

Tips for Parents/Guardians to Help Create Safe Schools

1. Discuss the school district's/school's discipline policy with your child. Show your support for the rules, and help your child understand the reasons for them.
2. Involve your child in setting rules for appropriate behavior at home.
3. Help your child understand the importance of following directions during any type of incident at their school district/school.
4. Talk with your child about the violence he/she sees--on television, video games, and possibly in the neighborhood. Help your child understand the consequences of violence.
5. Teach your child how to solve problems.
6. Help your child find ways to show anger that do not involve hurting others and model these behaviors.
7. Help your child understand the value of accepting individual differences.
8. If you are concerned about your child's behavior and actions, talk with a professional in your child's school district/school or community.
9. Keep lines of communication open with your child's school district/school.
10. Listen to your child if he/she shares concerns about friends who may be exhibiting troubling behaviors. Share this information with a trusted professional, such as the school district/school psychologist, principal, or teacher.
11. Be involved in your child's school district/school life by attending school district/school functions such as parent/guardian conferences, class programs, open houses, and Parent-Teacher Organization meetings.
12. Work with your child's school district/school to make it more responsive to all students and to all families. Share your ideas about how the school district/school can encourage family involvement, welcome all families, and include them in meaningful ways in their children's education.
13. Volunteer to work with school district/school based and community groups concerned with violence prevention.
14. Talk with the parent/guardians of your child's friends. Discuss common concerns or issues.