

9.19.22

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In an effort to assist in the monumental mission of protecting children from abuse, Sacred Heart is partnering with you to present a safe environment lesson to your youth. It is our cherished role as adults to fully protect children. In addition, we must also teach children about their safety rights and boundaries, so that they have tools to protect themselves.

This school year, your child will be presented with a program entitled *Empowering God's Children*, in which Lesson Leaders present a safety lesson to children that houses a grade-appropriate video component along with a hands-on activity. The material is designed to better equip your child to know their rights, recognize their boundaries, and to empower them to protect themselves when safe adults are not immediately available—and ultimately be safer from people who might want to harm them. Youth will participate within one of the following lessons:

Lesson 1: *Physical Boundaries: Safe and Unsafe Touching Rules*

Lesson 2: *Safe Adults, Safe Touches and Special Safe Adults*

Lesson 3: *Boundaries: You Have Rights!*

Lesson 4: *Secrets, Surprises and Promises*

Lesson 5: *Being a Safe Friend*

As the primary educators of your children, parents and guardians are encouraged to review these materials ahead of time and discuss the information at home. If you have ever thought about how to empower children to protect themselves, fortify their boundaries or increase their safety through in-person and online situations, then reviewing the lessons on your own to both begin *and* reiterate the message at home is the best next step to take. Thank you for your partnership with us to protect youth.

**Please note:** You also have the ability to “opt” the youth out of the formal in-program safety lesson if you only plan to provide safe environment education at home. Please complete, detach and submit the form below if you do not want your child to receive safe environment information via their youth program about ways to protect themselves.

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**To opt-out your child from the lesson, return this portion to Amy Davis by September 30<sup>th</sup>.**

I, (*printed name of parent or guardian*) \_\_\_\_\_, have reviewed the safety lessons and DO NOT give my permission for this location to present the *Empowering God's Children Safety Lesson* to my child (*printed name of child*) \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_