



A Message from the Students at the BBHCSD...

Dear Parents, Guardians and School Staff,

We're writing to you to discuss an important matter that's impacting us as students, **Bullying**...and what you can do to help us with the threat of this behavior, all while encouraging, listening and communicating with us, as your children and students.

Our experience in the Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools is great. We have awesome teachers, excellent opportunities and are given a quality education at all grade levels. But sometimes, we hear or see occasional name calling, mean attitudes, or hurtful words which make us as students feel bad about a choice we've made, a risk that we've taken or who we are as people. When this happens, we must be able to go to the adults in our world, and have their respect and trust to report this behavior. When we **see something**, we want to **say something** to you, as the adults in our lives who can help in confusing situations. We ask you to please respond to the times we come to you with compassion. We hope you will be responsive and responsible with our questions and reports about this type of behavior.

Also, we're not perfect. We might not get it right every time either. After all, we're only kids. Please don't judge us if we misinterpret a situation or accidentally exaggerate. It's going to happen. We are just asking you to do your homework and investigate a matter so that our friends won't get hurt. Just be there for us every time so that we feel like we can come to you no matter what.

If after you investigate a matter it turns out that nothing was wrong, then we accept those results. However, if our reporting has proof, we ask that you remain strict with consequences such as detentions or suspensions. Ignoring bullying behavior when we determine that it happened for sure can never be an option.

Members of the Student Body are brainstorming ways of curbing bullying behavior before it starts. We ask for the support from parents, guardians and staff to make these ideas a reality. Some of them include promoting positivity, matching student role models with younger students to form a "mentor system," planning student-led assemblies, encouraging uplifting language and compliments, anonymous note boxes to express concerns, continuing colony periods that promote peer-to-peer engagement, longer drop-offs and other ideas. Students are hoping to do as much to be proactive as possible. We are asking for you to do the same.

Most importantly, students believe that our goals should be the same as those of the adults in our life. Discouraging bullying, disciplining offenders and promoting a positive feeling at all grade levels is among the most important goals for our student body. Please help us to do all that we can to free the District of mean-spirited behavior, so that everyone can enjoy our heritage of a fine education.

Sincerely,

BBHCSD Students

