

Anti-Bullying Policy

Rio Rancho Youth Chorus is completely opposed to bullying and will not tolerate it. It is entirely contrary to the values and principles by which we work and live. All members of Rio Rancho Youth Chorus have the right to enjoy a secure and caring environment. They also have a responsibility to contribute, in whatever way they can, to the protection and maintenance of such an environment.

Bullying Defined:

Bullying is an act of aggression, causing embarrassment, pain or discomfort to someone. It can take a number of forms; physical and/or verbal abuses, making gestures, extortion and exclusion. It is an abuse of power. It can be planned and organized, or it may be unintentional. It may be perpetrated by individuals or by groups.

Examples:

- Physical violence such as hitting, pushing or spitting at another person.
- Interfering with another person's property, by stealing, hiding, displaying or damaging it.
- Using offensive names when addressing or discussing another person.
- Teasing or spreading rumors about another person or his/her family.
- Belittling another person's abilities and achievements.
- Writing offensive notes or graffiti about another person.
- Excluding another person from a group activity.
- Ridiculing another person's appearance, way of speaking or personal mannerisms.
- Misusing technology to hurt or humiliate another person.

Responsibilities of Members

By signing this pledge, I agree to:

- Value other peoples differences and treat all Rio Rancho Youth Chorus members, staff, volunteers, parents, etc. with respect.
- Refrain from becoming involved in any kind of bullying, even at the risk of incurring temporary unpopularity.
- Intervene and protect the person who is being bullied, unless it is unsafe to do so.
- Report to the artistic director or any board member any witnessed or suspected instances of bullying, to dispel any climate of secrecy, and to help prevent further instances.
- Speak out honestly and immediately if I become a target of bullies.

Print Name

Signature

Date

