Parent’s Guide to

The Core Project

Otherwise known as PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports)

**WHAT IS PBIS?**

PBIS - or Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports - is a school-wide system that recognizes the positive contributions of students. The main goal of PBIS is to help every student at Orchard School develop self-discipline to make positive choices.

The PBIS process focuses on our school's ability to teach and support positive behavior expectations for all students. As a result, instructional time is more effectively used for teaching, and the overall school environment is calm, pleasant and focused on learning. At Orchard School, PBIS is called The Core Project.

**CORE VALUES**

The Core Project revolves around three basic values. We call these the Core Values.

We promote learning through

Respect for:

Ourselves

Others

and

Our Environment

**STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The staff at Orchard School believes that students who demonstrate Core Value behavior help make Orchard School a safe, respectful environment for learning. When students use Core Values, they are verbally acknowledged by teachers and staff members. These verbal acknowledgements are called Core Counts, and are recorded by each adult on tally counters called Core Counters. When a Core Counter reaches 50, a Red Apple is added to the “Apple Trail” on the hallway wall. When the Apple Trail reaches a designated point, we will have a school-wide celebration!

Additionally, each class or group of students (ie: Art class or lunch/recess group) will create group goals with their teacher. When the class achieves a group goal, they add a Golden Apple to the Apple Trail, and have a classroom celebration!

**REINFORCING EXPECTATIONS**

Children do their best when they know what is expected of them. However, students often need to be encouraged and taught how to do the right thing. You will notice in our school, posters which remind students, staff, and parents of the expected behaviors in each school setting. These positively stated behaviors can be found in our Core Values Matrix.

The behavior expectations are taught at the beginning of the year, and reviewed throughout the year. Students learn and practice how to be respectful of themselves, others, and the environment in the classroom, hallway, cafeteria, bathroom, at assemblies, and on the playground and bus. You will find a copy of our Core Values Matrix on the back of this flier. Please review the expectations with your child.

**What Can Parents Do to Encourage Positive Behavior at Home?**

- Talk with your child about his/her day.
- Review the Orchard Core Values Matrix with your child and post it in your home.
- Ask your child how he/she is respectful at school.
- Model respectful behavior.
- Encourage respectful behavior by noticing.
- Help your child to be on time to school.
- Participate in your child’s school learning and activities.
- Communicate regularly with your child’s teacher.
- Make your own Behavior Matrix together for your home!

For more information on The Core Project, contact our school coordinators, Maggie Broderick and Abby Blake 652-7300