



# 2016-2017 Semi-Annual District Violence & Vandalism Report

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BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
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# Overview

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- Electronic Violence and Vandalism Reporting System (EVVRS)
    - Violence
    - Vandalism
    - Weapons
    - Substance Abuse
  - Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying - Investigations, Trainings, and Programs (HIB-ITP)
  - Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Self-Assessment (HIB Grade)
  - NHRHS Discipline Report analysis
  - Data Informed Recommendations
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# EVVRS

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- 2016-2017 District Report of Violence and Vandalism
    - Acts of Violence: 4
      - Simple assault
    - Acts of Vandalism: 0
    - Weapons offenses: 0
    - Substance Abuse: 7
      - Confirmed use of marijuana
      - Possession of drug paraphernalia
    - Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying: 5
  - Actions taken:
    - In-School Suspension: 1
    - Out of School Suspension: 11
    - Other (i.e. Saturday detention, alternative discipline, etc.): 4
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# Vaping & e-cigarettes

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- Vaping: a term used to describe the act of inhaling water vapor from an electronic cigarette or personal vaporizer.
- These products are currently legal and can be bought over the counter at any local convenience store or vape shop.
- They are also advertised as a healthy alternative to smoking tobacco.



# Vaping & e-cigarettes

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- Recent studies have revealed the harmful effects of vaping and e-cigarettes.
- **E-cigarettes are also becoming known to be used as drug paraphernalia as some vapes and cartridges contain THC.** THC is the chemical in marijuana that produces the high for users.

# 2017-2018 Action Plan

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- Classify e-cigarettes and vapes as drug paraphernalia in our Code of Conduct
  - Any student found using or in possession of an e-cigarettes will be in violation of our Drug & Alcohol Policy
  - Violations will result in suspension, student must submit to a drug & alcohol screen, and receive counseling from our Student Assistance Counselor upon returning to school.
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# HIB-ITP

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- 2016-2017 District HIB Summary Report
    - Number of Investigations: 17
    - Number of HIB Incidents 5
    - Nature of incidents varied (bullying based on race, religion, ancestry, mental or physical disability)
    - Effect of incidents was primarily insulting comments
    - Incidents took place verbally (4) and through gestures (1), as well as one physical and electronic incident
    - Responses ranged from suspension to detention and even alternative forms of discipline
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# ABR Self-Assessment

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- Also known as our HIB Grade
- Assessment conducted by our School Safety/Climate Team
- Self -Assessment is a compilation of eight Core Elements that measure how well the school and district is implementing the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights
- Core Elements Range from programs, training, reporting & investigative procedures, HIB curriculum & instruction, & staffing.
- Each Core Elements has a host of indicators that are assessed on a four point scale:
  - 0= Does not meet requirement
  - 1 = Partially meets requirement
  - 2 = Meets all requirements
  - 3 = Exceeds the requirements

Northern Highlands Regional High School District

2016-2017 ABR Self Assessment Score:

**73 of 78**

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# 2017-2018 Action Plan

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- Conduct a School Climate Survey
  - Schedule school-wide programs devoted to mentoring empathy and tolerance in students
  - Rededicate efforts and market the HIB Confidential Hotline
  - Continue and build upon existing programs that emphasize this theme.  
They include:
    - Boomerang Project
    - Week of Respect
    - Day of Silence, National Coming Out Day
    - Positive Coaching Alliance
    - Existing charitable clubs & groups
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# Discipline Report Analysis

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- Three year tracking of all disciplinary infractions within the school
  - Aimed to uncover trends and areas in need of improvement
  - Trends typically fall into three categories:
    - Positive
    - Negative
    - Misleading
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# Discipline Report Analysis

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- Positive

- Insubordination decreased this past year by 50% and is trending downward over the past three years.
- Disrespectful behavior has remained consistent but frequency of infractions remains in the range of 20 per year, averaging only two incidents per month.
- Student Misuse of the hall pass has decreased by 43% over the past three years.
- In the first year of implementing the Misuse of device infraction in line with our 1:1 initiative, we recorded 16 infractions.

- Negative

- Cutting class has increased 15% over the past three years
  - Disruptive behavior is trending upwards. Although figures are similar over the past three years, this category has crept up in frequency 17% in that time (66 total this year - averaging 6.6 per month).
  - Lateness to school and Tardy to Homeroom remains the most frequent infractions to our Code of Conduct by far. Tardy to Homeroom has increased by 20% over the past three years.
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# Discipline Report Analysis

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- Misleading
    - Smoking infractions remain steady in single digits.
    - Misuse of pass has decreased, yet cutting class has increased.
    - We suspect that students who arrive late to school and don't sign in also contributed to the high numbers of cutting class.
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# Summary of Action Plans

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- Reclassify e cigarettes as a form of drug paraphernalia.
  - Increase the consequence of first time offenders of our Drug and Alcohol Policy from three days Out of School Suspension (OSS) to five days OSS.
  - Place a scanner at the Front Desk for students to sign in after 8:15 AM. This can prevent students from not signing in upon arrival.
  - Assign more AM detentions for students who miss AM detentions.
  - Continue providing character education programs and student wellness programs that emphasize developing empathy skills and a positive self-image.
  - Add “Videotaping, photographing or recording a person without permission of staff and/or administration” as an infraction to the Student Handbook.
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# References

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- NJ Department of Education
  - 2016-2017 EVVRS / HIB-ITP Report
  - 2016-2017 ABR Self-Assessment
  - 2015-2017 Northern Highlands Annual Discipline Reports
  - 2016-2017 School Safety/Climate Team Minutes
  - Northern Highlands Regional High School District Strategic Plan
  - Ganim, S. & Zamost, S. "Vaping: The latest scourge in drug abuse." CNN. 5 September 2015.
  - Raloff, J. & Mole, B. "Vaping may harm the lungs." Science News for Students. 29 May 2015.
  - UrbanDictionary.com
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