

October, 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Olweus Bullying Prevention Programs is in full motion for year two in the elementary schools, middle and high schools in our school district. Creative and exciting kick-off activities, planned by the Olweus Coordinating Committees in each school, have been conducted, and the message of saying “**no**” to bullying has been established.

Over the course of the next several months, teachers in all schools will conduct weekly class meetings (groups of approximately 20 students). These meetings are the benchmark of the program, and through them, the four Bully Free Rules (listed below) will be discussed, along with activities to reinforce each rule. In addition, teachers will use the data collected in the spring questionnaire taken by the students to stress areas of concern.

Role playing will be a major component in the activities, which will include the various individuals involved in a bullying situation, such as the bully, followers, disengaged onlookers and defenders. Teachers will use positive and negative consequences for following and not following the four bully free rules. In addition, positive procedures and proactive strategies to a bullying situation will be presented if one should occur. As class meetings progress, community building, specific school issues and the school district character attribute of the month will be other topics developed.

Working cooperatively as teachers, parents, students and our community as a whole, with the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program as our guide, we will continue to foster the ideal of “**doing the right thing**” and saying “**no**” to bullying.

Bully Free Rules

- ❖ **We will not bully others.**
- ❖ **We will help others who are being bullied.**
- ❖ **We will include other students who are left out.**
- ❖ **If we know that somebody is being bullied, we will tell an adult at school and an adult at home.**

Sincerely,

Mr. Johnson
Principal, Hyde Elementary

Mr. Martonik
MAPS/Olweus Coordinator