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Mariemont Elementary and Terrace Park Elementary: Implementing the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program

What Is the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program?

The *Olweus Bullying Prevention Program (OBPP)* prevents or reduces bullying in schools. *OBPP* is not a curriculum, but a program that handles bullying at the school-wide, classroom, individual and community levels. The program plans are outlined below.

School-wide

- Mariemont Elementary and Terrace Park Elementary formed building-level Bullying Prevention Coordinating Committees (BPCC), consisting of school staff, parents and community members. These committees participated in a two-day training in August and will continue to meet regularly for program planning and implementation.
- Staff members were trained to use the program and handle bullying problems. Initial training for staff occurred in October and November 2012; training will be ongoing.
- Anti-bullying expert Jim Bisenius provided district parents with strategies to help "bully-proof" their children in a presentation to K-12 parents in November 2012. More information about his program can be found at <http://bullyproofingyouth.com>.
- Students completed the Olweus survey to provide information about the amount and type of bullying at our schools. Students will complete this survey annually each fall.
- All students will follow these four anti-bullying rules:
 1. We will not bully others.
 2. We will help students who are bullied.
 3. We will include students who are left out.
 4. If we know that somebody is being bullied, we will tell an adult at school and an adult at home.
- Staff will ensure that all areas of school where bullying is likely to occur are being watched.
- The Olweus kick-off events for elementary students and parents are scheduled for January 25, 2013 at both Mariemont Elementary and Terrace Park Elementary.
- The Kindness Retreat is held in February for all 5th grade students.
- Student-created anti-bullying videos will be displayed on digital signage monitors throughout the school.
- 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 each building's home page.

In the Classroom

- The four anti-bullying rules will be taught in all classrooms.
- Beginning in January 2013, class meetings will be held where students identify characteristics of a bully and define bullying behaviors. Students will learn why bullying should not happen; they will also learn to ask an adult for help if they see or experience bullying.
- Staff members will use positive and negative consequences for following and not following the four anti-bullying rules. Staff will begin to develop a standard rubric of consequences for bully behavior and rewards for anti-bullying efforts.
- Staff members will work to make the classroom a positive place for students.

In the Community

- Our schools will look for ways to develop partnerships with community members and carry the anti-bullying message community wide.

For Individuals Who Bully or Who Are Bullied

- Staff members have been trained to deal with bullying situations and the students involved, and they will continue to be trained.
- Students who bully others will be given consequences as soon as possible.
- Students who are bullied will be supported by staff and will be told what action will be taken to end the bullying.
- Staff members will meet with the parents of students who bully and students who are bullied.

Contact Information

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