definition of HIB and did not need to be investigated as HIB?	N/A

School Name: Empowerment Academy Charter School

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Empowerment Academy Charter School (6103-994)

STATEMENT OF ASSURANCES

By submitting the *School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the ABR* (Self-Assessment), the chief school administrator (CSA) assures that:

1. The school safety/school climate team (CC/SCT) had the lead role in completing the Self-Assessment.
2. The public was given the opportunity to comment on the Self-Assessment prior to district board of education (BOE) approval.
3. The BOE approved the Self-Assessment at a public meeting, prior to submission to the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE).
4. All information in the Self-Assessment is an accurate and complete account of the status of the school's efforts at implementing the ABR at the time of submission, the SS/SCT's report, the public comment on the report, and the district BOE's review of and decision on the report.
5. The NJDOE or its authorized representatives will be provided with access to, and the right to examine, all records, books, papers, or documents related to the Self-Assessment.
6. The grade assigned by the Commissioner for the school and for the school district in the district will be posted on the home page of the *school's* website within 10 days of its receipt from the NJDOE.
7. The grade assigned by the Commissioner for the school district and each school in the district will be posted on the home page of the *school district's* website within 10 days of its receipt from the NJDOE.
8. The BOE at a public meeting will review the grades assigned by the Commissioner for each school and the school district.