DASA
Dignity for All Students Act

New York State has enacted legislation titled, The Dignity for All Students Act. The Dignity Act was signed into law on September 13, 2010 and took effect on July 1, 2012. Amendments to the Act went into effect on July 1, 2013. This legislation is intended to provide students with a safe and supportive environment, free from discrimination, intimidation, taunting, harassment, and bullying on school property, a school bus, and/or at a school function. It protects against all forms of harassment and discrimination, particularly those based on a student's actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, or sex.

A material incident of discrimination and/or harassment means a single incident or a series of related incidents where a student is subjected to discrimination and/or harassment by a student and/or an employee on school property or at a school function that creates a hostile environment by conduct, with or without physical contact and/or by verbal threats, intimidation or abuse, of such severe or pervasive nature that:

    a) The incident has or would have effect or interfere with a student's educational performance or emotional or physical well-being; and

    b) The incident reasonably causes or would reasonably be expected to cause a student to fear for his/her physical safety.

The legislation mandates that every school designate at least one individual to act as a Dignity Act Coordinator. Parkville's Dignity Act Coordinator is Dr. Alyson Miller. She can be reached by calling (516) 441-4386 or by email at: amiller@greatneck.k12.ny.us. If a student is the target of harassment, bullying, or discrimination on school property or at a school function, we urge that the student, the bystander, parents, or community members contact Dr. Miller and express his/her concerns.

For further information regarding The Dignity for All Students Act, please go to:
http://www.p12.nysed.gov/dignityact