

July 31, 2018

Dear Parents and Families,

At Six to Six, we are always working to ensure our school is a positive and encouraging place to learn.

You have probably noticed signs in our hallways and classrooms regarding Rocky's Way (Respectful, Responsible, and Safe) or the TMMS Way (Treating Myself and others with respect, Mindful of my behavior, Motivated to Learn, and Serving My School and Community) which are the behavioral expectations for our students. These signs are part of our community's work to prevent any inappropriate behaviors or actions through the implementation of a Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) system at our school. This system is comprised of 7 components which teach students to be mindful of their behaviors and supportive of each other. They include;

1. Designing the physical space & schedule
2. Teaching classroom expectations
3. Establishing classroom routines
4. Utilizing consequences
5. Pre-Correcting problem behavior
6. Correcting problem behavior
7. Providing quality instruction to engage and support students

It is our goal that this system, coupled with our Responsive Classroom practices, which are also proactive, help our students to internalize positive behaviors and act appropriately.

However, when inappropriate behaviors occur it is important for us to be informed immediately. One example of this would be bullying behaviors. Your child may anonymously report acts of bullying to any school employee including his or her teacher, other educational personnel (e.g., school nurse, school psychologist), non-certified staff member (i.e. educational instructor, secretary) and /or program administrator. Please encourage your son/daughter to make such reports, if they feel they have been bullied or if they have witnessed another student being bullied. Bullying behavior is prohibited by our student discipline policy/codes of conduct and may lead to disciplinary action, including suspension from school.

The current law defines "bullying" as the repeated use by one or more students of a written, verbal, or electronic communication, such as cyberbullying, or a physical act or gesture directed at another student in the same school district that: (A) Causes physical or emotional harm to the student or damage to the student's property, (B) places the student in reasonable fear of harm to himself or herself, or of damage to his or her property, (C) creates a hostile environment at school for such student (a hostile environment is a situation in which bullying among students is sufficiently severe or pervasive as to alter the conditions of the school climate), (D) infringes on the rights of the student at school, or (E) substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of a school.

We are fully aware that incidents of bullying are rarely committed in view of the supervising adults. Victims are most vulnerable in situations beyond the eyes of adults, such as, playground, buses, restrooms, and bus stops. The most likely adult to be informed by a victim is the parent. Parents are often reticent to inform the school however, without parent input, the school personnel are uninformed and therefore, unable to intervene to stop this behavior. It is important that the school staff and the parents work together to protect the safe environment of the school. For these reasons, we ask that parents/guardians immediately inform school administration of suspected bullying behavior directed against your child so we can act to remedy the situation.

We encourage you to review the Safe School Climate Plan and we thank you for your understanding of this important matter. As the safe school climate coordinator, I would be happy to answer questions at any time. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Robyn D. Proto
Safe School Climate Coordinator
Assistant Principal