

**Field Mighty Mice Miller Moments:
October 5, 2018**

The school year is flying by. We have had a wonderful start to the school year. Students are working to figure out their new grade level and expectations. Here is a review of the expectations we have for your students.

Restorative Practices:

- ▶ Field is a place where we fix our mistakes, restore our relationships, repair harm, and build a positive community by using Restorative Practices.

Restorative practice is:

- Respectful: Distinguishes between the behavior and the person
- Fair: Engages all perspectives with explanations and clarifying expectations
- Restorative: Repairs harm and builds relationships
- Empathetic: Develops understanding through reflection, insight and learning
- Enhancing: Increases responsibility and accountability
- Supportive: Allows for positive behavioral change and strengthens relationships

Restorative Response uses tangible strategies and techniques to repair and sustain student to student relationships, and student to staff relationships.

- Student-Teacher Conference
- Student-Teacher-Parent Conference
- Mediation(s)
- Suspension Readmits
- Restorative Circles
- Transfer/New Registration Intake Conference
- Social and behavior groups
- Social Work Referral

When we meet with students, we give them the opportunity to reflect on the situation prior to any interactions with others. They answer the following questions either verbally or in writing:

- What happened?
- What were you thinking/feeling at the time?
- What have you thought about since?
- Who has been affected by your actions? How? In what way were you affected?
- What do you think you need to do to make things right?

Playground expectations:

- ▶ We want you to be safe and have fun.
- ▶ Come out ready to stay out. Dress appropriately for any the type of weather.
- ▶ Get permission from outdoor staff to use the restrooms.
- ▶ Play outside. Eat inside. Drinking water only outside.

- ▶ Stay in the playground area. If a ball goes outside of the boundaries, please ask an adult for help.
- ▶ Sitting on the edge of the walls is okay, but no standing on them.
- ▶ Stay away from the doors; be at the bottom of all the steps
- ▶ Take care of the equipment. Do not pull, tug, or jump over the tennis, soccer, and volleyball nets. They are expensive and difficult to replace.
- ▶ If you check out a ball or equipment return it.
- ▶ You are still at school during recess and the same rules apply: appropriate language at all times and NO PHONES.

Lunchroom Expectations:

We have three very basic expectations in the lunchroom: remain seated (unless throwing out garbage), clean area and quiet voices. In addition, we have created a community service project where all students will be part of a lunchroom cleaning crew.

Community Service: Lunchroom Cleaning Crew:

As a school, we look for opportunities to teach students many things. Our purpose for the lunch cleaning crew is for students to take pride in their school and understand what it takes to maintain a clean school. Students are taking this responsibility seriously. The following jobs are covered:

- Table mops
- Blue table wipes
- Sweeping
- Salad bar cleaning
- Serving ware replenishing
- Dishes
- Snack Counting
- Milk Cooler cleaning/Milk counting

AVID:

Field is an AVID school. AVID is the most comprehensive college-readiness system used by schools to improve the academic preparation performance of all students. By holding students accountable to the highest standards, and providing academic and social support, students will rise to the challenge.

- ▶ Teachers use WICOR strategies in ALL classes.
- ▶ W: Writing; I: Inquiry; C: Collaboration; O: Organization; R: Reading
- ▶ Field AVID students carry and use binders and planners.

Current Events:

There is currently a lot of energy, much of it negative, in our political and social climate, particularly in the national news and over social media. The impact of this is potentially significant because these events affect us as adults, and our students are affected by our energy, and students themselves are exposed to the high profile issues, which could lead to retriggering of traumas, feelings of fear or uncertainty, sadness, acting out behavior, etc.

Because the impact is so palpable, it seems to be a good time to share again some information and resources to guide our work with students during difficult times.

At the time of the 2016 election, Superintendent Graff sent a note to families reminding them that at MPS “We exist to ensure that all students learn.” He encouraged staff to “approach conversations with kindness, compassion, empathy, and respect” and he affirmed the inherent value of all of our students, our families, and our community. This is an appropriate time to echo those messages.

Resources for families

Talking with children about the news:

<http://www.pbs.org/parents/talkingwithkids/news/>

<http://www.pbs.org/parents/about/spanish/> (Español)

<https://www.common sense media.org/blog/explaining-the-news-to-our-kids?>

<https://www.common sense media.org/latino> (Español)

<http://kidshealth.org/en/parents/news.html#>

<http://kidshealth.org/es/parents/news-esp.html?WT.ac=pairedLink> (Español)

<http://www.cfchildren.org/about-us/blogs/helping-kids-feel-safe-and-supported-post-election>

Social Emotional Learning toolkit for parents:

<http://www.parenttoolkit.com/index.cfm?objectid=50A8EC10-32D8-11E4-B03B0050569A5318>

<http://es.parenttoolkit.com/> (Español)

Promoting Resilience in children:

<http://www.apa.org/helpcenter/resilience.aspx>

<http://www.apa.org/centrodeapoyo/guia.aspx> (Español)

<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/healthy-living/emotional-wellness/Building-Resilience/Pages/Building-Resilience-in-Children.aspx>

<https://www.healthychildren.org/spanish/healthy-living/emotional-wellness/building-resilience/paginas/building-resilience-in-children.aspx> (Español)

Talking with children about bias:

<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/healthy-living/emotional-wellness/Building-Resilience/Pages/Talking-to-Children-About-Racial-Bias.aspx>

<https://www.healthychildren.org/spanish/healthy-living/emotional-wellness/building-resilience/paginas/talking-to-children-about-racial-bias.aspx> (Español)

Helping children cope:

<https://www.childrensmn.org/educationmaterials/parents/article/10405/helping-kids-cope-with-stress/>

<https://www.childrensmn.org/educationmaterials/parents/article/10567/ayudar-a-sus-hijos-a-afrontar-el-estres/>

(Español)

<https://www.childrensmn.org/educationmaterials/parents/article/11126/helping-kids-handle-worry/>

It's Conference Time! - October 11, October 16, October 17

Conferences are coming up this month. Make sure that you have signed up for a conference. You may go to Field's website to find more information about how to sign up, what the format of the conferences will be for each grade, and where you will be meeting. We look forward to seeing you!

Flu Shot Clinic

There will be a flu shot clinic Tuesday, October 9, from 2:30-6:30 p.m. Students and family members are welcome. If you have an insurance card, please bring it so insurance will be billed. The cash price of the shot is \$38 and the Flu Mist is \$43.

Go to Field's website to print out the form that needs to be completed. Paper copies will be available during the clinic time.

Shots will be administered by nurses with the MN Visiting Nurses Association.

Medical Leave:

I wanted to take this opportunity to share that I will be on a medical leave beginning October 15th. I will have two surgeries in one day. I plan to return the Monday after Thanksgiving break.

During my absence, Sonny Shaw and Mariam Graff will be the building leaders. I am leaving the school in amazingly capable hands. If you need to contact them, please call 612-668-3640 and Vicki will direct your call. Jackie Hanson, a retired principal and area superintendent, will also be present two days a week and just a phone call away for consultation.

Have a fabulous fall.

VaNita Miller
Field Principal