

Dear Parents,

In accordance with the state mandate on “Bullying” and a new initiative of Clay Community Schools, Meridian Elementary is implementing a “No Bullying” curriculum for all students. *Bullying as defined by IC 20-33-8-0.2 means over, unwanted, **repeated** acts or gestures, including verbal or written communications or images transmitted in any manner (including digitally or electronically), physical acts committed, aggression, or any other behaviors that are committed by a student or group of students against another student with the intent to harass, ridicule, humiliate, intimidate, or harm the targeted student and create for the targeted student an objectively hostile student environment.* Your child will be learning some valuable skills which will help him or her get along well with others, solve conflicts peacefully, and to avoid “bullying” situations.

Meridian Elementary will be reading and discussing the **Anti-bully pledge** that we have displayed all around our school. The classroom teachers will be implementing a bully prevention curriculum to help students understand the issues of bullying and how the students can help prevent it. They will be introducing bully prevention skills through watching and discussing videos, bully role-playing scenarios, music, reading stories, and much more. Our teachers and staff will work together to make Meridian Elementary a place where the students feel safe and ready to learn.

Here are some things that you can do at home to help your child become more aware of bullying behavior:

- Ask your child to tell you about what he or she has been learning from the lessons at school.
- Discuss with your child what behaviors that he or she thinks demonstrates bullying.
- As you watch television with your child, help him or her identify language, or actions that demonstrate bullying behavior.
- As your child deals with bullying situations at home and school, be open to discussing ways in which he or she can safely handle those situations. Discuss how to avoid bullying situations.
- Help your child become sensitive to his or her own behaviors or language that may be of a bullying nature as he or she deals with siblings or friends.

Thank You,

Meridian Staff