

Dear Stormonth Families,

We wanted to reach out to share some of our philosophy and processes regarding promoting positive student behavior and ensuring that our learning environments are safe, welcoming spaces.

- One of the things we love so much about our Stormonth family is the active involvement of our parents and caregivers.
- However, though we sometimes feel like a family, we have to recognize that we have legal and privacy boundaries that must be respected.
- Creating and maintaining a safe, nurturing educational environment for the students is our first priority. We are responsible for setting our students up for future success in and outside of the classroom and take this incredibly seriously.
- Not only do we prioritize educational excellence in the classroom, but we have also identified the importance of personal well being and belonging as part of the District's strategic plan. As part of this, each student receives bi-weekly education about appropriate interpersonal behaviors, social-emotional learning and conflict resolution in an effort to proactively prepare students for interactions with adults and their peers.
  - Please contact our school counselors, Amanda Burns <[aburns@foxbay.org](mailto:aburns@foxbay.org)> or Gregg Newburg <[gneuburg@foxbay.org](mailto:gneuburg@foxbay.org)> if you are interested in learning more about the SEL curriculum and if you are interested in learning how to reinforce these skills at home with your child.
- As soon as incidents of conflict are reported they are handled by teaching staff, counseling staff, and school administration.
  - As you know, with situations that present a potential threat to all students, all families are contacted.
  - When isolated situations occur between individual students, we communicate directly with them and their families as quickly as possible and develop a plan to ensure each student has emotional support and the skills needed to prevent additional incidents.
    - When those situations present no threat to other students, privacy and discretion is limited to the caregivers of those students.
    - It is the responsibility of the district to ***both*** address incidents that occur with the direct participants and their families, ***and*** also to provide privacy for those who are involved.
    - As parents if your child were involved in an incident, we're sure you would appreciate the same level of privacy and discretion.
- In addition to ensuring safety we also work hard to promote and encourage positive student behavior. However, we do understand that there are times when students may

need consequences for their behavior. When consequences are necessary, we make sure that they are fair and consistent - and aligned with what is developmentally appropriate for a wide age range of students. We also work with students to help them understand why their behavior was inappropriate and how they can make better choices in the future.

- We frequently assess routines and school procedures to ensure they provide a safe environment for all students. These may look different around the building based on age development and individual student needs. Our teaching teams are constantly refining practices to ensure that we have a welcoming environment that sets kids up for success.

Thank you for continuing to partner with us as we work hard to keep Stormonth a safe, welcoming learning environment. Please reach out if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Andrew Joseph