Bee Kind Buzz—From Mrs. Estrada

December’s Be Kind tenet is to “Be Respectful.” According to the Girl Scouts, here are 7 ways to be more respectful:

1. Listen and be present If someone else is speaking, give them the courtesy of listening to and thinking about what they’ve said before responding, forming your own opinions, or dismissing theirs. Your child may not agree with what’s being said, and that’s absolutely OK (and sometimes important!) for her to express, but she should wait her turn, pay attention, and avoid jumping to conclusions. You never know, what someone says could surprise her!

2. Be thoughtful of others’ feelings Talk to your child about how she might feel angry, sad, or even embarrassed if someone rolled their eyes at one of her ideas or talked over her when she was trying to speak. It might feel even worse to hear that someone was calling her names or making fun of her. Since she doesn’t want to feel that way, she should do her best to ensure others aren’t made to feel that way either.

3. Acknowledge others and say thank you If your child did half the work on a science project, but her partner took all the credit, how would she feel? Probably pretty upset. Similarly, if she made a gift for another girl in school, and that friend never said thank you, she might feel confused or think the gift wasn’t very good. Letting others know that their efforts matter and thanking them for their time, work, and/or thoughtfulness doesn’t need to take more than a few seconds, but it makes a big difference.

4. Make decisions based on what’s right, not who you like Sometimes it might feel easier for your child to go along with the crowd and either mimic the behavior of her friends or choose their ideas over those of others out of a sense of loyalty or to gain favor with more popular kids, but that’s not smart or fair. Talk to your girl about weighing the pros and cons of the choices she makes in her daily life, about thinking about what’s right, and what will lead to the best outcomes for all involved. Sometimes it takes guts to stand up and support less popular views, but that doesn’t mean it’s not worth doing. Not only do people’s feelings get hurt when we play favorites, but we can sometimes make poor decisions that have even bigger consequences.

5. Respect physical boundaries Everyone’s body is their own, and everyone has the right to decide the level and type of physical contact they’re comfortable with. For instance, some people love to be greeted with hugs, some people don’t, and that’s OK! Talk to your child about the importance of respecting people’s personal preferences and how she should insist on others respecting her boundaries as well.

6. Live and let live In this great big world of ours, there are a billion different ways to live life, and that’s what makes life interesting! As long as everyone is being respectful and no one is hurting anyone else, it’s important to take a step back and accept that there’s no one right way to exist on this planet. 

Hello from the GL Health Office! Welcome back to our staff and many of our students. Some important reminders:

- Please make sure your child brings a mask to wear INSIDE, everyday. Students MUST wear a mask that covers their nose and mouth.
- Please remind your child to thoroughly wash his/her hands after the restroom and throughout the day. We also have hand sanitizing stations throughout the campus (and in the classrooms) for your child to use as well.
- If your child is ill, please keep them home from school and call the front office to let them know your child will be absent.
- If your child is exposed to someone with Covid or if he/she has Covid-like symptoms, please call and let the nurse’s office know. We will share specific instructions for what is needed, based on your specific situation, following updated CDC guidelines.

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PTA News

- We hope you join our on-line Gingerbread competition!
- Send a Candy Graham to students and teachers!
- Buy a Harkins Cup and support PTA and Garden Lakes! :-)  
- Please join PTA—We need you!
- Please join us on Facebook at Garden Lakes Connection for all the latest information. :-)
- Contact us at gardenlakespta@gmail.com

School Improvement Plan 2021-2022

Every Diamondback...Seeks Continual improvement &
Always Aims for the bullseye!

Goal #1—Effective Leadership - Supporting data literacy and High impact Teaching
- Provide on-going, differentiated professional learning for data literacy, high impact teaching strategies, and continuous improvement cycle
- Provide opportunities to learn from each other - peer rounds, Fish bowl, Sharing clips from walk-throughs
- Engage in weekly Leadership PLC work - analyze data and plan next steps for PD and coaching
- Weekly Walkthrough and effective Feedback

Goal #2—Effective Teachers and Instruction - Utilizing Data to Drive High Impact Instruction
- Training/Proficiency in utilizing data tools
  o Create assignments, CFA’s, exit tickets
  o Create tier 1 small groups, Tier 2 intervention groups based on data
- Incorporating High Impact Teaching Strategies
  o Planning - Daily objective (clear assessment, tied to pacing guide standards), Critical attributes (CA), Gradual Release model structure
  o Implement - Clear objective, Gradual Release Model, check for understanding throughout, use CA for assessment, meet with small groups based on success ratio, effective feedback to students
- Staff and students Participate in the Continuous Improvement Cycle - Goal setting, KPI's, Reflection, Feedback

Goal #3—Conditions, Culture, Climate
- On-going Training/implementation of PBIS for staff and students
- On-going training/implementation of culturally responsive practices for staff, students and community
- On-going and embedded social emotional learning/support for students and families

As 2021 is winding down it is a perfect time for us to reflect on the past year. In the past year we have had many changes, challenges, and successes. Taking the time to reflect will help us when we are setting our new goals for 2022. Maui (from Moana) said it best “Knowing where you are by knowing where you've been.”

Here are a few questions to use to help reflect.
1. What is something we did this year that you think you will remember for the rest of your life?
2. What is something you accomplished this year that you are proud of?
3. What are the three most important things you learned this year?
4. In what area do you feel you made your biggest improvements?
5. What is something I/we could have done to make this year better?

Please if you have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to reach out to me via my email is skozak@pesd92.org. You can also contact the office at (623) 772-2520.