

Westwood Junior High School



ABAV Plan

+

2023-2024

Anti-Bullying and Anti-Violence Plan
Lester B. Pearson School Board

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November 15th 2023

DATE OF GOVERNING BOARD APPROVAL

GOALS OF THE ANTI-BULLYING AND ANTI-VIOLENCE (ABAV) PLAN

- In compliance with the [Quebec Education Act](#) (QEA), the main purpose of the ABAV plan must be to prevent and stop all forms of bullying and violence targeting a student, a teacher or any other school staff member. This plan specifies the duties and responsibilities of the relevant parties of the school **community** and the school partners in achieving this.

School Community Parties:

Students, Staff, School Administration, School Board, Governing Boards, & Parents.

- Outline the responsibilities of all parties towards the elimination of bullying and violence in the school community, including the responsibility of parents to promote a positive and respectful school climate inside and outside school.

School Partners:

Outside organizations Including but not limited to bus companies, coaches, & volunteers.

- School boards must see to it that each of their schools provides a healthy and secure learning environment that allows every student to develop their full potential, free from any form of bullying or violence.

- School boards must also ensure a healthy and secure working environment for their staff, and the staff must participate in ensuring a safe and respectful working climate.

- The plan is designed to support the optimal conditions required. to guarantee the fundamental right to dignity, equality, and integrity, while respecting the unique character of each individual.

"The Lester B. Pearson School Board believes that everyone in its community is entitled to a safe, healthy, secure, respectful and caring environment. The School Board believes that education should prepare our students for a responsible life in a free society, in a spirit of understanding, peace, tolerance, and equality of sexes based on the principles of respect, diversity and inclusion."

-LBPSB Policy on Safe and Caring Schools

DEFINITIONS as applied in ABAV

Bullying

- “the word “bullying” means any repeated direct or indirect behaviour, comment, act, or gesture, whether deliberate or not, including in cyberspace, which occurs in a context where there is a **power imbalance** between the persons concerned and which causes distress and injures, hurts, oppresses, intimidates or ostracizes” ([art. 13, par. 1.1, QEA](#)).

Violence

- “The word “violence” means any **intentional** demonstration of force of a verbal, written, physical, psychological or sexual nature which causes distress and injures, hurts, or oppresses a person by attacking their psychological or physical integrity or well-being, or their rights or property” ([art. 13, par. 3, QEA](#)).

Sexual Violence

- “The concept of sexual violence refers to any form of violence committed through sexual practices or by targeting sexuality, including sexual assault. It also refers to any other misconduct, including that relating to sexual and gender diversity, in such forms as unwanted direct or indirect gestures, comments, behaviours or attitudes with sexual connotations, including by technological means.”
<https://www.legisquebec.gouv.qc.ca/en/document/cs/p-22.1>

Racism

- “Corresponds to the “set of ideas, attitudes and actions whose purpose is to make ethnocultural and national groups feel inferior socially, economically, culturally and politically, thereby preventing them from benefitting fully from the advantages to which all citizens are entitled.” Racist discourse is usually based on real or presumed physical and cultural differences.” ([MIDI, 2015](#))

Discrimination

- “Every person has a right to full and equal recognition and exercise of his human rights and freedoms, without distinction, exclusion or preference based on race, colour, sex, gender identity or expression, pregnancy, sexual orientation, civil status, age except as provided by law, religion, political convictions, language, ethnic or national origin, social condition, a handicap or the use of any means to palliate a handicap. Discrimination exists where such a distinction, exclusion or preference has the effect of nullifying or impairing such right.” ([Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms, section 10](#))

Parent

- “the word “parent” means the person having parental authority or, unless that person objects, the person having custody de facto of the student” ([art. 13, QEA](#))

Elements of the ABAV Plan (art. 75.1, QEA)

Element 1	<u>an analysis of the situation</u> prevailing at the school with respect to bullying and violence;	pg.
Element 2	<u>prevention measures</u> to put an end to all forms of bullying and violence, in particular those motivated by racism or homophobia or targeting sexual orientation, sexual identity, a handicap or a physical characteristic;	pg.
Element 3	<u>measures to encourage parents to collaborate</u> in preventing and stopping bullying and violence and in creating a healthy and secure learning environment;	pg.
Element 4	<u>procedures for reporting, or registering a complaint</u> concerning, an act of bullying or violence to or with the institution and, more particularly, procedures for reporting the use of social media or communication technologies for cyberbullying purposes;	pg.
Element 5	<u>the actions to be taken</u> when a student, teacher or other school staff member or any other person observes an act of bullying or violence; or when a report or complaint is sent to the institution by the regional student ombudsman.	pg.
Element 6	measures to <u>protect the confidentiality</u> of any report or complaint concerning an act of bullying or violence;	pg.
Element 7	<u>supervisory or support measures</u> for any student who is a victim of bullying or violence, for witnesses and for the perpetrator;	pg.
Element 8	specific <u>disciplinary sanctions</u> for acts of bullying or violence, according to their severity or repetitive nature; and	pg.
Element 9	the required <u>follow-up</u> on any report or complaint concerning an act of bullying or violence.	pg.
New* Additional Element (75.1 QEA)	<u>sexual violence</u> ; compulsory training activities for management and other personnel ; and safety measures to stop sexual violence.	pg.
Annual Evaluation	the results achieved by the school with respect to preventing and dealing with bullying and violence must be <u>evaluated</u> .	

Bullying:

the word “bullying” means any repeated direct or indirect behaviour, comment, act, or gesture, whether deliberate or not, including in cyberspace, which occurs in a context where there is a **power imbalance** between the persons concerned and which causes distress and injures, hurts, oppresses, intimidates or ostracizes.

Violence:

the word “violence” means any **intentional** demonstration of force of a verbal, written, physical, psychological or sexual nature which causes distress and injures, hurts, or oppresses a person by attacking their psychological or physical integrity or well-being, or their rights or property.

Items in **YELLOW** indicate Bill 9 additions

1. ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION

Description of the findings that emerge from the situation analysis with respect to bullying and violence

Verbal and social bullying were the most common forms of bullying taking place at school.

Most in school bullying incidents take place in the hallways during unstructured time.

Priorities identified with respect to bullying and violence

Students must be given more opportunities to foster positive relationships.

Increase the amount of extra-curricular activities during unstructured time for all students to reduce the number of bullying incidents during that time.

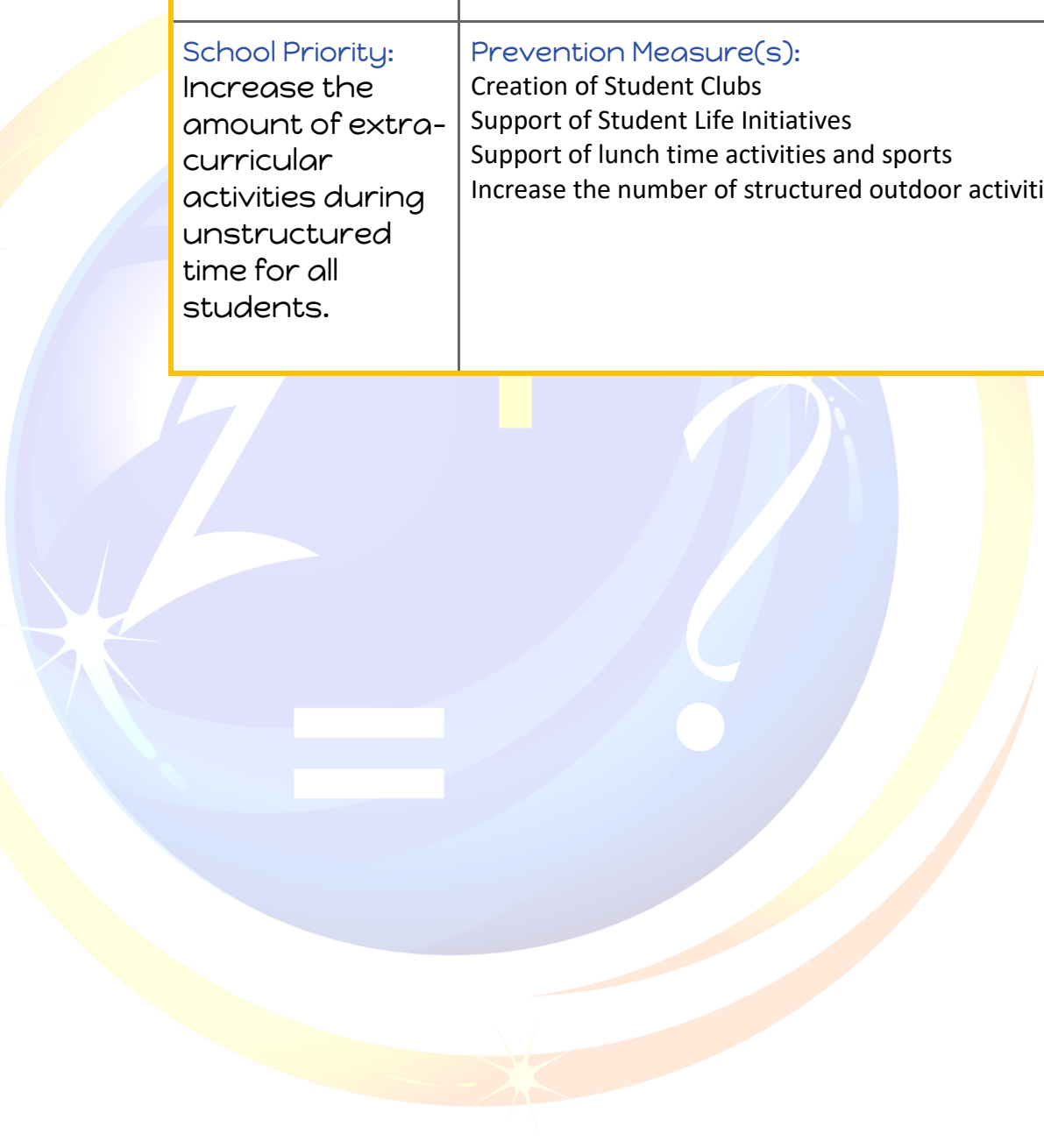
Continue to offer digital citizenship good practices training.

2. PREVENTION MEASURES

LBPSB sanctions its schools and centres to carry out additional measures to promote Equity, Diversity, Dignity, and Inclusion (E.D.D.I.) for all the parties of the school community and their partners.

Obligations of the QEA	
Ensuring a Safe and Caring School Climate	The rules of conduct and the safety measures must be presented to the students during a civics session held each year by the principal in collaboration with the school staff and must be sent to the parents at the beginning of each school year. (art.76, QEA)
	The principal shall see to it that all school staff members are informed of the school's rules of conduct, safety measures and anti-bullying and anti-violence measures, and of the procedure to be followed when an act of bullying or violence is observed. (art. 96.21, QEA)
	During the month of September each year, the principal of a school providing education to students in the second cycle of the secondary level shall see to the formation of a student committee. (art.96.5, QEA)

Priorities and Prevention Measures	
LBPSB Priority: To promote the values of the EDDI statement	Prevention Measure(s): School Survey Pink T-shirt Day/ Anti-Bullying awareness Truth and Reconciliation Day/Orange Shirt Day Healthy Schools Committee Guest speakers Diverse Literary Texts In school celebrations
School Priority: Students must be given more opportunities to foster positive relationships.	Prevention Measure(s): Digital Citizenship Program Creation of Social Groups and Clubs Guest Speakers Liberte de choisir workshops and presentation Police prevention programs Le Versant workshops to reduce student anxiety stemming from social



	interactions
School Priority: Increase the amount of extra-curricular activities during unstructured time for all students.	Prevention Measure(s): Creation of Student Clubs Support of Student Life Initiatives Support of lunch time activities and sports Increase the number of structured outdoor activities at lunch

3. MEASURES TO ENCOURAGE PARENTAL COLLABORATION

Parents are valuable partners and it is important to work together when it comes to taking action to prevent and stop bullying and violence. It is together that we can find the solutions. This collaboration will enable us to continue to flourish and succeed in an atmosphere of mutual respect ([LBPSB Policy on Safe and Caring Schools](#)).

Measures encouraging parent(s)/guardian(s) collaboration in preventing and stopping bullying and violence and in creating a healthy and secure learning environment.

- The Code of Conduct and the ABAV Plan will be made available to parent(s)/guardian(s); it will be posted on the school website.

- The School's Code of Conduct will be communicated with the parents (agenda, curriculum night, bulletins/memos, and/or on school website).
- Agenda/Behaviour trackers
- Ongoing communication between principal and / or their designated parents/guardians of children who are being bullied and those who are engaging in bullying behaviors will take place until the resolution of the situation.
- Teacher communication via Google classroom
- Memos to parents
- Social media workshops
- Parent Teacher Interviews
- Curriculum Night
- Follow-up meetings after in school/out of school suspensions
- Curriculum Night
- Social media page to keep parents informed of what is going on
- School events
- Home and School Association
- Governing Board

"The Lester B. Pearson School Board believes that the school board's administrators, staff, parents, students and all those present in the school's environment have a responsibility to ensure that the right to be safe and secure is upheld."

-LBPSB Policy on Safe and Caring Schools



Resources

Community Resources	Information on Violence and Bullying
<p>For Students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ kidshelpphone.ca◦ Text HELLO to 686868• cybertip.ca <p>For Parent(s)/Guardian(s) :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CLSC<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Name :CLSC et Centre de services ambulatoires de Vaudreuil-Dorion◦ Address:3031 blvd de la Gare◦ Phone No. : 450-455-6171• Service de police de la ville de Montréal (SPVM)<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ PDQ No. :1◦ Address: 2883, boul. Saint-Charles◦ Phone No. : 514-280-0101• Sûreté du Québec (SQ)<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Post No. :58◦ Address: 2551 Rte 201, Saint Clet◦ Phone No. : 450-456-3883	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Benado - Mon pouvoir sur l'intimidation• Canadian Centre for Child Protection• Canadian Red Cross- Violence and Abuse Prevention• Government of Quebec: Violence and bullying• Media Smarts• Ministère de la famille - Québec• Promoting Relationships and Eliminating Violence Network (PREVNet)

4. PROCEDURES OF REPORTING OR REGISTERING A COMPLAINT

The LBPSB complaint procedure can be followed to make a report or register a complaint: [Link to LBPSB Complaint Procedure](#)

The procedures for reporting or registering a complaint of acts of bullying, violence, cyberbullying, and sexual violence are:

For students	
bullying, violence, cyberbullying, or sexual violence	You can ask for help for yourself or for someone else. To report a situation, you can contact any adult you trust (teacher, integration aide, daycare, principal, parent, etc.). They will be able to guide you.
For parent(s)/guardian(s)	
bullying, violence, cyberbullying, or sexual violence	Inform the principal via email, phone call, or in-person meeting. Students may contact their Regional ombudsman.
For staff members	
bullying, violence, cyberbullying, or sexual violence	Inform the principal via email, phone call, or in-person meeting.
For partners, (bus drivers, volunteers, others)	
bullying, violence, cyberbullying, or sexual violence	Inform the principal via email, phone call, or in-person meeting.
Any person or enterprise providing extracurricular services to students of a school or carrying out a special school project for the provision of services other than educational services	
bullying, violence, cyberbullying, or sexual violence	<u>Must inform</u> the principal of the school attended by the students directly involved of any act of bullying or violence that they observe. They must also follow the prescribed training.

The procedures for registering a complaint are:

- In the case of a complaint concerning an act of sexual violence, the principal shall also inform the student who is the victim that it is possible to refer the complaint to the [Commission des services juridiques](#). **If the student is under 14 years of age**, the principal also informs their parent(s)/guardian(s) of that option, and **if the student is 14 years of age or over**, the principal may also inform his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) of that option, with the student's consent. ([Art.96.12, QEA](#))
- It is possible to make a report or file a complaint concerning an act of sexual violence to or with the regional student ombudsman and, for a person who is dissatisfied with the follow-up on a complaint filed with the institution, to use the [complaint processing procedure](#) provided for in the Act respecting the National Student Ombudsman.
- **Regional Student Ombudsman Coordinates:**
1035, rue De La Chevrotière, 25e étage
Québec (Québec) G1R 5A5
Phone number: 1 833 420-5233
Email: info@pne.gouv.qc.ca

To find out more about the treatment of complaints procedure,
please visit the LBPSB website:

<https://www.lbpsb.qc.ca/parents-and-community/complaints-procedure/>

5. ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN

RESPONSE PROTOCOL

STUDENT(S), PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S), ANY OTHER PERSON, OR PARTNER(S)

- You can ask for help for yourself or someone else. To report a situation, you can contact any adult you trust (teacher, integration aide, principal, vice principal, planning room technician, parent, etc.) They will be able to guide you.
- Talk to someone at home, as they can guide you and support you.
- For bus drivers, give the bus report to the staff member on duty.
- You may also contact the Regional Student Ombudsman.

School Community Parties:

Students, Staff, School Administration, School Board, Governing Boards, & Parents.

School Partners:

Outside organizations including but not limited to bus companies, coaches, & volunteers.

STAFF

Any staff member who observes an act of bullying or violence must (see items 1-4):

1. Respond- Intervene immediately.
2. Reassure- Ensure safety of all school community parties and partners.
3. Report- To the Principal or VP via email, phone call or in person meeting.
4. Review- Establish frequent check-ins, maintain communication and ongoing support as needed.

PRINCIPAL

After considering the best interest of students and/or staff directly involved, the principal shall:

- Meet with parties involved, as needed.
- Communicate relevant information to relevant staff members regarding the safety of the student(s) and/or staff concerned.
- Communicate with their parent(s)/guardian(s) to inform them of the measures in the anti-bullying and anti-violence plan, as required. ([Art 96.12, QEA](#))
- Refer parent(s)/guardian(s) to complaints procedure, should they express dissatisfaction with the course of action from the school administration, and inform them of their right to request assistance. ([Art 96.12, QEA](#))
- Document the incident.

6. CONFIDENTIALITY

Reporting incidents of bullying or violence is the right thing to do. It allows everyone to obtain help and put an end to the situation. Reporting may cause discomfort in the person doing it, however, the school will take the necessary precautions to preserve confidentiality.

The measures to protect the confidentiality of any report or complaint concerning an act of bullying or violence are:

- Staff are reminded annually that every incident and the ensuing follow-up must be kept confidential.
- Communication with all parties will be discreet.
- All parties will be treated with respect, discretion and empathy.
- Details of applied disciplinary sanctions will be kept confidential as the law forbids that this information be communicated to other students or parents.

Other school-based measures, if necessary:

7. SUPERVISORY OR SUPPORT MEASURES

It is the responsibility of every staff member to use difficult/challenging situations as opportunities to help students improve their social and emotional skills, accept personal responsibility for their learning environment, and understand consequences for poor choices.

Supervisory or Support Measures for Victims, Witnesses, and Perpetrators (may include, but are not limited to)

- Ensure a safe, caring, and trusting climate during interventions.
- Put in place necessary measures for the safety of all school community parties and their partners.
- Facilitate a meeting with a designated staff member.
- Offer individual or group support.
- Refer to the professional resources of the school or school board.
- Establish an intervention plan.
- Refer to external partners such as:
 - Batshaw/Department of Youth Protection (DYP);
 - Integrated University Health and Social Services Centre/Integrated Health and Social Services Centres (fr. CIUSSS/CISSSMO);
 - Service de Police de la Ville de Montréal (SPVM);
 - Sûreté du Québec (SQ).
- Monitor and follow up after resolution.

Other school-based measures, if necessary:

- Consider the global development of each individual child.
- Parents will be informed.

8. DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

The application of disciplinary sanctions will be made following an analysis of the incident(s). The severity of bullying and violent acts are measured by their intensity, frequency, consistency, persistence, context, and impact on students.

Considerations When Determining Disciplinary Sanctions

- Age and developmental maturity of the students involved.
- Nature, frequency and severity of the behaviours.
- Relationships of the parties involved.
- Context in which the alleged incident(s) occurred.
- Patterns of past or continuing behaviours.
- Family context.
- Other circumstances that may play a role such as cultural context, trauma history and mental health.

Disciplinary Sanctions (may include, but are not limited to)

- Conversation with student
- Parent notification
- Reflection activity or action
- Restorative measures or practices
- Restitution
- Mediation or conflict resolution
- Behaviour contract
- Removal of privilege(s)
- School Detention
- Referral to Planning Room and/or Alternative to Suspension Program
- In-school suspension
- Out-of-school suspension
- Enrolment in another school

Other school-based sanctions, if necessary:

- Consultation with the Department of Youth Protection (DYP)
- Meeting with the local socio-community police officer
- Involvement of law enforcement, if required
- Community service at school

9. FOLLOW-UP

Follow-up measures may include:

- Ongoing documentation of the event(s).
- Ongoing communication with all parties involved, as needed.
- Ongoing monitoring of all students involved to assess their well-being.
- Verifying the completion of disciplinary sanctions for all parties concerned.
- Referring parent(s)/guardian(s) to complaints procedure, should they express dissatisfaction.

Other school-based measures, if necessary:

To find out more about the treatment of complaints procedure,
please visit the LBPSB website:

<https://www.lbpsb.qc.ca/parents-and-community/complaints-procedure/>

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Compulsory training activities for management and other personnel:

- Training will be provided, when made available.

Safety measures to stop sexual violence:

- Sexuality Education Curriculum
- Internal expertise of school board professionals (sexologist, psychologists, guidance counsellors, etc.)
- Prevention programs
- Consultation with partners (SPVM/SQ, CIUSSS/CISSSMO, Batshaw/DYP, Marie-Vincent Foundation, etc.)

Other school-based measures, if necessary:

- School wide awareness campaigns/class lessons on such topics as:
 - interpersonal boundaries
 - healthy,egalitarian relationships
 - fighting stereotypes

Complaint Procedure

In the case of a complaint concerning an act of sexual violence, the principal shall also inform the student who is the victim that it is possible to refer the complaint to the [Commission des services juridiques](#). **If the student is under 14 years of age**, the principal also informs their parent(s)/guardian(s) of that option, and **if the student is 14 years of age or over**, the principal may also inform his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) of that option, with the student's consent. ([Art.96.12, QEA](#))

It is possible to make a report or file a complaint concerning an act of sexual violence to or with the regional student ombudsman and, for a person who is dissatisfied with the follow-up on a complaint filed with the institution, to use the [complaint processing procedure](#) provided for in the Act respecting the National Student Ombudsman.

Other options to report situations of sexual misconduct and violence in schools include:



ABAV Evaluation

- a call or text to the National Student's Ombudsman at 1-833-420-5233
- an email to plaintes-pne@pne.gouv.qc.ca

ANNUAL EVALUATION GRID (To be completed in spring of 2024)

LEGEND				
1	No adjustment	Our actions are satisfactory and we are continuing on this path		
2	Some adjustments	Our actions are quite satisfactory, but require some adjustments.		
3	To replace	Our actions or measures are no longer applicable or available.		

Evaluation				
Legend: 1: No adjustment 2: Some adjustments 3: To replace		Check		
Actions and/or Prevention Measures carried out in 2023-2024		1	2	3
1		•	•	•
2		•	•	•
3		•	•	•
4		•	•	•
Findings				

