



Tracking Bullying & Cyberbullying in PowerSchool

The new release of incident management (August 2012) includes the ability to track incidents specific to cyberbullying. This will provide more information on both the incidence of bullying & cyberbullying and the effectiveness of the various interventions, programs, and strategies used to address them.

Tracking bullying incidents has always been part of the incident tracking functionality - now you can track the **behaviour** behind the bullying, or cyberbullying.

For example:

- A student reports to an administrator or a teacher that another student has been texting others about their appearance or looks. This type of incident is recorded in PowerSchool as a behaviour type, 'cyberbullying.'
- You're recording a fighting incident that occurred in the cafeteria. You learn that the student was fighting because of something the other student posted on the Internet. When recording this incident in PowerSchool, you choose 'physical violence' for behavior type and select multiple locations – 'cafeteria' for where the fight happened and 'Internet/technology media' to identify cyberbullying as a sub-component of the incident.

In each of these examples, the administrator would examine the situation presented to determine the most appropriate actions required to support the students involved.

In addition, we can now collect information on the **contributing factor(s)** related to an incident. For each severely disruptive incident that is captured, you can choose one or more contributing factors – such as race, gender, disabilities and sexual orientation. This will enable us to make correlations between severely disruptive behaviours and their contributing factors.

Wording Changes in PowerSchool

In order for the language in PowerSchool to be consistent with the *Education Act*, Regulations and the *Provincial School Code of Conduct and School Code of Conduct Guidelines*, we've made changes to the wording used in PowerSchool.

All references to 'Minors Incidents' have been updated to 'Disruptive Behaviour Incidents' and 'Major Referrals' have been updated to 'Severely Disruptive Behaviours'.

For More Information

A complete list of changes included in this release of incident tracking functionality is outlined in the document *iNSchool Incident Tracking R3 Release Notes 20 Aug 2012*. For more information, go to www.inschool.ednet.ns.ca or control click here:

<http://www.inschool.ednet.ns.ca/sites/default/files/iNSchool%20Incident%20Tracking%20R3%20Release%20Notes%20v03.pdf>