## What do I do if I have questions about my child's safety or if I think she/he is being bullied?

#### Option #1: contact your child's school

#### Lake County High School 719-486-6950

\*Principal: Ben Cairns

bcairns@lakecountyschools.net

\*Assistant Principal: Erin Dillon

edillon@lakecountyschools.net

\*Counselor: Robby Johnson

rjohnson@lakecountyschools.net

#### Lake County Intermediate School 719-486-6830

\*Principal: Aidan Fleming

afleming@lakecountyschools.net

\*Dean of Students: Emily Blau

eblau@lakecountyschools.net

#### West Park Elementary School 719-486-6890

\*Principal: Kathleen Fitzsimmons

kfitzsimmons@lakecountyschools.net

\*Behavior Coach: Karen Brungardt

kbrungardt@lakecountyschools.net

\*Counselor: Christy Trujillo

crtrujillo@lakecountyschools.net

#### The Center at Pitts Elementary 719-486-6920

\*Director: Tanya Lenhard

tdlenhard@lakecountyschools.net

#### Director of Safety & Security 719-486-6808

\*Mike Vagher

mvagher@lakecountyschools.net

#### Superintendent of Schools 719-486-6800

\*Wendy Wyman

wwyman@lakecountyschools.net

#### Option #2: report anonymously through:

1-877-542-7233 OR www.safe2tell.org

#### What can I expect to happen next?

All allegations of bullying, harassment, or cyber-bullying shall be reported to the designated school administrator, either orally or in writing.\*

Upon receiving a complaint of bullying, harassment, or cyber-bullying from any student, we shall:

- 1. Promptly and thoroughly investigate the alleged incident of bullying, harassment, or cyber-bullying;
- 2. Take immediate steps, at the administrator's discretion, to protect any involved students, educators, or staff pending completion of an investigation;
- Provide notification to the parents or guardians of all involved students, provided that such notification does not endanger the health, safety or wellbeing of any student;
- Maintain a written or electronic record of the complaint, any investigation, and any intervention or disciplinary actions taken;
- If needed, take proper disciplinary action immediately following the conclusion of the investigation; and
- Report in a timely manner regarding the complaint, ongoing investigation and conclusion of the investigation to all concerned parties, following strict confidentiality.

\*If behavior occurs outside of school or school activities, please contact our local law-enforcement.



# School Climate & Bullying Prevention

We are committed to developing and sustaining a school culture of respect, empowerment, and compassion.







### Creating a Climate Conducive to Learning

#### Purpose – as per Administrative Policy JICDE

All students have the right an educational environment that is free from bullying and harassment.

A safe and civil environment in school is necessary for students to learn and to achieve.

#### **Educator and Staff Responsibilities**

All district staff share responsibility for modeling appropriate behavior and creating an environment where mutual respect among students and staff are promoted and where students understand that bullying and harassment are inappropriate, harmful and are taken seriously.

All district staff members will work to prevent bullying, harassment, and cyber-bullying and are obligated to report in a timely manner any such acts or complaints.

#### **Student Responsibilities**

Students are also expected to help maintain a safe school environment by not engaging in or contributing to bullying, harassment, or cyber-bullying, treating everyone with respect, and being sensitive as to how others might perceive their actions or words.

Any student who observes an act of bullying, harassment, or cyber- bullying should report the incidents to school staff in a timely manner.

#### Warning signs:

Student is withdrawn, not interested in school or other activities, or shows a change in behavior.



In our schools, we intervene differently depending upon the behavior. It is important to understand the differences in these behaviors as our response to them differs accordingly.

## <u>Rude</u> = *Unintentionally* saying or doing something that hurts someone else.

- occasional, spontaneous & unplanned inconsideration
- not meant to actually hurt someone.
- address by building social skills and awareness, may include action by any school staff member
- Parent tip: encourage a sincere apology and empathy

## <u>Mean</u> = *Intentionally* saying or doing something to hurt someone

- occurs once or twice
- aims to hurt someone
- addressed by school staff, may include disciplinary and counseling intervention
- Parent Tip: advocate for your child with helpful adults (other parents, school staff, law enforcement)

<u>Bullying</u> = Any act that is intended to coerce, intimidate, or cause any physical, mental or emotional harm to any student. It is intentionally aggressive behavior, repeated over time, that involves an imbalance of power.

- repeated acts or threats of aggressive behavior
- may be written, verbal physical or electronic
- aims to hurt someone; has an imbalance of power; may lack remorse
- addressed by school staff, may include disciplinary and counseling intervention
- Parent Tip: Contact law enforcement if event occurs outside of school or related events.

## Bullying may be a physical, verbal, relational or electronic gesture:

#### **Physical aggression**

 includes hitting, punching, kicking, spitting, tripping, hair pulling, slamming a child into a locker and a range of other behaviors that involve physical aggression

#### Verbal aggression

- includes using words that target a person's size, race, ethnicity, gender, appearance, or abilities.
- includes gossip and rumors

#### Relational aggression

- includes social exclusion, shunning, hazing, and rumor spreading
- can be especially crushing to kids

#### Cyberbullying

- includes "willful and repeated harm inflicted through the use of computers, cell phones, and other electronic devices."
- likelihood of repeated harm is especially high with cyberbullying because electronic messages can be accessed by multiple parties, resulting in repeated exposure and repeated harm

Bullying is prohibited on school district property and at school district related events.

