Flemington-Raritan Regional School District

2024-2025 School Self-Assessments under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights

...and a look at the 2025-2026 school year

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District Anti-Bullying Coordinator
Presented: October 9, 2025

District and School Grades

- School Safety/School Climate Teams in each building (led by the counselors in the building, who serve as the Anti-Bullying Specialists) complete and submit the annual self-assessment
- Board of Education reviews the grades for each school and approves them
- NJDOE certifies district/school grades on their efforts to implement policies and programs
- Grades are posted on the district website



Self-Assessment Process

SCHOOL-LEVEL

- School Safety/School Climate Team completes Self-Assessment.
- Enters data in online application: **HIB Grades**.

DISTRICT-LEVEL

- Review ratings; request changes: **HIB Grades**.
- Present report at public Board of Education meeting.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

- Review Self-Assessment ratings.
- Approve scores before school district submits to NJDOE.

CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR

Submit Self-Assessment & Statement of Assurances to NJDOE.



School Self-Assessment Scoring Rubric

8 Core Elements:

- HIB Programs, Approaches or Other Initiatives
- Training on the BOE-approved HIB Policy
- Other Staff Instruction and Training Programs
- Curriculum and Instruction on HIB and Related Information and Skills
- HIB Personnel
- School-Level HIB Incident Reporting Procedure
- HIB Investigation Procedure
- HIB Reporting

Grading Scale for Each Indicator within each Core Element (26 Total Indicators):

- 1-Partially Meets the Requirements
- 2-Meets All Requirements
- 3-Exceeds Requirements

Excerpt from the Self-Assessment (Core Element 1, Indicator A)

New Jersey Department of Education
School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades
under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act
July 1, 2021–June 30, 2022

Core Element #1: HIB Programs, Approaches or Other Initiatives (N.J.S.A. 18A:37- 17a)

Indicator A. The school annually *established* HIB programs, approaches or other initiatives.

Rating	Rating Categories	Criteria
	Does Not Meet the Requirements	No HIB programs, approaches or other initiatives are established.
	Partially Meets the Requirements	HIB programs, approaches and initiatives are being established. **or** The annual establishment of programs, approaches and other initiatives involved some, but not all, of the following groups: school staff, students, administrators, volunteers, parents, law enforcement and community members.
	Meets All Requirements	HIB programs, approaches and initiatives were established. **and** The annual establishment of programs, approaches and other initiatives involved all of the following groups: school staff, students, administrators, volunteers, parents, law enforcement and community members.
	Exceeds the Requirements	HIB programs, approaches and initiatives were embedded throughout the educational program for the purpose of improving school climate and fostering a culture of high expectations for safe, civil, and supportive student and staff behavior. **and** The annual establishment and embedding of programs, approaches and other initiatives involved all of the following groups: school staff, students, administrators, volunteers, parents, law enforcement and other community members, and involve others, as needed.

https://www.state.nj.us/education/students/safety/behavior/hib/

2024-2025 School Self-Assessment Scores

Highest Possible Score: 78

Barley Sheaf: 75

Copper Hill: 76

Francis A. Desmares: 76

Robert Hunter: 76

Reading-Fleming Intermediate School: 76

J.P. Case Middle School: 76

Note: If a school met all requirements and received a 2 (meets all requirements) for every indicator, the final score would be a 52.

Areas of Strength from 2024-2025 School Year

- Establishing, implementing, and documenting HIB programs and trainings
  - 200+ Programs & Training throughout the District to enhance the culture and climate of our school communities

- HIB Incident Reporting Procedure & HIB Investigation Procedure

Areas of Growth for 2025-2026 School Year

- ***The members of the school safety/school climate team (SS/SCT) were provided with professional development in effective practices of successful school climate programs or approaches.***
  - Most recent training 2/16/24: Provide professional development for members of each building's school safety/school climate team.
    - NJPSA/FEA School Climate Team Training for each school's team
  - Upcoming professional development time scheduled for SS/SCT work
    - February 13, 2026

- ***The school annually assessed HIB programs, approaches or other initiatives.***

  Action: Continue data collection and gather feedback from stakeholders regarding our programs and approaches.

Areas of Focus for 2025-2026 School Year

- Focus on educating parents on NJ's ABBoR & FRSD HIB policy.
- Focus on demonstrating respect to ourselves, to others and to our school.
- Focus on providing a safe, healthy, supportive, challenging, and engaging school experience, in alignment with the whole child, for each student throughout the district.
- Focus on building resilience, encouraging growth mindset, mindfulness, and emotionally healthy children.
- Focus on ensuring positive school climate for students and staff and respectful prosocial behavior.

Initiatives for the 2025-2026 School Year

- Continue to review progress towards meeting the core elements and ensure best practices are being utilized in the prevention of HIB.
- Continue to provide a school counseling program.
- Continue to engage in data analysis using myK12 (HIB management system).
  - Collaborate to analyze data in regards to types of behaviors, locations, and demographics of students involved in HIB investigations.
  - Share information with school climate teams to target needed improvements.
- Implement districtwide Week of Respect celebration as well as related programs and initiatives for promoting positive school climate.
- Collect feedback, identify goals, and develop action plans for each school through the School Climate Team.

District & School Programs & Initiatives

Programs: Second Step & In-Control

Robert Hunter: Greatness Kids Club (last year) **to Greatness Kids** (this year) **- Nurtured Heart Approach**

Copper Hill: Brave, Smart, Kind

Barley Sheaf: Rutgers - Enhancing School Mental Health Services Project through MTSS (year 3 of 3)

Francis A. Desmares: Be Safe, Kind & Respectful

RFIS: Excellence in Community, Character & Learning - Rocky's Readers & Rocky's Rockstars

JPC: Live, Learn, Roar - Student Advisory Groups, Tiger Honor Cord Project (Leadership, Upstander, Citizenship, Volunteerism)

Flemington-Raritan Regional School District

Incidents of Violence, Vandalism, Substance Use, Weapons, and Confirmed HIB

Reporting Period 2: Jan 2025 - June 2025

Dr. Clifford Burns
Acting Superintendent of Schools
Presented: October 9, 2025

Public Hearing of Incidents

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46, school districts are required to provide a public hearing on incidents reported to the New Jersey Department of Education.

The following data is based on state-mandated reports completed by our building principals. Using definitions and guidelines provided by the New Jersey Department of Education, principals are responsible for reporting all incidents of violence, vandalism, false public alarm, weapon possession, HIB (alleged and confirmed), substance use, and all other incidents leading to student removal. The reports are then submitted to the Assistant Superintendent who reviews them, and is ultimately responsible for ensuring that they are electronically submitted to the New Jersey Department of Education.

Report Period 1: September - December
Report Period 2: January - June

During the 2024-2025 school year's second reporting period, the District reported a total of 27 incidents in the following categories:

Public Hearing of Incidents

2024-2025 Reporting Period 2

School	Incident Total	Violence	Vandalism	Substances	Weapons	HIB Confirmed	HIB Alleged	Other Incidents Leading to Removal
Barley Sheaf	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Copper HIll	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Francis A. Desmares	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
Reading-Fleming	12	7	2	0	0	3	0	4
J.P. Case	11	9	0	0	0	2	2	44
Robert Hunter	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	0
Totals	27	19	2	0	0	6	9	48

Public Hearing of Incidents

2024-2025 Reporting Periods 1 & 2

School	Incident Total	Violence	Vandalism	Substances	Weapons	HIB Confirmed	HIB Alleged	Other Incidents Leading to Removal
Reporting Period 1	12	10	0	0	0	2	1	13
Reporting Period 2	27	19	2	0	0	6	9	48
2024-2025 Total	39	29	2	0	0	8	10	61
Trend (2023-2024)	-45%	-34%	-33%	-	-100%	-38%	-41%	-20%

Public Hearing of Incidents

2024-2025 Reporting Period 2

Violence	Vandalism	Other Incidents
• Simple threat • Assault on another student • Assault on a staff member • Fight	• Bathroom vandalism	• Incident involving vape • Inappropriate physical contact • Inappropriate language • Inappropriate behavior in bathroom • Insubordination & defiance • Attempt to hide in school

Threat, Simple - Attempting by physical menace (e.g., verbal threats) to put another in fear of bodily injury. The offender knew that the threat could make the victim fearful.

Assault - A person attempts to cause – or Purposely, knowingly, or recklessly causes – bodily injury to another.

Fight - Mutual engagement in a physical confrontation in which the offenders understood that the confrontation may result in bodily injury to either party. Does not include a verbal confrontation or a minor confrontation, such as a shoving match. Each participant must be classified as an offender.

Thank you!

FLEMINGTON-RARITAN
SCHOOL DISTRICT