

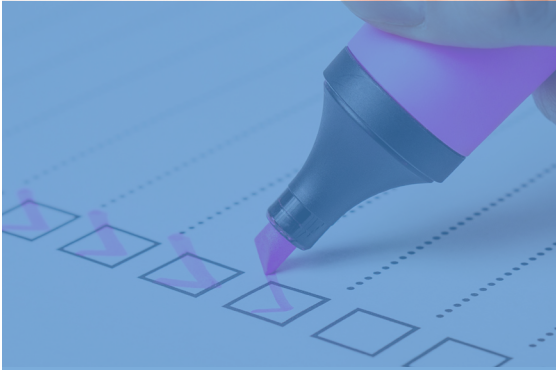


Planned Walkouts or Disruptions

IN HIGH SCHOOLS

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Planned Walkouts or Disruptions IN HIGH SCHOOLS



When there is a protest or walkout planned at your high school that is anti-Israel, antisemitic, or pro-terrorist, it is helpful to be prepared. To ensure that your school is protecting and supporting you—or can be held accountable for failure to do so—it is critical to take the following specific steps:

Before the walkout or protest

Document all materials announcing the event. Take pictures or screenshots if you can within the bounds of your school's phone policies.

- » Pay special attention to the social media accounts posting about the walkout—are they students? Staff members? Outside organizations? Report to the school that is behind the event.

Student conduct: Review the student code of conduct and district board policies for rules on:

- » the use of technology, including email, social media, and the internet, on or off campus, that impacts the educational environment or other students' rights
- » student safety
- » student socio-emotional and mental health support
- » student behaviors, including banned activities
- » how to report misconduct—who to go to, how to file, and what to include in a report

Attendance: Review the student code of conduct and district board policies on attendance

- » What is an excused absence or tardy; what is unexcused?

Document your specific concerns in writing.

- » Communicate by email or through your school's online harassment reporting form

- » Report to the appropriate district or school contact
- » Include pictures, videos, and related posts
- » Cite specific student safety and/or harassment, intimidation, bullying rules
- » Make a clear request. Use the language from the code of conduct or board policies – i.e., “When I saw [insert], I felt [scared/worried/unable to focus on classes] because [insert]. Or “I am [scared/worried] that this event will cause [insert] to happen at school because the post/email/text specifically said [insert], which means [insert] to my Jewish identity.”
- » Focus on threatening language, biased language, or language that incites fear or violence. For example, references to the Holocaust (e.g., concentration camps, Nazis, Heil Hitler salutes, swastikas) or antisemitic comments about Jews or Israelis are probably hate speech and should be reported.

If you choose to not go to school on the day of the walkout or plan to leave school early, you or your parent/guardian should notify school/district leadership and HIB personnel, in writing, noting specifically that you are missing school because you feel unsafe due to your Jewish identity.



NO!

During the walkout or protest

- » **Document the event**, but only if you can do so without being threatening or intrusive and can comply with the school's code of conduct. For example, if your school has a full ban on phone use during school, do not use a phone to record a disruptive event during school hours.
 - » Focus specifically on any disruptions caused to the school day; inappropriate language, clothing, or signs involved; confrontations; any type of exclusionary practice – e.g., blocking entrances to a part of the school or refusing to allow Jewish, Israeli and/or Zionist students/faculty to pass.
 - » Document the involvement of school or district teachers or staff members.
- » Do not engage with the event or its participants in any way that would violate the code of conduct. For example, do not physically harass any of the participants of the event, do not rip down any event posters, or use hateful speech in response.
- » Contact campus security or the police if you feel physically unsafe.
- » Keep track of how much class time was missed or impacted due to the disruptive event – for example, “20 minutes of history class” or “entire homeroom period cancelled.”

After the walkout or protest

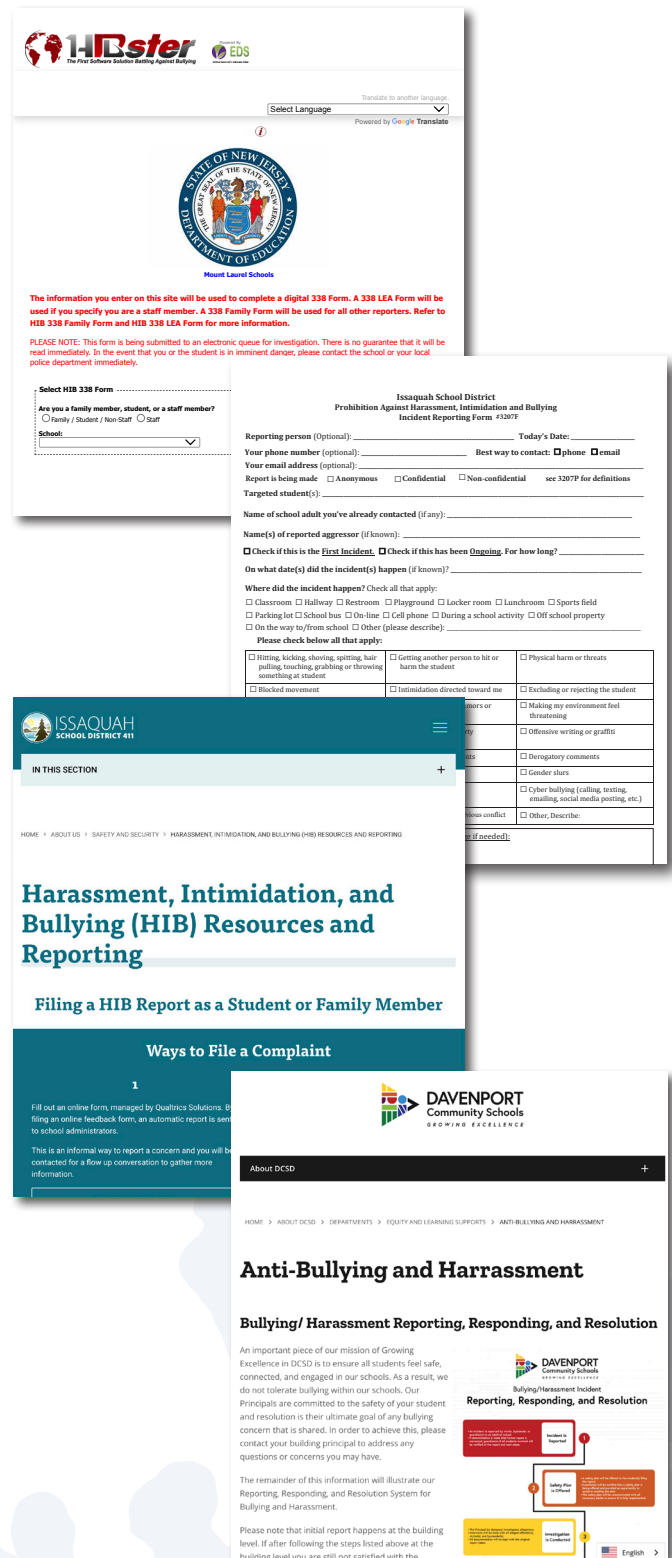
Save any emails or announcements from school or district personnel about the event. Did the protestors get praised? Did the communication accurately reflect what happened? Were there social or academic repercussions for participating/? What did student groups, teachers, or administrators post on social media after the event?

Partner with other students to combine relevant documentation and submit to your school/district leadership a strong statement of concern, stating:

- » The specific facts about the event
- » Relevant school policies
- » Impact of the event on you and other students (ex: we are scared, we were intimidated, we don't want to come to school until this is addressed, we want our classmates to learn about the hateful speech they were using)
- » Impact of the event on your access to your classes or other school programming (ex, I missed my math class because it was too loud in the classroom during the protest, so the teacher stopped instruction)
- » A request for an immediate meeting to discuss your experiences and come up with an action plan
- » Specific requests from the school or district, along with a timeline. For example, "We respectfully request that the district's administrators immediately meet with a StandWithUs representative about how to incorporate antisemitism into the DEI program," etc.

Submit a formal HIB incident complaint/report with your school/district. That formal complaint should be on your district's website, or you can ask for it from the HIB Coordinator. StandWithUs can help you find and complete it. To the right are examples of school district HIB pages, complaint forms, and policies.

- » Follow up with your HIB Coordinator if you have not heard back after the district's set time. This can be found in your school district's Board Policies. It usually takes 1-2 weeks for the district to respond to an HIB complaint.



FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS OR TO REPORT AN ANTISEMITIC INCIDENT, PLEASE VISIT
www.standwithus.com/report-an-antisemitic-incident

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