



Thomas Jefferson Middle School
A Caring Community

OLWEUS PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY AND COMPONENTS

LEADERSHIP

1. Continued commitment and active support of district and school leadership
2. Periodic consultations with a certified Olweus trainer
3. A Steering Committee comprised of school and community leadership meets monthly to monitor and update the program implantation.

TRAINING

4. All staff has been oriented into the program
5. Update trainings for all staff is offered annually
6. Training and mentoring all new staff
7. Provide resource materials and training guides to all staff as needed

PROGRAM EVALUATION

8. Administer a student and faculty survey annually
9. Review survey data to identify and address the problems revealed by the data

SCHOOL-WIDE COMPONENTS

10. Hold a kick-off event at the start of each school year
11. Conduct a parent meeting once a year
12. The staff uses team meetings to discuss the program, students and related issues

CLASSROOM LEVEL COMPONENTS

13. Regular schedule of classroom meetings (Tuesday Talks)
14. Use of role-playing along with follow-up discussions periodically to review bullying concepts
15. Teachers incorporate anti-bullying themes into their regular course curriculum

SCHOOL RULES AND INDIVIDUAL INTERVENTIONS

16. The 4 Anti-Bullying Rules are posted in every classroom and throughout the public areas of the building
17. The four anti-bullying rules and consequences against bullying thoroughly explained and discussed with all new students and their parents, and reviewed with returning students and parents
18. The school staff consistently gives positive consequences for students who do not bully other students ("You're the One")
19. Staff members intervene on the spot (where appropriate) every time they observe bullying inside or outside of the classroom
20. The Grade level teams investigate all incidents of bullying that are reported to them or that they suspect are happening
21. All staff members report (where appropriate) all incidents of bullying that they observe or suspect to the grade level team and appropriate school administrators
22. Teams conduct follow-up meetings with involved students and/or parents (where appropriate)

CELEBRATING AND ENHANCING THE PROGRAM

23. The School celebrates the successes and achievements of the students in meeting the Olweus program goals.

2011-12 OLWEUS PROGRAM SURVEY RESULTS

After two years of implementation, the Olweus program at Jefferson Middle School has started to show improvement in our students' perceptions and attitudes about school and bullying problems. We are down 3% from last year of students who have chronic bullying problems. We also can be proud of an 8% decline in student perceptions that teachers do nothing about the bullying problems at school. At the core of the Olweus program, our effort to increase our students' empathy have brought about a 4% increase in students reporting to feel sorry for victims of bullying. No small feat given the age group.

Parents can play a central role to preventing bullying and stopping it when it happens. Here are a few things you can do.

- Teach kids to solve problems without using violence, and praise them when they do.
- Give children positive feedback when they behave well to help their build self-esteem. Help give them the self-confidence to stand up for what they believe in.
- Ask your children about their day and listen to them talk about school, social events, their classmates, and any problems they have.
- Take bullying seriously. Many kids are embarrassed to say they have been bullied. You may only have one chance to step in and help.
- If you see any bullying, stop it right away, even if your child is the one doing the bullying.
- Encourage your child to help others who need it.
- Don't bully your children or bully others in front of them. Many times kids who are bullied at home react by bullying other kids. If your children see you hit, ridicule, or gossip about someone else, they are also more likely to do so themselves.
- Support the bully prevention program in school by asking about the program, pointing out the positive improvements, etc....