

# **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

BUSINESS MEETING  
JANUARY 2017



# AGENDA

- **2016 Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying (HIB) Incidents**
- **2016 Electronic Violence, Vandalism, and Substance Abuse (EVSVA) Incidents**

# 2016 HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, BULLYING (HIB) INCIDENTS

# BULLYING: “HIB” DEFINITION

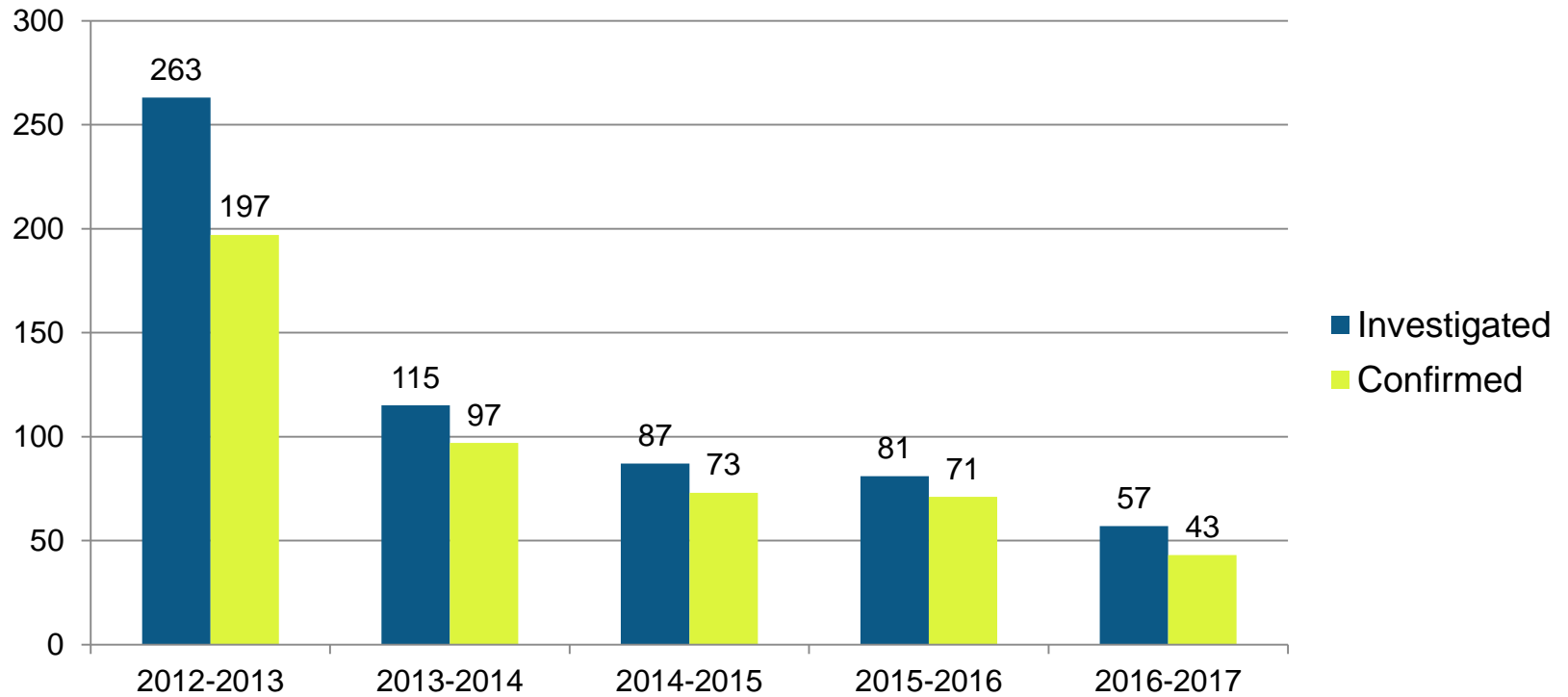
- **Harassment, intimidation, or bullying (HIB)** is any action that is reasonably perceived as being motivated by a characteristic (such as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or a mental, physical or sensory disability) that takes place on school property and/or at any school-sponsored function that has the effect of:
  - Offender knew action would physically or emotionally cause harm to the victim or damage to the victim’s property
  - Victim in fear of physical or emotional harm or damage to personal property
  - Insulting or demeaning a student or group of students
  - Creating a hostile educational environment by severely or pervasively causing physical or emotional harm to the student
  - Interfered with victim’s education

# NJDOE RECENT UPDATES

- **Article 8.6 Hazing:** Article revised to further clarify that harassment, intimidation or bullying may constitute hazing, a criminal offense, and the reporting requirements between school officials and law enforcement
- **Article 8.7 Cyber Harassment:** Article added to specify the rules of the NJ criminal code that now includes a separate and distinct offense for cyber-harassment, targeting online communication meant to harm, annoy or threaten another, and the special conditions for juvenile cyber-harassment offenders
- **Article 8.9 Coordination of HIB and Criminal Investigations:** Revised article expands information provided in the previous Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to add specific provisions when an HIB investigation and criminal investigation intersect. Clarifies when a school district should suspend or “stay” its investigation while adhering to the spirit of the Anti-Bullying of Rights Act (N.J.S.A 18A:37:14 et. seq)

In addition, educators and law enforcement officers should work together to address the sharp rise in “swatting” incidents. Swatting is the act of placing a false report of an ongoing emergency with a 9-1-1 operator, tricking that operator into dispatching heightened response units-such as bomb squads or SWAT teams-to a certain address

# HIB FOUR-YEAR DATA COMPARISON



2016-17 includes data available for year to date (Fall 2016)

# HIB ANALYSIS AND REDUCTION STRATEGIES

## Analysis of Trends:

- Since 2012, the reported cases of HIB continue to decrease
- This can be attributed to a combination of more accurate reporting of this data, as well as to a number of reduction strategies undertaken by NPS

## Reduction Strategies Include:

1. An Increase in NPS School-Based Prevention Programming
  - For example: conflict resolution and mediation, restorative practices and anti-bullying rallies
2. Implementing the “Week of Respect” & “Violence Awareness Week”
3. Conducting Ongoing Trainings
  - Continued professional development for NPS HIB Anti-Bullying School Specialists
  - HIB remediation and suicide prevention training
  - HIB training for NPS Security Guards, Family Engagement Specialists, and Parents
  - NPS-wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) training for the Office of Safety and Security Services
  - Specialized training on how to conduct HIB investigations

# **2016 ELECTRONIC VIOLENCE, VANDALISM, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE (EVSVA) INCIDENTS**

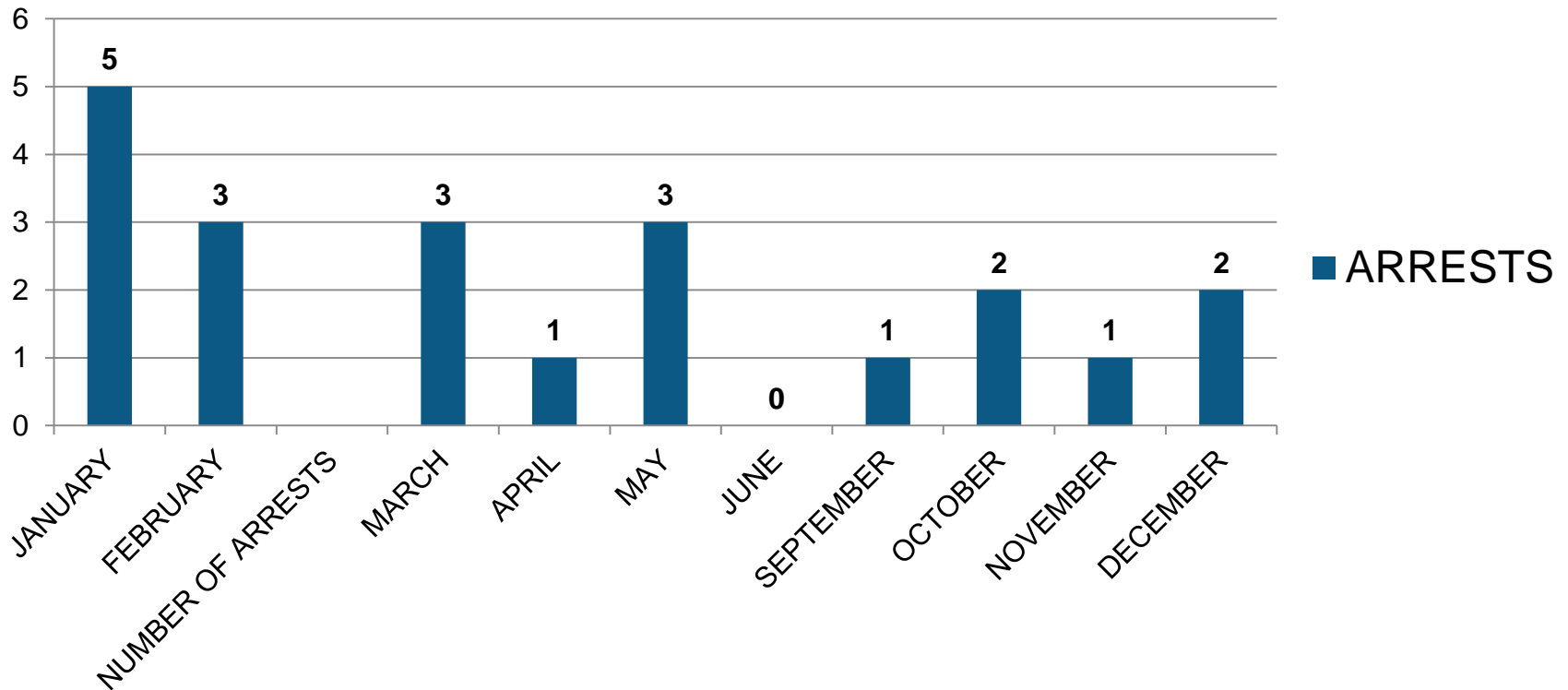


# NPS EVVSA REPORTING AND DEFINITION

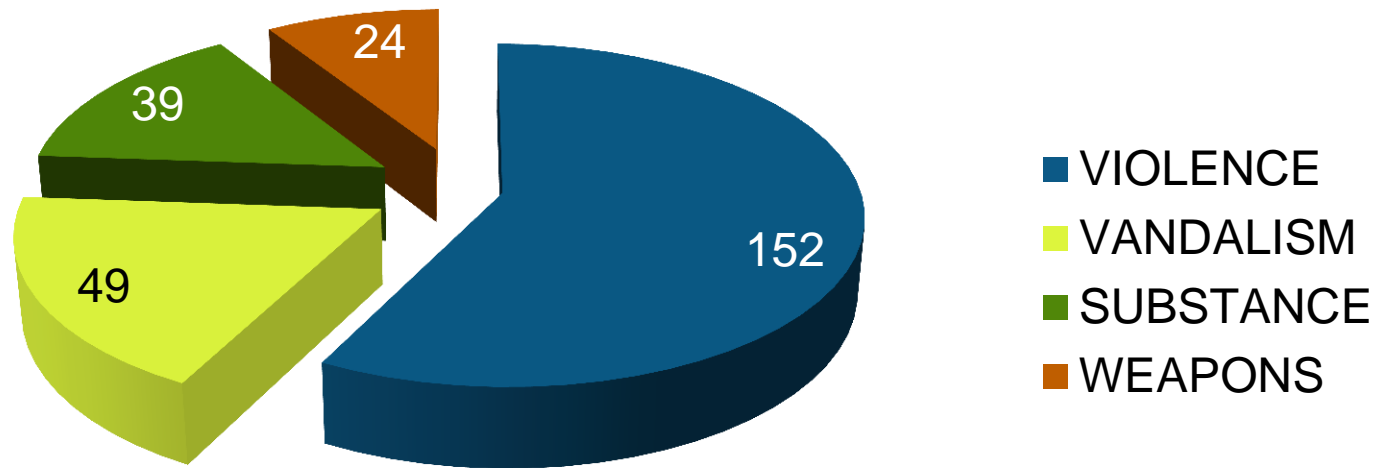
- The Electronic Violence, Vandalism, and Substance Abuse (EVVSA) is a State-mandated reporting system used to report **incidents occurring on school grounds or during school events**
- Components of the report include:
  - Violence
  - Vandalism related incidents
  - Weapon related incidents
  - Substance offenses

# 2016 EVVSA ARREST INCIDENTS

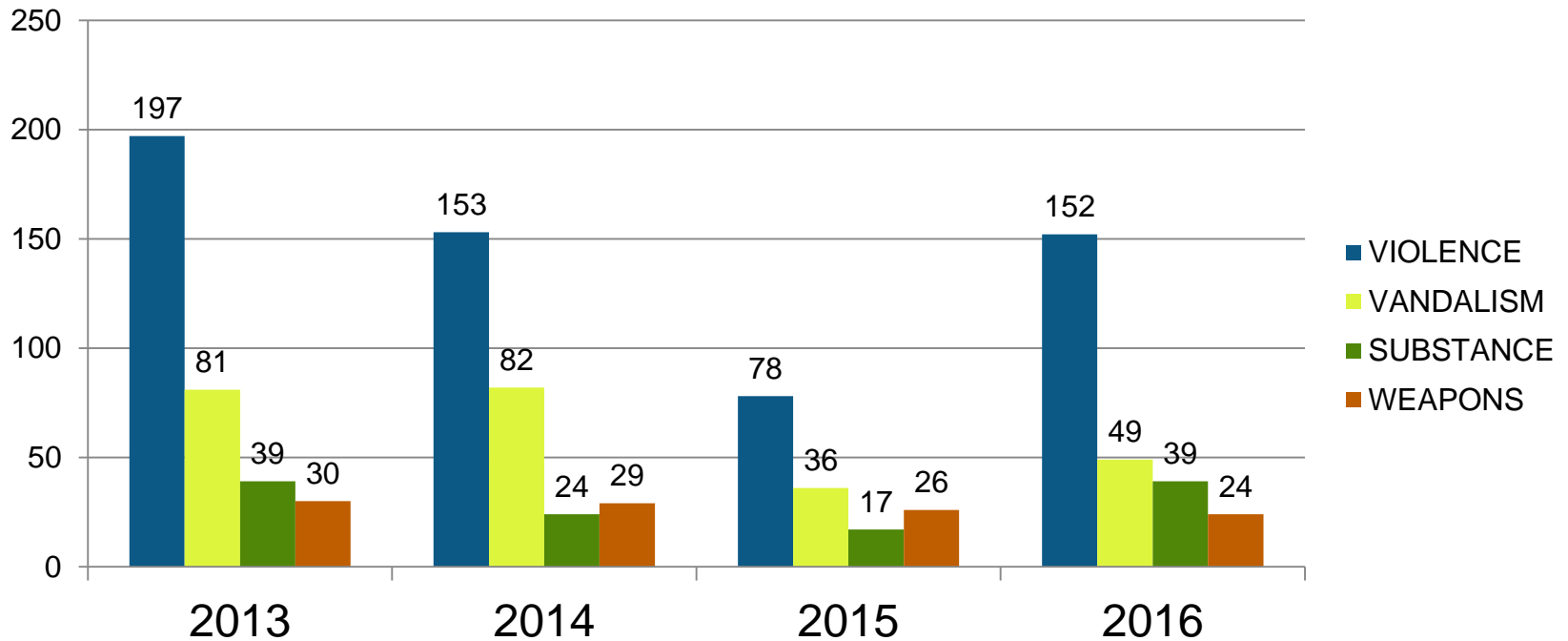
NUMBER OF ARRESTS



# INCIDENT REPORT FOR JANUARY - DECEMBER 2016



# SECURITY FOUR-YEAR DATA COMPARISON AND ANALYSIS



- Under-reporting may have contributed to the one-year dip in incidents reported in 2015
- Otherwise, 2016 data looks roughly similar to previous years

# SECURITY REDUCTION STRATEGIES

- **Implementation of new protocols, partnerships, and strategic planning will contribute to the reduction of incidents:**
  - Annual Training of School Safety Officers, Security Guards, and School Administrators
  - Addressing restorative practices (facilitating student conflict resolution and mediation)
  - Office of Safety and Security Services will continue to work proactively with Law Enforcement partners
  - Modify staffing levels in response to frequent incidents