

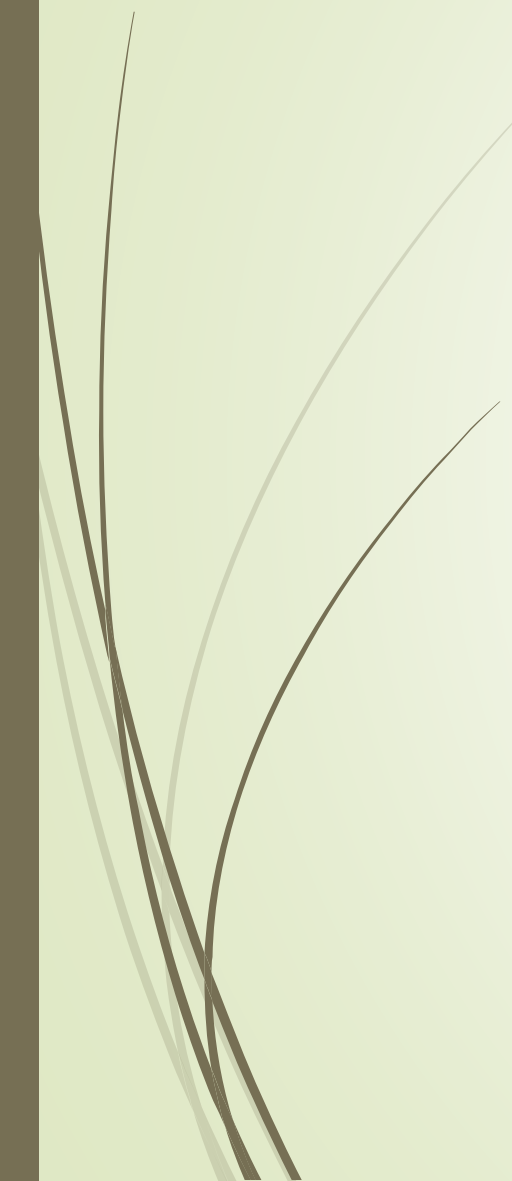
What is the
Dignity for All Students Act
(DASA)?



CHESTER UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT



Purpose of DASA



The purpose of New York State's *Dignity for All Students Act* (The Dignity Act, DASA) is to provide a school environment free of discrimination and harassment for all students.



Goal of DASA

The goal of DASA is to create a safe and supportive school climate where students can learn and focus, rather than fear being discriminated against and/or verbally and/or physically harassed.



Protected Classes

No student shall be subjected to harassment or discrimination by employees or students on school property or at school functions based on their actual or perceived:

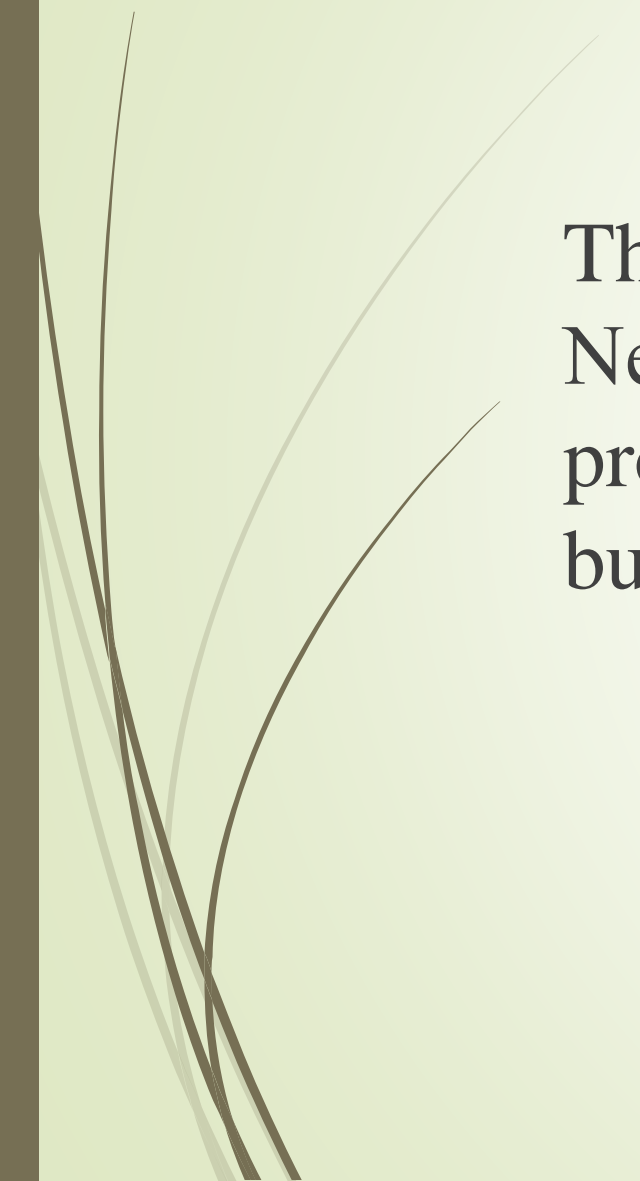


Protected Classes

- Race
- Weight
- Ethnic Group
- Religious Practice
- Sexual Orientation
- Gender (Including Expression And Identity)
- Other
- Color
- National Origin
- Religion
- Disability
- Sex



Chester UFSD Policy



The Chester Union Free School District supports New York State's DASA legislation with policies that promote student dignity and prohibit harassment and bullying.



Resources

New York State Education Department DASA Website

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/dignityact/>

Chester Union Free School District

Board of Education DASA Policy 7553



What is Bullying?

New York State's Definition of Bullying

A form of unwanted, **aggressive behavior** that involves a **real or perceived power imbalance** and that **is repeated**, or has the **potential to be repeated**.

Source:

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/sss/ssae/schoolsafety/vadir/glossary201718.html>



NOT Bullying...


...a single act/incident

...an accident

...being bossy

...an argument or disagreement

These may be disagreeable behaviors, but are not necessarily “bullying.”



What to do if you / your child is being bullied in the Chester School District

Students who have been subjected to harassment, bullying, and/or discrimination, or others who observe such harassment are encouraged to make verbal or written reports to:

- school administration
- the DASA coordinator
- other school personnel



Chester Schools DASA Coordinators

Chester Elementary School

Ms. Catherine O'Hara, Principal

cohara@chesterufsd.org

845.469.2178 extension 2201

Chester Academy

Mr. John Flanagan, Principal

jflanagan@chesterufsd.org

845.469.2231 extension 3329





DASA Complaint Form

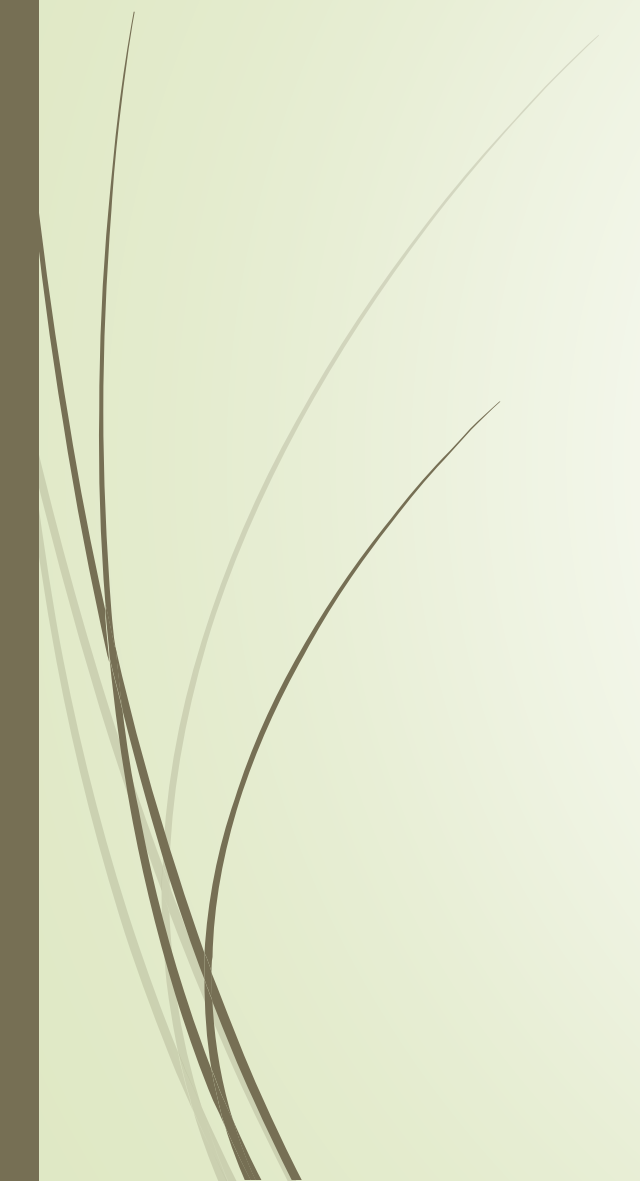
A student or parent / guardian of a student who is being bullied or harassed should file a written complaint form containing as much information as possible detailing the circumstances of the bullying or harassment incident.

CLICK HERE

to download a DASA Complaint Form



Chester Elementary School Support Services



Ms. Emma McKay
School Psychologist
469.2178 extension 2215

Ms. Lisa Ringel
School Social Worker
469.2178 extension 2210

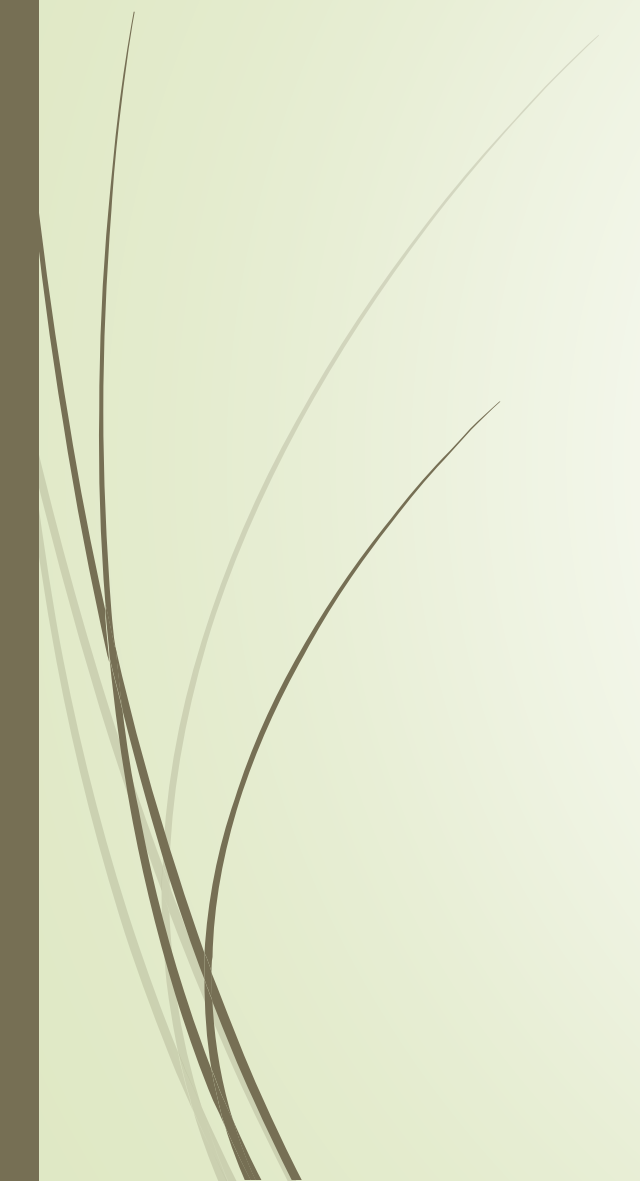


Chester Academy Support Services

Chester Academy

Ms. Monica Azzaro
School Psychologist
469.2231 extension 3310

Ms. Jennine McKenzie
Guidance Counselor
469.2231 extension 3314





Chester Academy Support Services

Chester Academy

Ms. Jennifer Cuomo
Middle School Counselor
469.2231 extension 3309

Ms. Yvonne Sternemann
High School Counselor
469.2231 extension 3308