

## **Harrassment, Intimidation and Bullying Presentation Q&A**

### **Question: What is the difference between reporting and tattling**

**Answer:** Tattling is telling something with the intention of getting someone in trouble. Reporting is telling something with the intention of getting someone out of trouble.

We understand that kids are fearful of reporting bullying situations because they don't want to be seen as a tattle-tale. As we work to create a school culture that does not tolerate bullying we will focus on the powerful role of the bystander. We want kids to be respected for reporting behaviors that they know are wrong, especially if those behaviors are physically or emotionally hurting them or someone else. Both schools will be working with the students to teach them the difference between reporting and tattling, as well as provide students with other strategies to stand up to bullies.

It is important for parents to have a discussion with their children about the difference between reporting and tattling. Encourage your children to report incidences themselves and to report them soon after an incident occurs. The counselors are more able to effectively do their job if the report is given soon after the incident occurs.

### **Question : How are specific classroom issues/conflicts addressed?**

**Answer:** Both counselors continue to work with the classroom teachers to assist in needs-based and targeted lessons. Conflict mediation is also utilized as needed.

### **Question: Where does the information/report go after the HIB investigation process is complete?**

**Answer:** A copy of the report is placed in the student's permanent record. The district policy continues to align itself with the state law with regard to maintenance/storage and dispersal of HIB reports.

### **Question: What are the consequences for students who commit an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying?**

**Answer:** There are no set standard of consequences for students who commit an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. The district seeks to impose developmentally appropriate consequences and the Principals' of both schools will take in mind a variety of factors when determining consequences and remedial measures.

**Question: Where or who could parents go to find more specific information and resources regarding activities and conversations to have with their students at home?**

**Answer:** In addition to the resources listed on the HIB PowerPoint presentation, both counselors have additional resources on their websites. Both counselors are also willing to meet with parents to further discuss any questions or to provide additional resources/suggestions.

**Question: How can parents get involved in activities and prevention initiatives?**

**Answer:** Developing a consistent approach between the school and homes of our students is an ultimate goal for the district. At present time parents are encouraged to have conversations with their children regarding school climate and student concerns. As stated previously parents should continue to encourage students to report incidents to staff as they occur. Moving forward we hope to develop opportunities to increase parent involvement in student activities.

**Ms. Ford and Ms. Peirson want to thank everyone who attended the PTO meeting. We understand that this is an on-going discussion and look forward to working with the PTO in the future. Please feel free to contact Ms. Ford or Ms. Peirson with any questions or concerns.**