



10/18/2010

Counselor's Newsletter

Updates

* I have begun Kelso's Choice conflict resolution classroom program for all third graders in MVB & MHG. The children will soon know all nine choices for solving problems. They have learned the difference between small problems and big problems, what to do if they have a big problem, and to try two or three of Kelso's choices if they have a small problem before going to an adult.

* I am working on getting Trooper Gallo to come into the 3rd – 5th grades to present Step Away for Safety in the next few weeks.

* In February, I will be visiting the fourth grade classrooms once per week for several weeks to speak to the students about bullying. A website that you may find useful regarding information on bullying is www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov. There is information on there for adults and children, as well as games and webisodes.

* Please remember that we have outside groups to help you during the holiday season this winter. If your family could use some extra support during the holidays, please feel free to contact me.

* If you and your family have experienced the death of a loved one, Wave Riders is a free support group offered by Community Hospice for children and teens. If you would like more information, feel free to contact me.

Attendance Policy

* When a student is absent, please call the school to let them know your child will not be in.

* When a student misses 10 days of school (either excused or unexcused), the Principal will send home a letter of concern.

* When a student has missed 18 days of school (either excused or unexcused) a meeting will be requested with the parents/guardians of the student.

* After missing 24 or more days, the Principal may choose to take one of the following actions: make a referral to CPS for educational neglect, submission of a PINS, or recommend outside agencies to work with the family.

Internet Safety

* **Keep your identity private – never give out personal information to someone online.** People are not always who they say they are!

* **Never respond to an e-mail, instant message, chat comments or newsgroup messages that are hostile, inappropriate or in any way make you feel uncomfortable.** Get away from the site and tell an adult.

* **Never, ever, arrange to meet someone you met online without parental permission and supervision.** Always let a parent know of any invitation to meet someone.

* **Always talk with your parents to establish rules and expectations for going online.**