Request a bullying prevention and intervention training session from NEA at www.nea.org/neabullyfree (there is a training link). Work with your local affiliate to ensure these trainings are scheduled at times that are convenient for technical services ESPs to attend along with other school staff.

Become involved in bullying prevention teams, committees and other activities at your school or Education Association.

Offer training to Association members on online etiquette, safety, cyberbullying and sexting.

Initiate meetings with other staff to share concerns about bullying in general or specific students in particular.

Resources

www.nea.org/neabullyfree
NEA’s official website for the NEA Bully Free: It Starts with Me campaign.

www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/letters/colleague-201010.html
Guidance on bullying from the U.S. Department of Education.

www.pta.org/bullying.asp
National PTA guide on safeguarding children from bullying.

www.nea.org/home/3207.htm
NEA’s official website for the NEA Bully Free: It Starts with Me campaign.

www.stopbullyingnow.samhsa.gov
The host organization of this website, the National Cyber Security Alliance, noted in October 2012 that it is working with the National Cybersecurity Education Council (NCEC) to formally institute and promote cyber security education programs in K-12 schools, higher education, and career and technical education environments nationwide.

http://www.onguardonline.gov
This website of the Federal Trade Commission provides PDFs of an excellent booklet, Net Cetera, about keeping youth safe online.

http://www.netsmartz.org
The NetSmartz Workshop is an interactive resource from the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and Boys & Girls Clubs of America.

References


Highlights of their responses are presented on the next page.
Cyberbullying includes sending or posting harmful material or engaging in other forms of social aggression using the Internet or other digital devices. Sexting is a term coined by the media, merging the terms sex and texting. It includes sending or forwarding sexually explicit photos, videos or messages from a mobile phone or other digital device.

What Technical Services ESPs Said

Students and parents tell them about bullying. Approximately 43% of tech services ESPs surveyed said bullying was a major or a moderate problem in their school.

They witness bullying. Tech services ESPs were less likely than other ESPs to report seeing a student being bullied at their school. Still, about 10% of them reported witnessing it as frequently as several times a month, and 5% saw bullying daily.

Tech services ESPs are less likely to hear reports of bullying from students than most other ESPs. Approximately 11% of the tech services ESPs surveyed indicated that a student reported bullying to them within the past month.

A majority of tech services ESPs say it’s “their job” to intervene in bullying situations.

They feel it’s their job to intervene. A majority of tech service ESPs surveyed—76%—report that it is “their job” to intervene when they see bullying situations.

To Prevent Bullying

✔ Treat students the way you want to be treated and the way you want them to treat each other.
✔ Encourage students to use peaceful, non-aggressive ways to resolve bullying.
✔ Focus on developing empathy and respect.
✔ Use positive, non-verbal interactions—a smile, a nod, a thumbs up, a high five, a pat on the back.
✔ Notice something positive the students do and say something about it to them or someone else where they can hear it.
✔ Don’t expect students to solve bullying incidents themselves; they lack the skills.
✔ Encourage students to report incidents of bullying to you and other adults.
✔ Create online ways for students to report all instances of bullying.
✔ Request ongoing training on the latest technology-related issues, so tech services staff can stay ahead of the students.
✔ Tech services ESPs, once trained themselves, can provide training on online etiquette, cyberbullying and sexting to other school staff.
✔ Maintain a log of cyberbullying and sexting incidents, shared with administrators for their follow up.
✔ Become familiar with the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA), and ensure school administrators are also familiar with the law.
✔ Routinely update the CIPA required school Internet use policy.

To Intervene in Bullying

✔ Become familiar with the Broadband Data Improvement Act (BDIA), especially Title II, the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act, and ensure school administrators are also familiar with the law.
✔ Increase the role of tech services staff in “educating minors about appropriate online behavior,” required by the BDIA.

Seek input and collect data from other school staff to whom students go for support.

Visit www.nea.org/neabollyfree, a good go-to source for resources about how to help bullied students and how to prevent bullying in your school.

Inform Yourself and Your Association

Sources: U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Health & Human Services