

May, 2011

Dear District 66 Families:

District 66 has taken on a new behavior intervention endeavor this school year, Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS). In Fall 2010, students at Prairieview and Lakeview were introduced to PBIS. In January, students at Ide were introduced to PBIS.

PBIS is a proactive systems approach for establishing the behavioral supports and social culture need for all students in a school to achieve social, emotional and academic success. As a Response to Intervention model, PBIS applies a three-tiered system of support, and a problem-solving process to enhance the capacity of schools to effectively educate all students. The goals of PBIS are to create a social-culture in our school buildings that will encourage positive behaviors and interactions, while discouraging problem behaviors. This social-culture will lead to a safe environment where students achieve academically and build positive relationships with each other and with adults. The foundation of the approach emphasizes teaching students the behaviors we expect to see, reminding them to use those behaviors, acknowledging them when they do, and correcting them when they do not.

The staff, throughout the district, has been trained in this system, and it has been explained to the children in grades K-8. PBIS has four components: a matrix of behavioral expectations, cool tools which are lesson plans used to teach students the behavioral expectations, PAWS / STARS, which are acknowledgement / reinforcement systems and Office Discipline Referral Forms.

Schools are successful when they help children grow academically, socially and emotionally. For this to happen, it is imperative that we have a safe environment that is supportive and conducive to growth. By setting forth clear social and behavior expectations and directly teaching students about those expectations, it is our goal to create this atmosphere for learning.

Parents and guardians play an important part in the success of their children and PBIS is no different. Our District PBIS Team has worked hard to provide parents with a PBIS Parent Handbook. We hope you find this helpful in understanding and reinforcing of the whole PBIS concept. The District PBIS Handbook can be found on all three school websites under the PBIS Link.

Sincerely,

The District 66 PBIS Committee