

# Central School Elementary School: Safe School Climate Plan 2023- 2024

This document serves as communication of the proactive ways we create a positive school climate. This plan is also in accordance with Bullying Legislation, Act 11-232 for the State of Connecticut and the Board of Education Policy 5131.911.

**School Climate Coordinator: Neil Sullivan, Director of Personnel**

The Safe School Climate Coordinator will be responsible for:

- Implementing the district’s Safe School Climate Plan;
- Collaborating with Safe School Climate Specialists, the Board, and the Superintendent to prevent, identify and respond to bullying in district schools;
- Provide data and information, in collaboration with the Superintendent to the Department of Education regarding bullying;
- Meet with Safe School Climate Specialists at least twice during the school year to discuss issues relating to bullying in the school district and make recommendations concerning amendments to the district’s plan

**School Climate Specialist: Beth Hennessy, Principal, Central Elementary School**

The Safe School Climate Specialist will be responsible for:

- Investigate or supervise the investigation of reported acts of bullying and act as the primary school official responsible for preventing, identifying and responding to reports of bullying in the school.
- Meet with the Safe School Climate Committee Coordinator at least twice per year.
- Form a Safe School Climate Committee

**School Climate Committee Membership:**

- Two types of committee meetings: (see potential meeting times below):
  1. Full Committee: Discussions about general school climate, culture, trends/patterns, and improvements surrounding bullying prevention and dating violence if appropriate.
  2. Committee w/o Parent Rep: Discussions of investigations with student identifying information redacted.

	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
1		X			X				X	
2					X			X		
District				X				X		

- Must include at least one parent (not an employee of the school)
- Committee is charged with reviewing investigations; discussing general school climate, culture, trends/patterns, and improvements surrounding bullying prevention.
- All investigation reports reviewed should have any student identifying information redacted for all committee members.

**Actions and Measures to Address School Climate at Central Elementary School**

Action:

Develop, execute, and annually assess a school-wide planned set of activities intended to: increase constituent awareness of school-based character education programs; promote positive interaction between and among students as well as between students and the larger community; develop personal senses of responsibility for and identification with the school community.

To increase constituent awareness of school-based character education program (*Central Sails*):

- Handout sent to parents in September outlining program highlights & character “themes” of respect, citizenship, responsibility, caring, fairness, and trustworthiness. Classroom presentation of the same at Curriculum Night.
- Central Sails-Character Education goal setting activity completed at school and at home.
- All faculty and staff award paper sailboats to reinforce students for demonstrating character.
- Character Education (LARTNEC) overview, school statement of purpose, character ideals (respect, responsibility, caring & integrity) shared during virtual Curriculum Night presentation
- Character Education Committee meetings
- Character education program referenced specifically on website, Strategic Plan, and reinforced through school the *The Central Signal* weekly email notification.
- Character “theme” of the month flag displayed on the Central Sails mural
- Eight school-wide assemblies per year to highlight character “themes” and to continue to develop as a school community.
- Grade levels sponsor a “theme” each month and reinforce awareness through school activities, lessons and assemblies.
- Classroom recognition of students through Responsive Classroom practices.
- *Look for the Good*-Gratitude Campaign
- Kindness Week facilitated by the school faculty

Measures of Success:

Degree of student, parent, faculty & staff participation in character education programs; number of bullying-related incidents each year; parent & faculty feedback. Curriculum Night Presentation

Parent feedback  
Student feedback  
Teacher feedback

Number of Character “Boats” awarded and posted Central Sails mural

Participation of all within school assemblies.

Character Committee advises school on initiatives to support all students and school climate. Faculty actions are based on 2020 Student Climate Data.

Recognition at Central Sails assemblies.  
Gratitude campaign and gratitude wall.

To promote positive interaction between and among students as well as between students and the larger community:

- *Central Sails* Character Education program
- Morning meetings within classroom communities
- School Resource Officer- Grade level programs
- Better Choice Slips (Office and Classrooms)
- *Field Day* organized by Physical Education teacher
- Collaborative events sponsored by both the PTO and the Student Council
- School-wide programs (LARTNECS: Welcome and Farewell, Art Show, Instrumental and Vocal concerts, Veterans Day Assembly)
- School-wide assemblies to celebrate students
- Cross-grade level book buddies
- *Look for the Good*-Gratitude Campaign
- Kindness week facilitated by the faculty
- *Turkey Trot* (School-wide food drive)
- Social Emotional Learning instruction in the CASEL Competencies (Self-Awareness, Social Awareness, Responsible Decision Making, Relationship Skills, Self Management)

To develop personal senses of responsibility for and identification with the school community:

- 6th grade Captains
- Student Leadership Program (grades 5 and 6)
- Afterschool Action Club
- Establishment of defined 'classroom jobs' in all elementary homerooms.

Monitor database for Principal Better Choice Slips and Positive Recognitions awarded.

Maintain levels of student recognition.

Maintain/reduce overall numbers of Better Choice Slips  
Student participation rate/attendance rate within all programs

Student participation rate /attendance rate within all these programs.

Number of spirit days, fund-raisers, projects, etc. initiated by Student Council  
Database and available reports