

School Bus Driver Inservice

Bullying Prevention and
Intervention

and

How Trauma Affects
Children's Behavior

August 12, 2011



Review of Previous Info

- Bullying Prevention and Intervention Presentations from the past 3 years are on www.nassau.k12.fl.us – go to the Administrative Services Department page and click on “Bullying Prevention and Intervention Program” under the contents.





- These are the presentations:

Preventing Bullying: For Bus Drivers

Preventing Bullying: For Bus Drivers,
Part 2

Responding to Bullying – For Bus Drivers



Helpful Hints for Bus Management

- Preventing Bullying: For Bus Drivers, Part 2 listed several important ideas about managing student behavior and preventing bullying on the school bus.

Let's Review Them...

- Understand your influence in creating a positive atmosphere on your bus.
 - Prevention is better than reaction.
 - Relationships are important.
 - Know the basic facts about bullying and how to handle it.
 - Be clear and explicit about your expectations.
 - Model positive behavior for students.
 - Know the difference between bullying and conflict.
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- Have a seating chart.
 - Know the basic rules for intervening in bullying and correcting it.
 - Make parents your allies.
 - Be willing to admit and correct mistakes.



*All of these
topics are
covered in the
online
presentation!*

Who can tell me what bullying is?

- **Systematically and chronically inflicting physical hurt or psychological distress on one or more students or employees.**

NCSB Administrative Rule 5.49

See also:

Preventing Bullying: For Bus Drivers



Why Do We Care About Bullying?

- Being a victim OR a bystander OR a bully has many unwanted consequences, physical, emotional, social, and **ACADEMIC.**

We want kids to be ready and able to learn!



Our 2011-12 Focus Is...

See It? Stop It!



Remember, one of the most effective and easiest ways to stop bullying is to simply say, "Stop! We don't treat each other that way on this bus!"

What Causes Kids to Act Inappropriately?

- Many factors, but one of them might be that the child has been a victim of trauma.



A Change in Thinking...

- We wish to be alert and recognize the presence of trauma symptoms and acknowledge the role that trauma plays in victims' lives.
- We seek to change from asking "What's wrong with you?" to asking...



"What has happened to you?"

Trauma Types

- Domestic Violence
- Early Childhood Trauma
- Medical Trauma
- Natural Disasters
- Neglect
- Physical Abuse
- School Violence or Crisis
- Community Violence
- Sexual Abuse
- Traumatic Grief (death, military families)



What effects does trauma have on children?

- **Elementary students:** complaints of stomachaches, headaches, and pains; change in behavior, such as increase irritability, aggression, and anger.
- **Middle and high school students:** self-consciousness about their emotional responses, feelings of shame and guilt about the traumatic event, fantasies about revenge and retribution, radical shift in the way they think about the world, self-destructive or accident-prone behaviors, reckless behaviors, changes in interpersonal relationships with family members, teachers, and classmates.

However, kids (people) are different in the ways they react...even to the same event.

I'm Not a Psychiatrist... How Am I Supposed to Know What to Do?

- You're not supposed to know what to do about the child's trauma or to be able to "fix" anything!



Then Why Are We Talking About This?

- If you understand that when people act improperly, there may be an underlying reason for it, then you have the ability to help the situation rather than make it worse.



In general, remember...

- Avoid confrontations and ultimatums.
- Keep your own behavior under control.
- Be positive and focus on solutions.
- Have compassion.
- Remember that peoples' behavior is ABOUT THEM, NOT ABOUT YOU.



If you suspect something's going on with a child...

- Take the time to talk to someone!
- Talk to the parent.
- Refer the child to the school guidance counselor.



Together,
we make it happen!

