A Parent's Guide to:
Positive **B**ehavior **I**nterventions & **S**upports (PBIS)

Dear Parent/Guardian:
Please review the information contained here with your child(ren).

- Ask your child to tell you the Expectations.
- Ask your child to discuss examples of ways that he or she can use these expectations to help them learn and participate in school.
- Discuss ways that these expectations can be used at home and in the community.

We look forward to working in partnership with you as we embrace the PBIS method. If you have any questions please contact the school. A PBIS team member will be glad to discuss the program in more depth with you.

Husky Habits:

- ❖ Be Respectful
- ❖ Be Responsible
- ❖ Be Safe
- ❖ Be Caring

What is Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports (PBIS)?

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports is a process for creating school environments that are more predictable and effective for achieving academic and social goals. PBIS will enhance and change our culture for the better.

How does it work?

A key strategy of the PBIS process is prevention. Through instruction and regular practice, all teachers and staff members will use a consistent set of behavior expectations, common vocabulary, and common dialogue. PBIS acknowledges the positive Husky Habits through our acknowledgement system.

Acknowledgment System

- Provides instant reinforcement for positive behavior
- Focuses attention on desired behaviors
- There is a take home portion of students' PAWS tickets to share at home.

- Each week students are nominated for one of our expectations. The winners are read on the morning announcements and called to the office to receive a bag tag and have their picture taken. Classroom teachers provide a reward selected off an approved list.
- Each grade is working to fill their bucket for a monthly grade level reward.
- Golden PAWS tickets: Substitutes and/or special guests will acknowledge children who are displaying exemplary Husky Habits.

Does it make a difference?

The PBIS model is a research based strategy that is supported by the state of Pennsylvania and the federal Department of Education. The 3-tiered approach reduces problem behaviors. Research shows that schools following the PBIS model recover thousands of hours of instructional time and, on average, four days of student instruction per year.

What about students who are not following the expectations?

Our PBIS school team has developed a documented discipline system that is integrated with the district's Code of Conduct. When problem behavior occurs, students are provided a full continuum of supports to address the behavior. If students do not respond, the intensity of the support increases. Most problem student behaviors either have an academic or social base. Properly addressing the root cause of behavior can prevent student failure later in life.

What about parents?

Parents are an important part of PBIS implementation. We encourage parents to use the same expectations that the school teaches. These are not just at-school behaviors; they are life-long behaviors. Parents are asked to discuss the common expectations (Husky Habits) and post them at home for easy reference. Children thrive when they have consistent, predictable expectations and consequences.
When your child earns PAWS tickets, be sure to acknowledge their accomplishment!

What can you do to help your child stay on the path to positive behavior?

- Review the Husky Habits with your child.
- Ask your child about his/her day at school every day.
- Make sure your child is ready to learn every day.
- Ensure a good night's sleep.
- Provide a quiet time and space for your child to do homework nightly.
- Keep in touch with your child's teacher.
- Encourage your child to use appropriate language and tone.
- Practice positive phrases with your child, such as, "Thank you," "Excuse me," "Please," and "I'm sorry."
- Be a visible part of your child's school day. Attend PTO meetings and other school activities as your schedule allows.