

RIDGEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

DISTRICT 234
7500 WEST MONTROSE AVENUE, NORRIDGE, ILL 60706-1196
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www.d234.org

RE: Teen Dating Violence Prevention and Response Policy

Dear RHS Parents and Guardians:

At our school, teen dating violence is strictly prohibited. We are committed to providing our students with a safe, supportive school environment where they can learn free from worries about school violence. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the School Board's Policy 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), which operates in tandem with the District's anti-bullying program.

Teen dating violence occurs whenever a student uses or threatens to use physical, mental, or emotional abuse to control an individual in a dating relationship, or uses or threatens to use sexual violence. Educating parents/guardians, students, and staff helps us identify these incidents early.

Our Response Protocols and Parental Rights:

- **Immediate Intervention:** Staff members are trained to intervene immediately to stop incidents of teen dating violence occurring at school or school-sponsored activities.
- **24-Hour Parental Notification:** In accordance with Illinois law, the school will make diligent efforts to promptly inform the parents or legal guardians of all students involved in an alleged incident within 24 hours after the administration becomes aware of the situation.
- **Supportive Measures:** Victims of dating violence are entitled to trauma-informed supportive measures to ensure their continued safety and academic success at Ridgewood High School. These can include safety planning, academic adjustments, or support from our school social workers and counseling staff.

Reporting an Incident:

Students or parents/guardians who experience, witness, or suspect teen dating violence are urged to report it immediately. Reports can be made verbally or in writing to my office using the [Report Form for Bullying and School Violence](#) (7:180-API, E5) available in the main office or on our website.

Below are some warning signs that your child may be involved in an unhealthy or violent dating relationship:

- **Name-calling and put-downs:** Using insults to minimize or control the other person.
- **Extreme Jealousy:** Acting incredibly possessive or accusing the partner of flirting.
- **Monitoring:** Constantly calling, texting, or demanding to know the partner's location and plans.
- **Isolation:** Dropping out of activities or giving up time with long-time friends.
- **Dramatic Changes:** Unexplained drops in grades, appearance changes, or signs of depression.
- **Injuries:** Unexplained bruises or cuts, or giving explanations that do not make sense.

For more educational resources on healthy relationships, please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website at www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention.

Please reach out to my office directly if you have any questions, concerns, or need assistance.

Sincerely,



Ryan Goldflies

Assistant Principal of Student Affairs

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