

West Windsor – Plainsboro Regional School District



2014-2015 Violence and Vandalism Report

Mission Statement

WW-P is committed to providing all students with a safe learning environment that is free from harassment, intimidation, and bullying (HIB). This commitment is an integral part of our comprehensive efforts to provide learning, and to prevent and eliminate all forms of HIB through the following practices: adhering to the 2011 New Jersey Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights legislation; training all staff to identify, report, and address HIB behaviors in a timely fashion; and proactively educating parents, students, Board of Education members, and the community to establish HIB expectations and the communication of our commitment to safety and respectful behavior for all.

Week of Respect Activities

October 5-9, 2015

- The week of October 5th – 9th was designated as the **Week of Respect** in accordance with the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights. School districts throughout the state are required to observe the week by providing age appropriate instruction focusing on preventing **Harassment, Intimation or Bullying**.

Elementary Activities

IT TAKES A WHOLE SCHOOL TO STOP BULLYING!

DUTCH NECK SCHOOL

- Morning Announcement – The theme of Respect will be highlighted each morning during announcements.
- Be Kind Banner – As we have in the past, the children will sign a **Be Kind...It's the Dexter Way** banner throughout the week.
- Monday, 5th – World Day of Bullying Prevention – Wear a Blue shirt!
- **Tuesday, 6th** – Students will fill out a ruler with the sentence, "I follow the Golden Rule by _____"
- **Wednesday, 7th** – Show our Diversity – Students and staff wear tie-dye or rainbow colors to school.
- **Thursday, 8th** –Poem read during announcements with Resect theme.
- **Friday, 9th** – Respect the Environment – Students and Staff wear green today. Clean out desks, go on nature walk, visit the garden.

Elementary Activities

MAURICE HAWK SCHOOL

- Our daily announcement will focus specifically on respect for others.
- We will have daily themes related to bring respectful.
 - Monday- ***“Orange” you glad we’re a bully free school?***- Wear orange clothing
 - Tuesday- ***Team up against bullying-*** Wear team jerseys or uniforms
 - Wednesday- ***I’m too bright to bully-*** Wear bright colors
 - Thursday- ***Sock-it to bullying-*** Wear crazy or mismatched socks
 - Friday- ***Hats off to being respectful-*** Wear a hat to school
- Win-Win guideline posters will be placed in every classroom and in the hallways of Hawk School.
- Morning Meetings will include review of Win-Win guidelines and discussion.
- Each class will recite and sign an anti-bullying pledge.
- The school counselor will continue to present lessons concentrated on conflict resolution, friendship and acceptance.
- Grade level anti-bullying presentations will have been presented to all students by this week with a focus on being kind, respectful and making good choices.
- Students will show respect for each other when they participate in teambuilding activities on Field Day this month.

Elementary Activities

TOWN CENTER

- Powerpoint with daily challenges/discussions to review during morning meeting
- Daily Announcements over the loudspeaker or Gator News about Respect
- Anti-Bullying Pledge: students will sign the TC Anti-Bullying Pledge
- Classroom Read-Alouds
- Classroom Guidance lessons on Respect/Tolerance/Empathy during the month of October

Monday: Wear a blue t-shirt for “National Stomp Out Bullying Day”

Tuesday: Respect Yourself

Wednesday: Respect Others

Challenge→give someone a compliment

Thursday: Show Respect in School (Wear school colors)

Challenge→help someone in your class

Friday: Respect the Environment

Challenge→do something to take care of the environment

Elementary Activities

Wicoff School

The character education theme for September/October is *Teamwork*. This will be incorporated throughout lesson plans, counselor visits and school wide activities.

Wicoff will participate in *National Walk Your Child to School Day* on October 7th in coordination with the Plainsboro Police Department. The students will make posters with safety tips which will be displayed along the route of the walk. Staff will emphasize respect for community members during this activity. An assembly program will follow which will be led by the Mayor of Plainsboro and representatives from the Police Department.

Wake Up Wicoff – Students will make weekly announcements over the loudspeaker incorporating quotes dealing with respect.

Every Friday the principal will lead the school in the *Pledge of Allegiance* and discuss respect and share quotes, poems, etc.

We will kick-off our Bus Buddies Program (bus safety) on October 6th.

The guidance counselor will share important information regarding anti-bullying through classroom lessons and the guidance website.

Coordinated efforts with the PTA assembly chairperson to hold an anti-bullying assembly in Oct.

Morning meetings will be initiated with various topics including “respect”.

The guidance counselor will teach anti-bullying lessons in each of the classrooms. The focus will be on respecting each other. This is a follow-up to the grade level anti-bullying presentations facilitated by the principal and guidance counselor on Friday, September 25th.

The guidance counselor and principal facilitated an anti-bullying presentation for the staff at the first faculty meeting.

The guidance counselor and principal will facilitate an anti-bullying presentation for parents during Back to School Nights on Sept. 9th and 10th.

The guidance counselor and principal will meet with the lunch aides and reinforce conflict resolution/peacemaking skills and anti-bullying information on Sept. 3rd.

Review ideas for Week of Respect with staff at the faculty meeting on Oct. 5th.

Elementary Activities

Millstone River School

- The Counselors will begin visiting classrooms beginning October 5th to facilitate a lesson focusing on respect for self and others.
- Information pertaining to respect followed by a respect “challenge” will be read each day during the morning announcements.
- Students will sign a class anti-bullying pledge. Teachers are encouraged to post the pledge in the classroom.
- Teachers may choose to follow-up with additional respect activities in the classroom. We have provided a list of 35 Activities Your Students Can Do To Learn Respect, by Michele Borba.

Village School

- Two lesson ideas regarding how anti-bullying concepts can be integrated into language arts activities will be shared with teachers.
- Teachers may sign-up for the principal, assistant principal, or guidance counselor to complete a read-a-loud in their classrooms. The staff member who visits the class will bring a story to read to the class pertaining to respect and facilitate a discussion regarding its themes.
- Students and staff will wear blue on Monday in honor of “Blue Shirt Day: World Day of Bullying Prevention”. Students and staff will wear school colors on Friday, to conclude the week showing school unity.
- Quotes regarding respect will be read over the morning announcements each day of the week.
- The school’s “Question of the Week” will prompt students to reflect on matters relating to bullying.
- Guidance lessons will be completed in classrooms throughout the month of October.
- Books regarding respect and friendship will be set aside in the library for teachers to use with their students.

Middle School Activities

Community Middle School

- We will show our team spirit by participating in the activities we have planned for you. The team that has the most participants showing their team spirit will receive a prize. Make sure you take a look at the presentation that will be running in the main lobby for more information. Check with your teachers if you have any questions. Let's show our Team Community how we can shine!!!
- Next week, we will begin our Week of Respect here at CMS. Show your team spirit by participating in the activities we have planned for you. The team that has the most participants showing their team spirit will receive a prize. Make sure you take a look at the presentation that will be running in the main lobby TV monitors for more information. Check with your teachers if you have any questions. Let's show our Team Community how we can shine!!!
- On Monday, we will begin our "Week of Respect" here at Community MS. Let's show a sea of blue to stamp out bullying! Remember to wear something blue to show your support of how we can spread this very important message! Listen for the daily challenges and do your personal best!
- Read Quote: "I'm not concerned with your liking or disliking me...All I ask is that you respect me as a human being." Jackie Robinson
- Read Challenge: Say "hi" to at least 5 people you don't know.
- Read Quote: "When you are content to be simply yourself and don't compare or compete, everybody will respect you." Lao Tzu
- Read Challenge: Smile at random people in the hallway.
- Read Quote: "Being brilliant is no great feat if you respect nothing." Johann Wolfgang von Goethe
- Read Challenge: Thank staff members other than teachers for their dedication: security officers, secretaries, custodians, lunch service workers, bus drivers...
- Read Quote: "They cannot take away our self-respect if we do not give it to them." Mahatma Gandhi
- Read Challenge: Introduce yourself to a student or staff member who is not on your team.
- Read Quote: "The thing about a hero, is even when it doesn't look like there's a light at the end of the tunnel, he or she is going to keep digging, he or she is going to keep trying to do right and make up for what's gone before, just because that's who he or she is." Joss Whedon
- Read Challenge: Be KIND to everyone and work together!

Middle School Activities

Grover Middle School

- Today 6th and 7th Grade students will experience ***Bystander: A Portrait in Apathy*** assemblies to kick off the Week of Respect, which begins on Monday. Monday is the World Day of Bullying Prevention. Let's all be a sea of blue to stomp out bullying! Remember to wear blue to support the end of bullying worldwide! Don't forget: The team with the highest level of participation will win a prize!
- Listen for the daily challenges on announcements next week, and do your personal best!
- "This is the Week of Respect. Each day we will have a quote to reflect on and a challenge for the day. The team with the highest level of participation will win a prize!
- Don't forget to contribute to the Grover Respect word cloud: What does respect mean to you? Ask your teacher for the link! Teachers and parents can contribute too!"
- Quote: "I'm not concerned with your liking or disliking me...All I ask is that you respect me as a human being." Jackie Robinson
- Challenge: Say "hi" to at least 5 people you don't know.
- Quote: "When you are content to be simply yourself and don't compare or compete, everybody will respect you." Lao Tzu
- Challenge: Smile at random people in the hallway.
- Quote: "Being brilliant is no great feat if you respect nothing." Johann Wolfgang von Goethe
- Challenge: Thank staff members other than teachers for their dedication: security officers, secretaries, custodians, lunch service workers, bus drivers...
- Quote: "They cannot take away our self-respect if we do not give it to them."
Mahatma Gandhi
- Challenge: Introduce yourself to a student or staff member who is not on your team.
- Quote: "The thing about a hero, is even when it doesn't look like there's a light at the end of the tunnel, he or she is going to keep digging, he or she is going to keep trying to do right and make up for what's gone before, just because that's who he or she is."
Joss Whedon
- Challenge: Be KIND to everyone and work together! Be a JAG!

High School Activities

High School North

Announcements with a daily theme to include:

- 1 quote about respect
- 1 challenge for the day

- Request for students to participate in the post-it challenge

- Themes include: respecting self, respecting others, respecting the school, respecting staff, respecting the community

- Post-it challenge

- There will be a poster near the UDH where students can take post-its and write something nice that was done regard to each daily theme

High School Activities

High School South

- Morning Quotes with Respect themes
- Email to teachers each day and encourage discussion
- Student Made Posters - Peer groups make and display
- Peer Group Discussion / Activity Infusion
- Chain of Respect – Peer leader led at lunch to be displayed in hallway at end of week
- Pirate Positivity – Student Project of daily inspirational messages that students can add to and take - run by Andi Mohamed (grade 10)

Definition of HIB

“Any gesture, any written, verbal or physical act, or any electronic communication, whether it be a single incident or a series of incidents, that is reasonably perceived as being motivated either by any actual or perceived characteristic, such as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or a mental, physical or sensory [handicap] disability, or by any other distinguishing characteristic, that takes place on school property, at any school-sponsored function [or], on a school bus, or off school grounds as provided for in section 16 of P.L.2010, CHAPTER 122, that substantially disrupts or interferes with the orderly operation of the school or the rights of other students“

Evidence of HIB:

The student knowingly engaged in racist, homophobic, or other stereotyping behavior with the specific objective of hurting, intimidating or harassing another student

The student knowingly engaged in behavior with the specific objective of hurting, intimidating, or harassing another student

The student knowingly engaged in harassing, intimidating, or bullying behavior but was not aware of the potential negative impact on the victim

The student unknowingly engaged in harassing, intimidating, or bullying behavior and had no awareness of the potential negative impact on the victim

The student was “showing off” with friends or reacting to a personal (emotional) situation, and the victim was arbitrarily and impulsively targeted

The student engaged in harassing, intimidating, or bullying behavior in direct response to a real or imagined threat initiated by the other student

The student engaged in behavior that may be considered inappropriate, rude, disrespectful, or unkind, but the behavior does not violate school HIB guidelines

The student did not engage in any behavior which meets the definition of HIB. Student has been cleared of any actionable offense.

The student was a victim of an HIB incident.
OR The student was not a victim of an HIB incident.

Factual Findings

Intentional (with hate speech) and designed to harass, intimidate, or bully

Intentional (without hate speech) and designed to Harass, intimidate or bully

Intentional, but not designed to harass, intimidate or bully

Unintentional

Unrelated

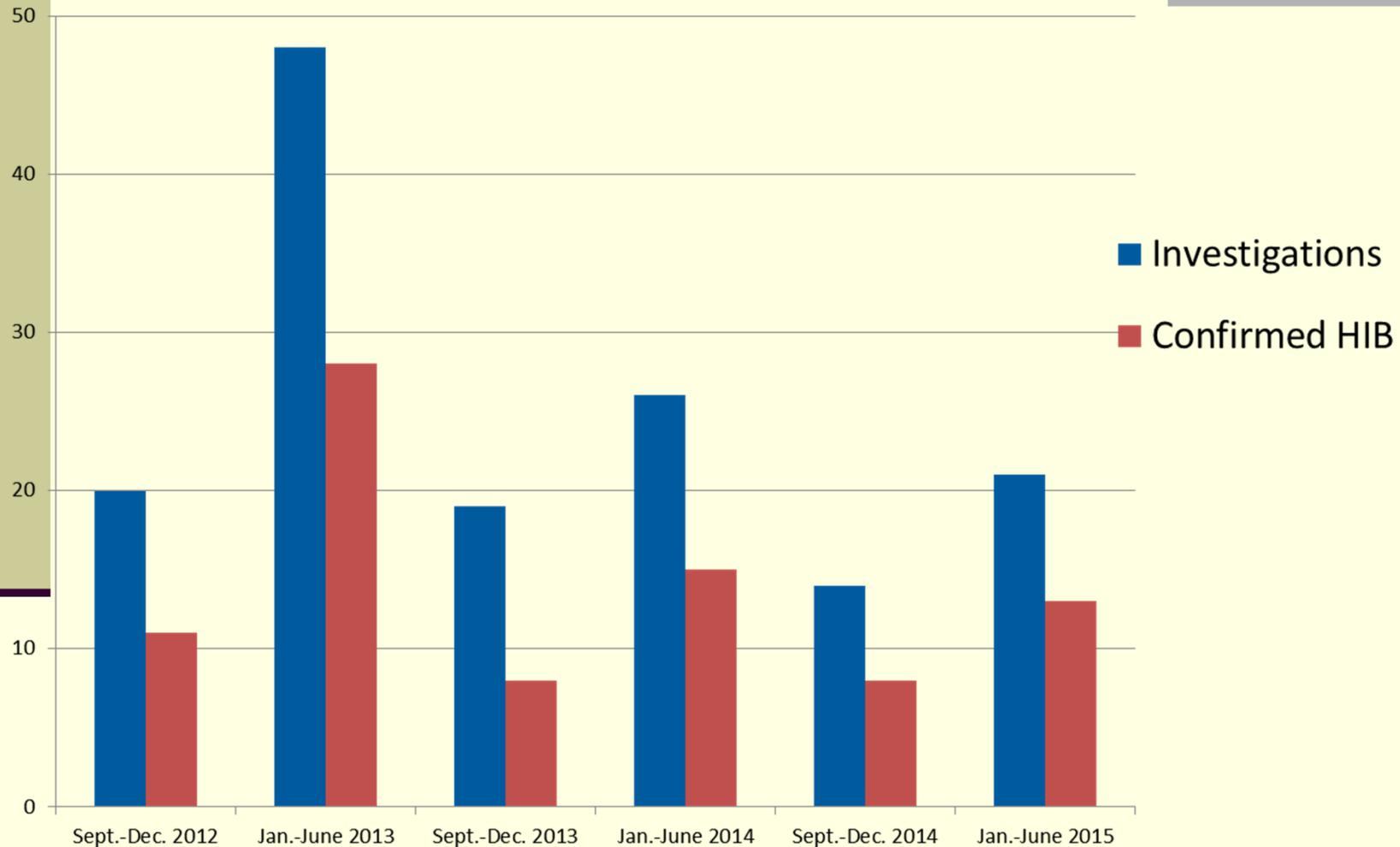
Self-Defense / Retaliation

Non-Actionable HIB

Non-HIB

HIB-Victim

WW-P Investigations/ Confirmed HIB Sept. 2012-June 2015 (3 Year Timeline)



HIB: Patterns & Trends

- Investigations Down / Consistent Last 2 Years
- Males as Offenders / Females as Victims
- SPED as Victims
- Unstructured Activities
- Minimally Supervised Settings
- Online / Texting Cases
- HIB vs. Non-HIB Identification
- Victim / Bystander Reporting

Count of Incidents by Reporting Category

	<u>13-14</u>	<u>14-15</u>
HIB	8	21
Violence	12	11
Vandalism	12	13
Weapons	1	5
Substance abuse	11	17
Threat	0	0
Total	44	67

Incident Category Totals by School

(Middle Schools & High Schools)

School Name	Violence	Vandalism	Weapons	Substance Abuse
Community Middle School	7	2	0	0
Grover Middle School	0	0	0	0
High School North	3	1	2	11
High School South	0	8	2	6
Total	10	11	4	17

Cost of Vandalism

	<u>13-14</u>	<u>14-15</u>
Incidents involving cost to district	0	0
Total cost to district	\$0	\$0

Victim Information

	<u>13-14</u>	<u>14-15</u>
Regular education student	11	13
Student with a disability	5	3
Student from other school	0	1
Non-student	0	0
School personnel	1	1
Total	17	18
Victim of violent criminal offense	1	1

Offender Information

	<u>13-14</u>	<u>14-15</u>
Regular education student	27	36
Student with a disability	18	15
Student from other district	0	0
Non-student	0	2
Unknown	1	2
Total	46	55

In-District Activities To Recognize School Violence and Vandalism Awareness Week

WICOFF

- The character education theme for October is *Teamwork*. This will be incorporated throughout lesson plans, counselor visits and school wide activities. Announcements will be made throughout the month to incorporate this theme as well especially during What's Up Wicoff morning announcements. Each month a different character theme is celebrated. Some additional themes include: Respect for Self and Others, Courtesy and Good Manners, Individuality, Friendship, Responsibility, Honesty, Perseverance and Caring. School wide activities pertaining to each month's theme will be implemented this year.
- The Wicoff Crisis Action Team met to review and update all safety drill plans and procedures. Practice drills will take place throughout the school year. This includes lockdowns, active shooter, bomb threat, and evacuation drills. Our first drill (bomb scare) is scheduled for 9/09/15. Evacuation maps were also updated and placed in all classrooms.
- *Responsive Classroom* lessons will be taught by the guidance counselor and the classroom teachers throughout the kindergarten through third grade classrooms. Morning meetings will be initiated and various topics will be included such as peacemaking skills and conflict resolution skills.
- Review ideas for School Violence Awareness Week with staff at the faculty meeting on Oct. 5th.
- A student anti-bullying assembly sponsored by the PTA is being planned.

In-District Activities To Recognize School Violence and Vandalism Awareness Week

Town Center

- Daily Announcements over the loudspeaker or Gator News about Peacemaking.
- Classroom Read-Alouds.
- Classroom Guidance lessons on Respect/Tolerance/Empathy during the month of October.

Hawk

- In an ongoing effort to create a conflict free environment, the staff uses Responsive Classroom techniques and reinforces peacemaking techniques with our students.
- We will have a Crisis Committee Meeting to discuss the effectiveness of our crisis plan, and to review our safety procedures.
- At our October morning shares, we will have staff members share responsive classroom techniques/strategies used in the classroom to prevent bullying and to promote a sense of community in the classroom and throughout the school
- The guidance counselor will continue to present classroom lessons on conflict resolution, anti-bullying, friendship, and acceptance.
- Our PTA supports assemblies with an anti-bullying message.
- We are hosting Bagel and Books for our staff and parents. Themes such as acceptance, diversity, respect and friendship will be featured.
- We are hosting a Dads' coffee to foster community relations with our parents.
- We will have a School Safety Team meeting to discuss school climate.

In-District Activities To Recognize School Violence and Vandalism Awareness Week

Dutch Neck

- During School Violence Awareness Week, Dutch Neck School will continue to focus on the Character Theme of Respect throughout October.
- Morning announcements will focus on supporting students in developing conflict resolution skills.
- An active shooter lockdown drill is planned for October 8. The West Windsor Police are invited to observe and discuss the drill.
- Classroom teachers will continue to hold morning meetings and utilize Responsive Classroom techniques to further develop appropriate social skills and a sense of community.
- Staff and students will wear purple clothing in order to promote PEACE on Wednesday, October 21.
- Our guidance counselor will teach conflict resolution and problem-solving skills during her class lessons. This will include reminders to use the DEBUG strategies that Dutch Neck students use to solve problems peacefully with friends.
- The assistant principal continues to work with lunch aides to familiarize them with Responsive Classroom techniques.
- The assistant principal will meet with students during lunch/recess to reinforce appropriate behaviors and choices during this time.
- We will have a Crisis Committee Meeting in October to discuss the effectiveness of our crisis plan, and to review our safety procedures.
- Media Specialist will have the following books available for classroom teachers to use for read-aloud and discussion. Examples include: Is It Right to Fight? by Pat Thomas and Hands Are Not for Hitting by Martine Agassi.
- We met with students to promote “Bucket Filling”, focusing on positive behavior and doing kind deeds for others.

In-District Activities To Recognize School Violence and Vandalism Awareness Week

Village

- Lesson ideas regarding safety will be shared with teachers.
- Teachers may sign-up for the principal, assistant principal, or guidance counselor to complete a read-a-loud in their classrooms. The staff member who visits the class will bring a story to read to the class pertaining to being aware of others and facilitate a discussion regarding its themes.
- Students and staff will wear team clothing on Friday to “Team up against unsafe behavior.”
- Quotes regarding awareness of others will be read over the morning announcements each day of the week.
- The school’s “Question of the Week” will prompt students to reflect on matters relating to being aware of how their actions impact others.
- Guidance lessons will be completed in classrooms throughout the month of October.
- Books regarding respect and friendship will be set aside in the library for teachers to use with their students.

Millstone River

- Lesson ideas that build on the Respect Lessons facilitated by Counselors during “Week of Resect” will be sent to teachers.
- Quotes regarding awareness of others will be read over the morning announcements each day of the week.
- Daily challenges will be announced each morning urging students to be agents of change with regard to safe, kind, courteous and respectful behaviors.
- Guidance lessons will continue in classrooms throughout the month of October.
- Counselors will begin Anger Management Groups in the month of October to provide strategies to students needing assistance in managing unsafe or aggressive behaviors.
- A book list will be sent to teachers for use in the classroom along with suggested topics for discussion regarding kind and courteous behaviors toward all students. Counselors will be available to co-facilitate discussions at the teachers request.

In-District Activities To Recognize School Violence and Vandalism Awareness Week

Community Middle School (6-8)

- The Travis Manion Foundation's Character Does Matter Program ("If Not Me, Then Who") for all three grades on Tuesday 10/20.
- The RESPECT word clouds, created by Grover and Community Middle Schools will be displayed during School Violence Awareness Week.

Grover Middle School (6-8)

- The Travis Manion Foundation's Character Does Matter Program ("If Not Me, Then Who") for all three grades on Wednesday 10/21.
- The RESPECT word clouds, created by Grover and Community Middle Schools will be displayed during School Violence Awareness Week.

In-District Activities To Recognize School Violence and Vandalism Awareness Week

High School North (9-12)

- Announcements daily with quotes and a challenge similar to WoR.
- Peer Leaders will also host a table at lunch where students can sign a banner that will read "Help shield away violence".

High School South (9-12)

- Morning Quotes with Peaceful Themes.
- Email to teachers each day and encourage discussion.
- Peer Group Discussion / Activity Infusion.
- Raise the Jolly Roger - what have you noticed people doing to make South a better place?
- Pirate Positivity – Student Project of daily inspirational messages that students can add to and take - run by Andi Mohamed (grade 10).

Proactive Programs for Student Development

- School counselors/Anti-bullying Specialists
- Student Assistance Counselors (6-12)
- Assembly Programs
- Peer leaders
- Character Education Programs
- Many clubs and organizations will be promoting programs about aspects of students' social and emotional development

Current Administrative Focus

- Review of Student Code of Conduct
- Implementation of the State Mandated Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Policy
- Review of the District Crisis Plan