



HARRISBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT
1601 State Street • Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17103
Office (717) 703-4000 • Fax (717) 703-1420

Dr. Sybil Knight Burney, Superintendent

August 15, 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The first priority of the Harrisburg School District is the safety of our students and staff. Our second priority is to provide a school climate in which students can positively develop academically, socially and personally. To guarantee the safety of all, we will attempt to ensure that every student is protected from harm. When students are safe, they are free to grow and develop. When staff are safe, they are free to work at their highest level.

We will not allow your child to be harmed by another child, nor will we allow your child to harm themselves. We will not allow any student to seriously disrupt the learning process of others. If necessary, we will physically intervene using safe holding techniques to prevent students from harming themselves or others. Physical intervention will be a “last resort” effort that is used only after other, less intrusive measures have been attempted.

The Harrisburg School District uses Safe Crisis Management physical holding techniques. Our staff are trained in the proper application of these techniques, and in monitoring the health status of students when they are restrained. These techniques have been reviewed by various medical experts and judged to be safe. Any student who is restrained will be released as soon as their harmful behavior subsides and they regain the control they have temporarily lost. These interventions will never be used as a form of discipline or punishment. They are “emergency” intervention techniques used as a last resort to ensure safety after other attempts to do so have failed.

Parents will be notified (before the end of the day) of any occasion in which these interventions are used with their child, and follow up sessions will be provided as necessary. Any student who experiences a restraint will be seen by the school nurse to assess their health status, and all incidents of intervention will be documented for school records.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the building administration. Thank you for your continued support as we embark on the new school year.

Educationally,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dr. Sybil Knight-Burney". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Sybil Knight-Burney, Superintendent

“Empowering Academic Achievers and Lifelong Learners”