



South Hadley's Anti-Bullying Coalition

The South Hadley School Committee is looking for volunteer students, teachers, parents, and community members to share their time and their experiences as we begin to form **South Hadley's Anti-Bullying Coalition**.

The South Hadley Public School District has existing improvement goals designed to cultivate inclusive, supportive, and effective learning opportunities across our school community. The South Hadley School Committee has worked with administration to pass a specific Civility Policy intended to ensure a "safe and nurturing environment that models respectful problem-solving," and to "maintain, to the greatest extent possible, safe and harassment-free environments for teachers, students, administrators, staff, caregivers, and other members of the community." Recently, the School Committee also published their own statement to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion and to publicly exclaim the "belief that biased actions and hateful speech have no place in our learning community."

The South Hadley School Committee members have the important job of measuring the progress toward our district objectives and monitoring the ongoing needs of our district. Part of evaluating the acquisition of these large goals will require honest and collaborative feedback and insight into the current lived experiences of our students, staff, parents, and neighbors. What does bullying look like in our schools right now? What prevention strategies do we have, and are they effective? An Anti-Bullying Coalition throughout our South Hadley Schools will help our community achieve a shared goal of cultivating empathetic and emotionally responsive citizens. It will be the mission of South Hadley's Anti-Bullying Coalition to promote the social emotional wellness of our school community members, to actively model stronger relationship-building skills across our district, and to develop a district-wide culture where there is no space for hateful interactions.

Active engagement is critical for ensuring a safe and positive school environment. Please email Danielle Cooke and Allison Schlachter with a brief statement of why you may be interested in joining the incredibly important work of the Anti-Bullying Coalition. As responses are received, additional information will be dispersed about the formation of the group and the structures of our first meetings.

Danielle Cooke, South Hadley School Committee Member
dcooke@shschools.com

Allison Schlachter, South Hadley School Committee Chairwoman
aschlachter@shschools.com