

We have become aware of recent posts on social media concerning bullying. We take this matter very seriously, and we do have programs in place to provide both education, resources, and tools for students, parents, staff, and administrators.

All of our Counseling Departments provide responsive services to students, both individually and in groups, to address a variety of topics such as bullying, self-awareness, peer and family relationships, and social skills.

Specifically, Keystone Elementary implements the Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) program and facilitates numerous student groups. These groups aim to assist students who are dealing with anxiety, working on building social skills, and those who are coping with grief. Students also lead an acceptance group and friendship group. Lastly, the **Ruling Our eXperience (ROX)** group focuses on empowering our female students.

In addition, whole class instruction, led by the Counselor, is provided to focus on social issues and expectations. In addition to these, the fourth grade also takes part in the GOOD program, and the fifth grade takes part in the DARE program.

Keystone Middle School employs the use of numerous programs to both prevent and combat the issues our students face. Similar to KES, the middle school uses the PBIS program and hosts the YouBelong program in which student advocates bring awareness to social challenges and promote kindness. They also have partnerships with Bellefaire, Guidestone, LCADA, and utilize the services of a full-time social worker.

Keystone High School also partners with many agencies to provide services related to the challenges faced by our students today. These agencies include the Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio, Bellefaire, Ohio Guidestone, Genesis House, and LCADA. The services of a full-time social worker are retained, and KHS encourages students to utilize our Zen Den and participate in a student-led Alliance Group.

As a District, we held a parent night to discuss bullying amongst today's youth. The meeting's content focused on "Bullying: What it is...What it isn't...and What We Can Do About It." We solicited questions from parents on a Google Form and used any responses to help structure the meeting's focus. Following the meeting, the presentation was put on our website and is still available @ [Bullying Night Presentation](#).

Providing a school environment of respect, understanding, and compassion is of uppermost importance to us. We are and will continue to analyze the effectiveness of our programs and research new and innovative ways to combat the many faces of bullying.

Our lines of communication with students, parents, and community are always open. We encourage all members of our District to work as a family to promote, create, and ensure a safe learning environment for all Keystone students. If you have additional questions or have a suggestion for a program, please contact me @ daniel.white@keystoneschools.org or at 440-355-2424 or contact your building principals.