Bill #30

Promotion of Respectful and Responsible Relationships Act

CHANGES RECOMMENDED TO THE LAW AMENDMENTS COMMITTEE

PAGE 1 - add the following:

3 Subsection 3(1) of Chapter 1 is amended by adding immediately after clause (a) the following clause:

(aaa) "bullying" means any direct or indirect behaviour, comment, act or gesture, including those made through the use of social media, which is intended to, or which is reckless as to whether it will, injure, hurt, oppress, intimidate, ostracize, humiliate, distress or cause other forms of harm and includes cyberbullying

(i) by a student against a student, teacher, support staff or volunteer, or

(ii) by a student, teacher, support staff or volunteer against a student;

PAGE 1 - add the following:

4 Section 38 of Chapter 1 is amended by adding immediately after subsection (2) the following subsection:

(3) Principals shall support any group of students within their individual schools that wishes to conduct activities the principal of that school considers conducive to reducing and preventing bullying and inappropriate student behaviour.

PAGE 1 - add the following:

6 Chapter 1 is further amended by adding the following Sections immediately after Section 64D:

64E (1) Every school board shall establish policies and guidelines with respect to

(a) disciplining students who bully or engage in inappropriate student behaviour consistent with those established pursuant to Sections 3 and 4; and

(b) addressing any other matter including any other requirement that the Minister may specify.

(2) Every school board shall prepare an annual report that states

(a) the incidence and nature of bullying and inappropriate student behaviour for each school within its jurisdiction; and

(b) the measures taken to improve each school's results with respect to preventing and intervening in bullying and inappropriate student behaviour and enhancing the quality of its learning environment,

LAC PC-1

and shall file it with the Minister and publish it on the school board's website no later than July 1st of each year.

64F The school board shall support a group of students that wishes to conduct activities conducive to reducing and preventing bullying and inappropriate student behaviour and that has been endorsed by a principal in its district pursuant to subsection 38(3).

PAGE 2 - add the following:

10 Chapter 1 is further amended by adding the following Sections immediately after Section 141A:

141B The Minister shall establish policies and guidelines with respect to bullying prevention and intervention in schools, including respecting

(a) training to be provided for all teachers and support staff;

(b) procedures that allow students to report incidents of bullying safely and in a way that minimizes the possibility of reprisal;

 (c) procedures for responding appropriately and in a timely manner to bullying;

(d) the use of disciplinary measures in response to bullying;

(e) resources to be provided to support students who are impacted by bullying; and

(f) resources to be provided to students who have been suspended for bullying.

141C The Minister may establish policies and guidelines respecting

(a) the use of a disciplinary framework that

(i) identifies inappropriate student behaviour,

(ii) provides for appropriate consequences for a student who engages in inappropriate behaviour, a mechanism to inform the student's parents of the reason for disciplinary action and the action that will be taken in the event of any further inappropriate behaviour,

(iii) provides for progressively more serious consequences for repeated or more serious inappropriate behaviour,

(iv) provides support for students and their parents who are impacted by inappropriate behaviour and for students who engage in inappropriate behaviour to assist them in developing healthy relationships, making good choices and continuing their learning and achieving success,

(v) provides for prevention strategies to be included in the curriculum, and

(vi) provides for early and ongoing intervention strategies to be included in the curriculum;

(b) opportunities for all students and their parents, teachers and support staff to increase their understanding and awareness of inappropriate student behaviour;

(c) training for all teachers and support staff to increase their ability to respond to inappropriate student behaviour; and

(d) procedures for responding appropriately and in a timely manner to inappropriate student behaviour.

RENUMBER CLAUSES ACCORDINGLY.