



**Alaska Association of Student Governments
Resolution #11
Mandate Social Media Bullying Policies
Submitted by Deanna Hobbs
Thunder Mountain High School
April, 2016**

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments;

1. **Whereas**, The Juneau School District policy handbook does not have a comprehensive policy specific to cyberbullying, harassment, or threats of violence over social media*1;
2. **Whereas**, Cyberbullying is defined as “bullying online or through a phone, harassment (including sexual harassment), threats of violence, blackmail, intimidation, or action in the intention of socially isolating or exposing someone”*1;
3. **Whereas**, More than 1 in 3 young people have experienced cyber threats online and over 25% of adolescents and teens have been bullied repeatedly through their cell phones or the internet*2;
4. **Whereas**, 95% of social media-using teens who have witnessed cruel behavior on social networking sites say they have seen others ignoring mean behavior and 55% witness this frequently*3;
5. **Whereas**, 81% of youth agree that bullying online is easier to get away with than bullying in person, and 80% think it is easier to hide online bullying than in-person bullying from parents*3;
6. **Whereas**, Treating social media bullying as in-person bullying would reduce incidents and lower the likelihood of students believing they can get away with said bullying;
7. **Whereas**, Having a specific and comprehensive policy on social media bullying would result in said bullying being viewed just as negatively as in-person bullying, and would be punished in the same severity;

8. **Whereas**, Juneau students believe that bullying and harassment over social media is a real and damaging issue that deserves a statewide solution;
9. **Whereas**, This resolution is supported by the Thunder Mountain High School Student Government and Juneau Lead On! For Peace and Equality;

Therefore, be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments; a comprehensive policy specifying the definition and consequences of cyber and social media bullying in order to create a safer learning environment for Alaskan students will be drafted.

Action Statement: This resolution, if approved by the General Assembly of AASG, will result in the drafting of a comprehensive and specific statewide school policy for on the issue of cyberbullying, harassment, and threats of violence over social media and how it will be dealt with in order improve the safety of the Alaskan students' learning environment. Juneau Lead On for Peace and Equality youths will give recommendations for the policy to be written by the School District.

References:

- *1 Juneau School District. "5560 - Bullying and Hazing." Juneau School District, 07 June 2011. n. pag. Web. 2 March 2016.
<http://www.edlinesites.net/pages/Juneau_School_District/Board/Policies_and_Regulations/5000_-_Students/5560_-_Bullying_and_Hazing>.
- *2 "I-SAFE Inc." I-SAFE Inc. I-SAFE I. Web. 26 Mar. 2016.
<https://auth.isafe.org/outreach/media/media_cyber_bullying>.
- *3 Lenhart, Amanda. "Cyberbullying." Pew Research Center Internet Science Tech RSS. Pew Research Center Internet Science, 26 June 2007. Web. 25 Mar. 2016.
<<http://www.pewinternet.org/2007/06/27/cyberbullying/>>.

Submitted by: Deanna Hobbs
Student Government President: Ashley Cunningham

Passed by the Alaska Association of Student Governments at the Spring 2016 Conference



Taylor Holman, Vice President