

# NOTES FROM BRENDA

## Conference Call

Tuesday, November 9, 2004

### Bully Police USA - Folder Contents

(OR, what to take with you when you talk about bullying)

- 1) Report from Bully Police USA - Can be taken off [www.bullypolice.org](http://www.bullypolice.org), front page, in pdf format.)
- 2) Laws Around the Country (Michigan proposed law - <http://michiganlegislature.org/documents/2003-2004/billintroduced/house/pdf/2003-HIB-4957.pdf>; West Virginia law - [http://www.bullypolice.org/wv\\_law.html](http://www.bullypolice.org/wv_law.html); Washington law (that has comment) [http://www.bullypolice.org/wa\\_law.html](http://www.bullypolice.org/wa_law.html); Other law of choice
- 3) Kennewick School District Anti Bullying Policy
- 4) (Optional) Fight Crime - Invest in Kids: Report (<http://www.fightcrime.org> under [View full report \(PDF\)](#) )
- 5) Personal Story or Story from a victim in your State (Google news alerts are another source)
- 6) Estimates of Children Involved in Bullying (can be obtained from the Bully Police Report or <http://www.bullypolice.org/BullyingNumbers.pdf>)

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Get on the Google News Alerts for: "*school bullying (your state)*" and "*anti bullying law (your state)*". To do this go to [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) and click on "News." Look on the left side and click on "News Alerts," then fill in the blanks. You can also click on this link to go directly to the alerts page - <http://www.google.com/alerts?q=&hl=en>

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- 1) Get (and bookmark) all State Legislative & State Senate Education Committee Chairs and members.

Go to Google -> type in your **state** and **legislature** (example: **Washington legislature**) something like this will show up:


[Washington State Legislature Home Page](#)

the **Legislature** is currently not in session. It is scheduled to convene for the 2005 Regular Session on January 10, 2005. ... **LEGISLATIVE DOCUMENTS AND MATERIALS,**

Look for Member information or Committee assignments - example:

 **MEMBER INFORMATION** 



 [House and Senate Member Rosters](#)

## 0 Member E-Mail Address Lists

### **Example:**

**(HOUSE) Education (11)**

**Quall, Chair (D); McDermott, Vice Chair (D); \*Talcott; \*\*Tom; Anderson; Cox; Haigh; Hunter; McMahan; Rockefeller; Santos**

**(SENATE) Education (8)**

**Johnson, Chair; Finkbeiner, Vice Chair; \*McAuliffe; Carlson; Eide; Pflug; Rasmussen; Schmidt**

Then go to email information for each of your Education members and record them in your email address book.

2) Contact State Legislative & Senate Education Committee Chairs. Email your story or someone else's story to your Education Committee email list every week. Think of this as "righteous" spam. Give your friends all their email addresses and ask them to do the same.

3) After three or four emails, call and set appointments to visit with the Committee Chairs, State House and State Senate.

4) Take friends as well as a high profile ally to take with you. (Some ideas might be a well-known football player, a State beauty queen, the Fire Captain, a favorite local star - think BIG).

If your State is controlled by one political party, Republican or Democrat, it might be helpful to bring a well liked political ally with you. (Remember, however, that bullying is NOT a partisan activity.)

5) When visiting legislators, take the folder contents (above) and give them copies. Lawmakers love having examples of laws from other States, as this will save them time when they are re-writing for their own State law. ([www.bullypolice.org](http://www.bullypolice.org))

6) Set and hold a meeting with parents and other interested people at a local library or community center. Get your newspaper to do a story on your meeting and how you plan to organize a committee to help get a law passed to help bullied kids. Post your meeting times in colleges and community centers around the area. (Don't worry about numbers - If you can get about 20 people to your meeting, you have done really well.)

7) Bring a Legislator to your meeting. Have them speak for a few minutes on how to lobby for a law and why laws are important.

8) Write letters to the editor about the anti bullying cause.

9) Have an informal visit with the State Education Superintendent and talk about what a good law might look like. Talk about programs and policies that schools can implement with very little cost. ([www.powerofonefoundation.org](http://www.powerofonefoundation.org)) ([www.fightcrime.org](http://www.fightcrime.org))

10) Don't be afraid to meet with the Governor, Congressmen, U.S. Senator's and other higher office elected individuals. Their influence

and support can be very important. I know this thought scares most people, but just remember, these people spit in the sink when they brush their teeth, just like everyone else (assuming they brush their teeth ;-} ).

To see what a good law would include go to [www.bullypolice.org/grade.html](http://www.bullypolice.org/grade.html)

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**COMING SOON: THE PERFECT LAW**

THIS SHOULD BE POSTED ON BULLYPOLICE.ORG BY SUNDAY NIGHT, NOVEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>.

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**States that have laws - How to get your district to enforce the State Law**

1. Copy off your State law from the [www.bullypolice.org](http://www.bullypolice.org) website and a copy of the Kennewick School District policy on the bully police website (Example of a School [Anti Bullying Policy](#)).
2. Call your school district office and request a copy of your anti bullying policy. *(If there is a policy than pick up a copy of the policy and present it to the principal of your school and ask him to comply with the school policies on bullying. Violating school policy can lead to lawsuits.)*
3. If there is no policy, request to be put on the agenda for your next school board meeting.
4. Call your local newspaper and tell them what you are doing. Ask them to do a story on bullying before the school board meeting.
5. At the Board Meeting, give copies of the State law and Kennewick policy to all board members and the superintendent.
6. Ask that the School Board Members uphold the State law and get an anti bullying policy enacted.
7. Volunteer to be on the Committee that will write the policy.
8. Hint: Always talk positive about your School District's efforts to stop bullying, even if it does not appear so at times. Don't "burn your bridges".
9. If there is blatant violation with absolutely no efforts to comply with the law, the next step is to call the State Superintendent's office, the newspapers and your lawmakers.
10. **Be tenacious!** It's not just your child you are fighting for but also many children whose parents cannot or will not fight for their child's rights.