

Classical II

The Classical Magnet School believes that one of its most important responsibilities is to work with parents and the community to prepare students to be confident, thoughtful, contributing citizens, now and throughout their lives. We believe that our school helps develop these qualities by creating an atmosphere that fosters a sense of belonging and acceptance, which supports students as they learn and grow and prepare to take their places in the world.

Recently, the State of Connecticut enacted a law, “An Act Concerning the Strengthening of School Bullying Laws,” that supports our school’s efforts to build a positive school climate by fostering caring relationships among the members of our school community. In response to the enactment of this law, our school is creating a Safe School Climate Committee (SSCC) that will be responsible for writing and monitoring a plan to further strengthen our school climate.

Working together, staff, parents and students will identify positive elements in our school’s culture and build on them. At the same time, we will work to eliminate negative behavior that occasionally takes place. Our ultimate goal is to root out bullying in our school by encouraging every student to be always mindful of his or her responsibility to behave with kindness toward others. The new legislation defines bullying as:

The repeated use by one or more students of a written, verbal or electronic communication, such as cyber bullying, or a physical act or gesture directed at another student attending school in that same school district that:

- *Causes physical or emotional harm to such student or damage to such student’s property;*
- *Places such student in reasonable fear of harm to himself or herself or of damage to his property;*
- *Creates a hostile environment (a situation in which bullying among students is sufficiently severe or pervasive to alter the condition of the school climate) at school for such student;*
- *Infringes on the rights of such student at school;*
- *Substantially disrupts the education process or orderly operation of a school.*

As we continue our work to strengthen our school’s climate, all of us should keep in mind how important it is to model respect, empathy and care for every one in our lives.