



MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Dear Parents,

As educators of Monroe County, we are entrusted with your children each and every day. We want to make sure that we provide students with a safe environment where they can be healthy, happy, secure and excited about reaching their highest potential.

Administrators throughout the county met last week to review, update, and discuss our policies and procedures pertaining to bullying and harassment. We have always taken bullying/harassment very seriously. Our policies, procedures, and Bully Button reporting system have been in place for many years. Confidentially laws inhibit us from reporting to parents the specific actions taken with students who are found displaying inappropriate acts or behaviors. In an effort to better inform our students, parents, and communities, our schools will take the following plan of action:

- We will remind parents about the Monroe County Bullying policies that we currently have in place.
- We will begin a developmentally appropriate curriculum monthly about bullying.
- We will be sending home monthly newsletters about the topic of bullying for parents to discuss with their children.
- We will create a bullying box (located by the office) for students to turn in bullying issues anonymously.
- We will remind parents and students of the Bullying Button on the school website that can be used to report bullying at any school. (www.monroe.kyschools.us)

All policies, procedures, forms, and Monroe County School's Golden Rule Action Plan can be accessed at the Monroe County School District's website (listed above) under the Forms/Links tab. If you would like a hard copy of any of the forms at this site, please contact your child's school.

In an effort to clearly communicate to all of our stakeholders, the following definition of bullying is being used by all schools within our system:

Monroe County Board of Education Policy – Bullying/Hazing Policy 9.4

Bullying refers to any intentional act by a student of groups directed against another student to ridicule, humiliate, or intimidate the other student while on school grounds, or at a school sponsored activity, which acts are repeated against the same student over time.

As always, in addressing issues with bullying, we will need your help. Please take just a few minutes to talk to your child about the following:

- What bullying is and how it affects others
- Bullying through social media/cyber bullying (texts, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, etc.)
- Once something is on the Internet, it is there forever
- What to do if your child feels they are being bullied or sees a friend being bullied

Please know our door is always open if you have a question, concern, or an issue.

Monroe County School District