

August 15, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

During the 2023-2024 school year, your child will be participating in classroom meetings each week which are a part of our ongoing effort in support of bullying prevention and strengthening character education at St. Gregory School.

Attached, please find copies of the information that we share schoolwide with all the students.

The first is the bullying Prevention "Pledge" followed by the St. Gregory School "Rules Against Bullying" and the school "Anti-Bullying Behavior Chart". These are included to define behavioral expectation/practices for use throughout the school day. We all need to work together to support the children in accepting responsibility for their behavior and developing pro-social behaviors.

Finally, we allow the students to wear our Anti-Bullying Shirt every Thursday, but these are not a requirement. The shirts are red with the above logo in the left corner. If you wish to purchase one you can do so at the T-Shirt Loft in Zelig or students may wear any solid red shirt, collared or not.

Thank you for supporting St. Gregory's **BE THE ONE TO STAND UP TO BULLYING**".

STAND UP TO BULLYING!

At St. Gregory School:

We will practice respect.

We will include everyone.

We will **stop bullying behavior** when we can.

We will practice safety.

St. Gregory School Rules Against Bullying

- We will not bully others.
- We will try to help students who are bullied.
- We will include students who are left out of games and activities.
- We will tell an adult about the bullying behavior when we know that a student is being bullied.

St. Gregory School's Behavior Grid

Behavior	First Time	Second Time	Third Time	
Teasing (name calling, or other behavior that would hurt others' feelings and make them feel bad about themselves)	Warning- Student to call parents	One lost lunch recess where student will complete and process a "Think About It" form Student to call parents	Three lost lunch recesses where student will complete and process a "Think About It" form Student to call parents	After the third time a student demonstrates bullying behavior in one school year, St Gregory's Principal, Faculty and parents develop an individual behavior plan
Hitting (pushing, slapping, kicking, grabbing)	One lost lunch recess where student will complete and process a "Think About It" form Student to call parents	Three lost lunch recesses where student will complete and process a "Think About It" form Student to call parents	Five lost lunch recesses where student will complete and process a "Think About It" form Student to call parents	
Severe hitting (punching, and similar behavior that may injure others) Harassment (racial, ethnic or sexual name calling or other forms of severe harassment)	Three lost lunch recesses where student will complete and process a "Think About It" form Student to call parents	Five lost lunch recesses where student will complete and process a "Think About It" form Student to call parents	Student calls parents 2 Days out of school	

***Note:** Students in grades K, 1 and 2 may receive additional warnings/prompts as these are teachable social moments and students will benefit from the directed instruction rather than the negative consequences. *

Responsibilities of Faculty and Staff:

1. Anyone observing aggressive behavior or hearing about it from students will complete a St. Gregory School Bullying Notification Form.
2. The principal or his/her delegate will investigate (if the behavior was reported by students and not seen by Faculty or Staff) and identify the appropriate consequence. The student and Principal will call parents at that time.
3. The school counselor will assist the child as needed to complete the Think-About-It Form while sitting out during lost lunch recess time.

St. Gregory's Bullying Behavior Chart

Physical Bullying Harm to someone's body or property		Emotional Bullying Harm to someone's feelings or safety		Social Bullying Harm to someone's group acceptance	
Verbal	Nonverbal	Verbal	Nonverbal	Verbal	Nonverbal
LEVEL ONE					
-Expressing physical superiority -Blaming the victim for starting the conflict	-Making threatening gestures -Defacing property -Pushing/showing -Taking items from others	-Insulting remarks -Calling names -Teasing -Disrupting the class	-Dirty looks -Insulting gestures	-Gossiping -Starting or spreading rumors -Teasing other students publicly	-Ignoring someone -Excluding others from a group
LEVEL TWO (some of these behaviors are against the law)					
-Threatening physical harm	-Damaging property -Stealing -Starting fights -Pushing, tripping or causing a fall -Assault	-Insulting family -Harassing with phone calls -Insulting size, intelligence, clothes, race, religion, gender, disability, etc.	-Defacing school work, or other personal property of others	-Ostracizing using notes, instant/text messaging, etc. -Posting slander in public places	-Playing mean tricks to embarrass someone
LEVEL THREE (most of these behaviors are against the law)					
-Making repeated threats – harassing -Extortion -Threatening to keep someone silent – If you tell.....	-Destroying property -Physical cruelty -Setting fires -Repeatedly acting in a violent or a threatening way -Assault w/weapon	-Harassing because of bias against race, religion, ethnicity, gender, disability, or sexual orientation	-Destroying personal property -Writing graffiti with bias against race, religion, ethnicity, gender, disability, or sexual orientation	-Enforcing total group exclusion against someone by threatening others if they don't comply	-Arranging public humiliation

SAMPLE

Think – About – It

Name: _____ Date: _____

Faculty Signature/Location of Incident: _____

1. **What did you do that doesn't fit with our St. Gregory School Rules?** (Be specific and start with "I")

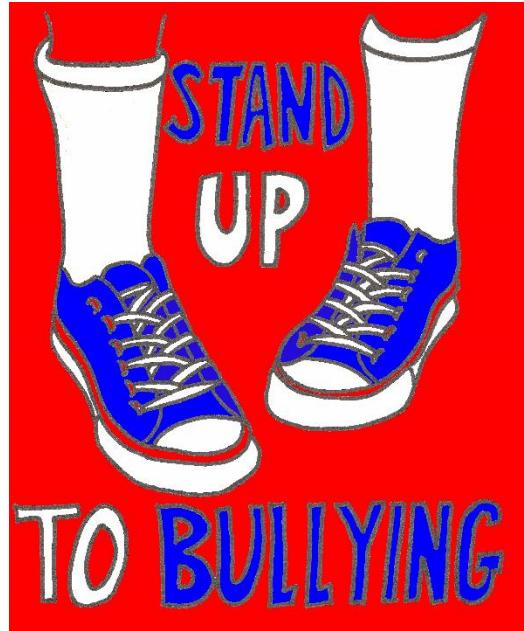
2. **Why was this behavior wrong or hurtful to others?** (Who did you hurt? How do you know you hurt that person?)

3. **What problem were you trying to solve?** (Think about it.... Were you trying to have fun? Did you want someone to listen to you or leave you alone? Were you trying to impress your friends? Were you angry about something else?)

4. **Next time you have that problem, how will you solve it without hurting someone else?** (Please list at least three ways and choose one)

5. **How can I apologize to those I hurt?** (Kind words, a note, an act of kindness toward others, etc.)

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____



I PLEDGE:

1. Not to bully others.
2. I will help others who are being bullied, if I can.
3. I will make an extra effort to include others in all school and recess activities.
4. I will tell an adult when I see someone bullying.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Homeroom Teacher: _____ Date: _____