

Mariemont High School: Implementing the Bullying Prevention Program

Areas of need highlighted by the survey:

- The common locations for bullying in the high school are the lunchroom, classrooms
- The most common types of bullying are verbal, social/exclusion and rumors
- The least common types of bullying are property damage, threats, physical and cyber
- 23% of students say they have been bullied once or twice in past couple of months
- 89% of students say they “feel sorry” or “feel sorry and want to help” when they see a student being bullied; however, it was reported that other students try to put a stop to a student being bullied only 12% of the time

To address the concerns listed above, Mariemont High School has implemented a plan that includes the following components:

- Mariemont High School staff members attended a presentation by Ed Greene, <http://saferschoolsproject.org>, during the October in-service to discuss the definition of bullying and ways to prevent it in the schools.
- Jim Bisenius presented his program Bully-Proofing Youth, <http://bullyproofingyouth.com>, to students, staff and parents on November 12. His student presentation focused on training students how to respond appropriately in bullying situations. He discussed common issues and situations present in schools and how staff can be more aware and aid in preventing these situations.
- The staff will increase supervision in the hallways, cafeteria and other common areas.
- Student-created anti-bullying videos will be displayed on digital signage monitors throughout the school.
- Mariemont High School devised a plan for a new an initiative called Campus Life Improvement, which will focus on the bigger picture of the high school and look at ways to improve the overall experience of each and every Mariemont High School student. Bullying prevention is a component of this initiative.
 - The school hired Ed Greene, president of Safer Schools Project, <http://saferschoolsproject.org>, who is advising and leading the school through its new Campus Life Improvement Project.
 - The school is forming three committees to lead the Campus Life Improvement plans, these committees are: 1) student, 2) teacher, and 3) parent. These committees will work individually and collaboratively to create and execute plans and activities to improve campus life. Any parent or student who is interested in being part of a committee is welcome to contact high school counselor Pam Tackett.

- The first Campus Life student, teacher and parent meetings took place January 15. Any student or parent is still welcome to attend the next meeting on **February 7** at the high school and determine if they would like to be a part of this committee. Please contact Pam Tackett for more information.
- During the January in-service, staff members participated in discussions and activities led by Ed Greene concerning the new Campus Life Improvement initiative. Mr. Greene also reviewed the Olweus bully survey data with the faculty. Following the review, the faculty broke up into small group to further analyze the data and discuss new and creative ways to begin to diminish bullying incidents and create an improved overall climate in the school.
- On January 25 during third bell, Mariemont High School will hold an assembly addressing the students regarding the Olweus bully results and informing the students of ways in which the high school plans to reduce bullying in the high school and improve the overall school climate.
- Beginning in mid-February, counselors will meet groups of students during lunchtime to discuss campus life and any other issues.
- Bullying prevention resources, links, policies and programs are posted on the school district website: <http://www.mariemontschools.org/about/Bullying-Prevention.cfm>, as well as the Blackboard Parent Portal, which will also include Olweus and Hope survey results.
- The school district has partnered with Public School Works to provide an anonymous online and phone bullying reporting platform: <https://www.publicschoolworks.com/SHL/bullyingMgr.asp?di=174>. A link to the reporting system is also included on the high school home page.

Contact Information

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