

State agencies offer webinar series to combat bullying and improve school climate

ODE and several statewide agencies that have formed the Ohio Anti-Harassment, Anti-Intimidation and Anti-Bullying Initiative (HIB) are sponsoring a series of 10 one-hour webinar sessions beginning **Aug. 3**. The webinars will be held at 3 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month through May and at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 19, during School Bus Safety Week.

School professionals, parents and community support personnel are encouraged to participate in each session, which will be presented by content experts from each sponsoring agency on topics including policy implementation and supports, cyber safety, legal ramifications, schoolwide interventions, teen dating violence prevention and girl aggression. Ohio's Anti-HIB Initiative speakers will represent ODE, the Attorney General's Office, eTech Ohio, the Ohio Domestic Violence Network and the departments of Mental Health; Health; and Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services.

Each webinar will accommodate the first 100 participants who register, beginning 30 minutes before each program. The webinars will be recorded and posted on this web page: <http://www.education.ohio.gov/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=3&TopicRelationID=435&ContentID=29364>, where visitors may link to webinars the day of each event. Questions may be directed to Jill Jackson at jill.jackson@ode.state.oh.us or (614) 466-9540.