

# West Windsor – Plainsboro Regional School District



## 2015-2016 Violence and Vandalism Report

# Mission Statement

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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 3-7, 2016

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- The week of October 3rd – 7<sup>th</sup> 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

## **DUTCH NECK SCHOOL**

- Morning Announcement – The theme of Respect will be highlighted each morning during announcements.
- **Bucket Filling Banner** – Once again we will all **sign a banner** to signify that we agree to be respectful at DNS. Our banner this year will be about being a Bucket Filler. **Thanks Keri for making our banner!**
- During the week please bring your class to sign the banner which will be in the hallway between the Spanish room and Mr. Grabell's room. Do this at a time that is convenient for your class.
- **Tuesday, Oct. 4th** – Some optional ideas that can be done anytime during the week in your classroom include:
  - Make of list of people you think are respectful and why you added them to your list. (share during MM)
  - Write a definition of respect.
  - Discuss why acting respectful is important during your Morning Meeting.
  - Make a Respect rap.
  - What are some things that respectful people say?
  - List 5 ways we can show respect for the environment.
  - Make a recipe for respect. What ingredients do you need?
- **Wednesday, Oct. 5th** – Wear **Blue** for **World Bullying Prevention Day**. It's a good day to wear those **Be Kind...Like Josh shirts!**
- **Thursday, Oct. 6th** – A poem will be shared during morning announcements.
- **Friday, Oct. 7th** – Wear a color that you choose to represent the following:
  - **Green** – wear this color to respect the environment
  - **Yellow** – this is the color of respect
  - **Purple** – This color represents PEACE
  - **Red** - This represents responsibility
  - **White** – Wear this color for CARING

# Elementary Activities

## MAURICE HAWK SCHOOL

- Our daily announcement will focus specifically on respect for others.
- We will have daily themes related to bring respectful.
  - 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

- Morning Meeting activities/discussions centered around the day's themes. Powerpoint with greeting, discussion, message, activity will be shared with teachers
  - o Tuesday: Wear a blue t-shirt for belated "World Day of Bullying Prevention"
  - o Wednesday: Respect Others
  - o Thursday: Respect Yourself
  - o Friday: Show Respect in School (Wear school colors)
- Daily Announcements over the loudspeaker or Gator News about Respect
- Whole School Morning Meeting on Friday : school-wide assembly centered around the character theme of "respect"
- Respect Game: Students will be given a game board with respectful actions they can do at home/school. Once students complete a certain number of tasks, they can add their name to the "respect chain" to show TC how many respectful actions we were able to do
- Anti-Bullying Pledge: students will sign the TC Anti-Bullying Pledge
- Classroom Read-Alouds: list of suggested literature will be sent out to teachers
- Classroom Guidance lessons on Respect/Tolerance/Empathy throughout fall

# Elementary Activities

## Wicoff School

- The character education theme for September was *Teamwork* and the theme for October is *Respect*. These themes 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 5th 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.
- Wake Up Wicoff – Students will make weekly announcements over the loudspeaker incorporating quotes dealing with respect.
- On 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) during the Week of Respect.
- We coordinated efforts with the PTA assembly chairperson to hold an anti-bullying assembly on October 6<sup>th</sup>. (The Simon Sez Guy teaches Wicoff School about respect).
- 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 16<sup>th</sup>.
- The guidance counselor and principal facilitated an anti-bullying presentation for the staff at our first staff meeting on September 1, 2016.
- The guidance counselor and principal facilitated anti-bullying/respect presentations for parents during the Back to School Nights on Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- The guidance counselor and principal will meet with the lunch aides and reinforce conflict resolution/peacemaking skills and anti-bullying information on October 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Review ideas for Week of Respect with staff at the faculty meeting on Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Websites dealing with respect ideas will be shared with the staff. Some of these include:
  - [www.state.nj.com](http://www.state.nj.com), (Keeping our Kids Safe, Healthy in School, Core Curriculum Standards, NJ Commission on Holocaust Education)
  - [www.valuesparenting.com](http://www.valuesparenting.com)
  - [www.charactercounts.com](http://www.charactercounts.com)
  - [www.charactersofcharacter.com](http://www.charactersofcharacter.com)

# Elementary Activities

## **Millstone River School**

### Week of Respect:

- Classroom Lessons (Counselors)
- Morning Announcements
- Supplemental Lessons/Activities for teachers
- Annotated book list for teachers

### School Programs and Initiatives:

- Character Theme Activities
- Thumbs Up Recognition Program
- PTA Programs and Assemblies
- Student Human Relations
- Developmental Guidance Lessons and Groups
- School Spirit Days

## **Village School**

### **Week of Respect**

- 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 aloud 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 school colors on Friday, to conclude the week showing school unity.
- The school's "Question of the Week" will prompt students to reflect on matters relating to bullying.
- Guidance lessons will be continue in classrooms throughout the month of October.
- Books regarding respect will be set aside in the library for teachers to use with their students.
- HIB student training will be completed.



# Middle School Activities

## CommUNITY Middle School Week Of Respect Activities

- The announcements will be read daily, with character challenges.
- The slides will run on the monitors in school commons and lobby.
- The word clouds and respect posters will be printed, laminated and displayed throughout the building in advance of next week by Jen Davis' ACES program.
- Student Council, with the assistance of Brittany Ku, will assist in promoting.
- The Weekly Bulletin and PTSA newsletters will include the themes to spread the word.
- PTSA will provide prizes for the team showing the most spirit by dressing to theme and participating in the challenges.
- *If Not Me, Then Who* assemblies will run on Thursday 10/6 for all grades, which will produce this culminating event:
- CommUNITY Community Service day, to be held on 11/23 in honor of our fallen hero, Ashley Henderson Huff.
- Deanna Bancroft's Performing Arts Students are developing unique plays addressing character, respect and acceptance, which will be performed for their 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade peers and for parents, in the spring. ABS is involved in the discussion and in classroom activities.
- 6th Grade Anti-bullying lessons will be provided by the ABS through Life Skills classes on 9/29 in advance of Week of Respect.

### Related Upcoming events:

- *Bystander: A Portrait in Apathy* will occur the Week of 10/31, with the parent program being held Thursday night 11/3 and assemblies for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade on 11/4.
- Mykee will perform 1/11/17 for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade on themes of diversity and inclusion.

The following resource was shared with the staff as a resource for teachable moments during week of respect and beyond. <http://www.letitriple.org/character-day/>

### Announcements

Link: <https://docs.google.com/a/wwprsd.org/document/d/1fQVjYZ2e5FuPsVra0Z151YmXYWcjS16tFgKhYq3OXRs/edit?usp=sharing>

# Middle School Activities

## Grover Middle School

- The announcements will be read daily.
  - The slides will run on the monitors in school commons and lobby.
  - PTSA will provide prizes for the team showing the most spirit by dressing to theme and participating in the challenges.
  - *Bystander: A Portrait in Apathy* is occurring this week with the parent program being held Thursday night 9/29 and assemblies for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade on 9/30.
  - *If Not Me, Then Who* will be held for each grade level on November 1, 2016. Discussion of a Community Service Day will take place, and a plan will be shared.
  - Mykee will perform 1/11/17 for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade on themes of diversity and inclusion.
  - I am working with Deanna Bancroft in class (for the past two weeks through next week and beyond as necessary), who is facilitating her Performing Arts Students in developing unique plays addressing character, respect and acceptance, which will be performed for their 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade peers and for parents, in the spring.
  - character day information was shared with the staff as a resource for teachable moments during week of respect and beyond. <http://www.letitripple.org/character-day/>
  - I am trying to locate resources within the building to assist with the laminating and hanging of posters for Week of Respect- perhaps my cast of Bystander can help.
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- Grover Announcements: <https://docs.google.com/a/wwprsd.org/document/d/1qwvwpX74-djNqw3eG6PFnVaySeOaTni5A6s5e3vQlbo/edit?usp=sharing>

# High School Activities

## High School North

- Announcements each morning
  - Tuesday - This week is the Week of Respect in New Jersey. Schools everywhere are taking steps to help students feel comfortable and safe. Each day this week we will announce a quote to raise awareness about the importance of respecting yourself and others. Today's quote is
    - *"It is not our purpose to become each other; it is to recognize each other, to learn to see the other and honor him for what he is"*
  - Wednesday - This week is the Week of Respect in New Jersey. Schools everywhere are taking steps to help students feel comfortable and safe. Each day this week we will announce a quote to raise awareness about the importance of respecting yourself and others. Today's quote is
    - *"When you are content to be simply yourself and don't compare or compete, everybody will respect you"*
  - Thursday - This week is the Week of Respect in New Jersey. Schools everywhere are taking steps to help students feel comfortable and safe. Each day this week we will announce a quote to raise awareness about the importance of respecting yourself and others. Today's quote is
    - *"Try to leave the Earth a better place than when you arrived"*
  - Friday - This week is the Week of Respect in New Jersey. Schools everywhere are taking steps to help students feel comfortable and safe. Each day this week we will announce a quote to raise awareness about the importance of respecting yourself and others. Today's quote is
    - *"One of the most sincere forms of respect is actually listening to what another has to say"*

# High School Activities

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## High School South

### Week of Respect

- Morning Quotes/Challenges and Teacher Email

Posters Include THINK scanned poster

### Peer Leader Activities

- **R E S P E C T** rainbow colors and words on each letter - PL activity
- **R**andom Acts of Kindness - examples of them which can build or promote respect
- **E**nvironment - how to show respect to the environment
- **S**elf - what are ways that you can self-respect
- **P**arents - how do you show respect to your parents
- **E**ducation - what are ways that you can make school a more respectful place
- **C**ommunity - what are ways that you can respect your community
- **T**echnology - what are ways you can maintain respect through technology

### PL Discussion re: why WOR?

- What is the most important manner to you? Why
- How does respect change a school / job / community?
- Tell an example of a way that someone has respected you, and how it affected you?
- Is being nice enough?
- Do you have to agree with someone to show them respect?
- Define respect at a personal level (or a community / international / multicultural level)

# Definition of HIB

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“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**

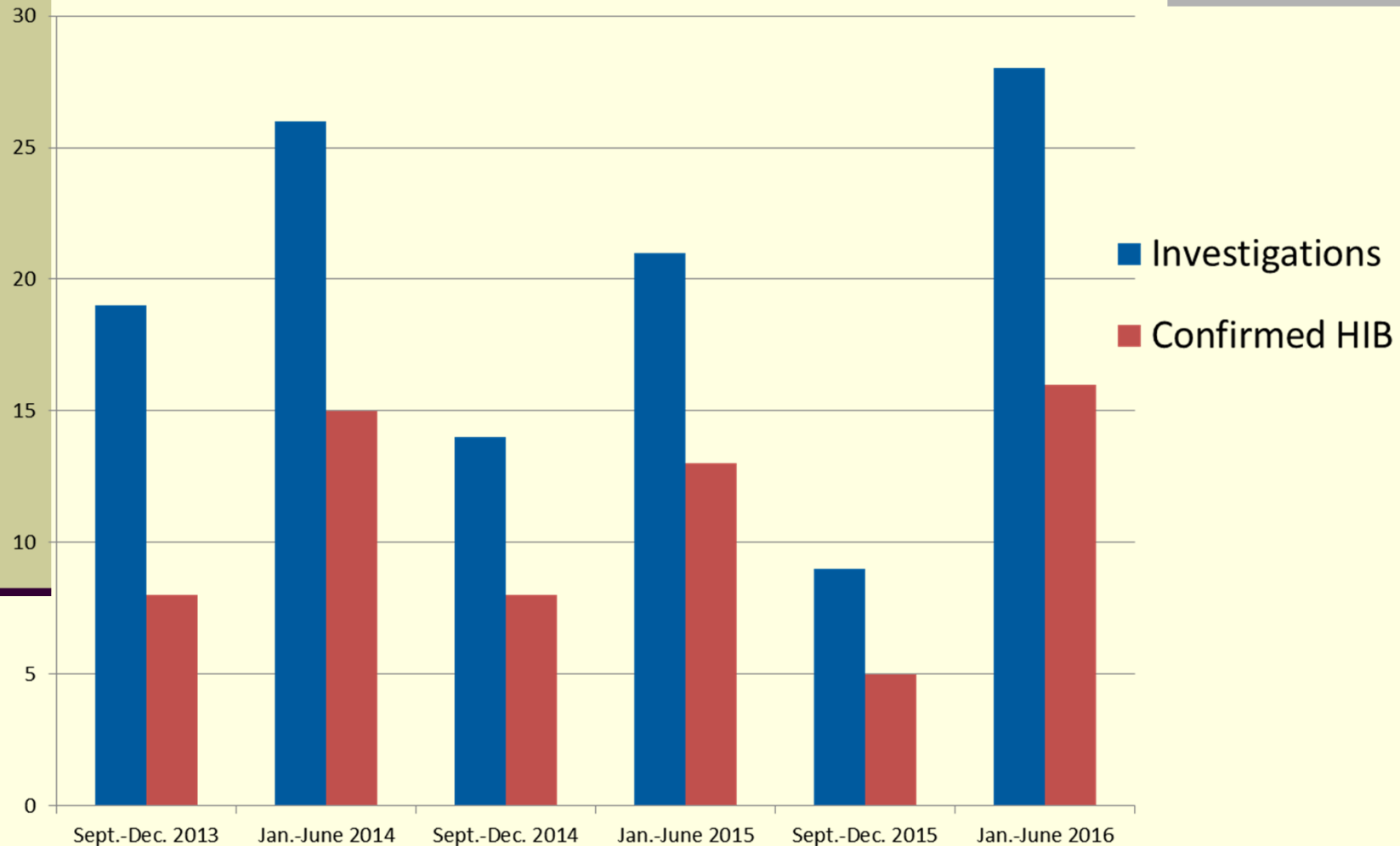
**Self-Defense / Retaliation**

**Non-Actionable HIB**

**Non-HIB**

**HIB-Victim**

# WW-P Investigations/ Confirmed HIB Sept. 2013-June 2016 (3 Year Timeline)



# HIB: Patterns & Trends

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- 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

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	<u>14-15</u>	<u>15-16</u>
HIB	21	20
Violence	11	30
Vandalism	13	10
Weapons	5	2
Substance abuse	17	8
Threat	0	4
Total	67	74

# Incident Category Totals by School

(Middle Schools & High Schools)

School Name	Violence	Vandalism	Weapons	Substance Abuse
Community Middle School	6	3	0	0
Grover Middle School	0	0	0	0
High School North	3	4	0	3
High School South	4	3	2	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>

# Cost of Vandalism

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	<u>14-15</u>	<u>15-16</u>
Incidents involving cost to district	0	0
Total cost to district	\$0	\$0

# Victim Information

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	<u>14-15</u>	<u>15-16</u>
Regular education student	13	28
Student with a disability	3	6
Student from other school	1	0
Non-student	0	0
School personnel	1	1
Total	18	34
Victim of violent criminal offense	1	1

# Offender Information

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	<u>14-15</u>	<u>15-16</u>
Regular education student	36	60
Student with a disability	15	28
Student from other district	0	0
Non-student	2	0
Unknown	2	0
Total	55	88

# District Comparison - 2014-2015

DISTRICT	Enrollment	Violence	Vandalism	Weapons	Substances	Hib	Total
West Windsor-Plainsboro	9,626	11	13	5	17	21	66
Montgomery	4,751	1	1	2	4	40	47
Princeton	3,540	20	2	2	5	15	44
Hopewell	3,626	7	5	2	4	4	21
Millburn	4,869	13	0	3	5	13	33
Cherry Hill	11,234	43	14	12	25	77	165
Hamilton	11,783	39	13	6	40	62	158
Bridgewater	8,529	32	17	6	14	32	95

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

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## WICOFF

- The character education theme for October is *Respect*. 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.
- *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. 4th.
- A student anti-bullying/respect assembly sponsored by the PTA is being held on October 6th.

# 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 throughout fall
- Respect Game: Students will be given a game board with respectful actions they can do at home/school. Once students complete a certain number of tasks, they can add their name to the “respect chain” to show TC how many respectful actions we were able to do

## 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 white clothing in order to promote PEACE on Wednesday, October 19.
- 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.
- 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 will be sent to teachers that build on the Respect Lessons facilitated by Counselors during "Week of Respect."
- Quotes regarding awareness and respect 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 upon teachers' request.

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

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## **Community Middle School (6-8)**

- Daily announcements appropriate to the theme will be read each morning (from slideshow below\*)
- Teachers are encouraged to lead students in discussion/written reflection related to quote(s) during class/flex.
- Selection of cast members for Bystander: A Portrait in Apathy will be finalized (to be performed on 11/3 & 11/4.)
- Posters from Week of Respect will remain posted.
- ABS will visit performing Arts classes for a progress check on theme-related performance project.
- Continual references will be made to “If Not Me, Then Who” character program, held 10/6.

## **Grover Middle School (6-8)**

- Daily Quotes will be read on morning announcements (selected from slideshow below\*). Teachers are encouraged to utilize a flex and/or class time for reflection on the quote(s).
- 6th Grade ABS will provide lessons through 6th Grade Computer Cycle on 10/14, in advance of SVAW to address preventing and dealing with Cyber-bullying, accompanied by 8th Grade Bystander cast members who will facilitate small group discussions.
- ABS will visit performing Arts classes on 10/18 to hear progress on creation of theme-related performance piece.
- “If Not Me, Then Who” will be held on November 1, 2016 to reiterate the character messages from both weeks. A Service Day will be established.

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

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## High School South (9-12)

Morning Announcements with teacher email for infusion into classroom discussion

Pledge Cards

I WILL pledge to make my school welcoming to all

I WILL set the example of a caring individual

I WILL reach out to my fellow Pirates who need a helping hand

I WILL pledge to encourage others to do the same

I WILL eliminate offensive words from my language

I WILL not let my words or actions hurt others

...and if others won't become part of the solution, I WILL

\_\_\_\_\_ signature

Signing here reflects your commitment to this pledge

Pirate Positivity -- Student Project of positive affirmations and quotes in the lunch lines and PE locker rooms

## 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."

# Proactive Programs for Student Development

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- 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

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