

# **Cobblestone Elementary**

Dear Cobblestone Parents,

We had a fantastic response to the survey we gave you regarding PBIS during fall conferences. Over 60% of all families provided input! Based on this information, we learned that it would be helpful to provide more information about our PBIS program. As a result, we have put together these answers to your frequently asked questions to build greater understanding about our efforts to build a positive school climate.

# **PBIS Frequently Asked Questions**

### What is PBIS and why do we use it?

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is a proactive system to establish and maintain a positive learning culture so that **all** students in school can achieve social, emotional and academic success.

# What is the Cougar Code?

Cobblestone's Cougar Code is to: Show Respect, Make Good Decisions and Solve Problems.

# What are Cougar Coupons? How are they earned and redeemed?

We recognize students for following the Cougar Code by giving them Cougar Coupons. Students redeem their coupons for individual or whole group special privileges.

#### Why do students have to be silent on the sidewalks?

Students are expected to be silent when on sidewalks for two reasons. First, we want to avoid disrupting instruction that is going on in classrooms when other students are in the hallways going to the playground, library, or other areas. Minimizing distractions helps students learn better. Secondly, this is a transition time where we want students to be focused on their next task. Students will be ready to start their learning if they are already calm and quiet in the hallways. This saves valuable instructional time.

#### Why do students "take a knee" at the end of each recess?

Students are expected to take a knee or squat and be silent when the bell rings at the end of each recess. This action prevents students from continuing to play after the bell has rung. Students are then able to refocus their attention on returning to class. It also prevents students from running to line up. This means we avoid accidents and collisions between students. Just like in many sports, children take a knee to listen for instructions or to ensure play stops.

#### What are referrals?

All expected behaviors are taught and retaught at the start of the school year and reinforced throughout the year. Referrals are written when students continue to demonstrate difficulty following the rules that have been taught. The purpose of the referral is to document the behavior, inform the parents, and identify other resources that may help the student make better decisions. There are major and minor referrals based on the severity of the infraction.

#### What is the difference between major & minor referrals?

Minor referrals are intended to provide the student with a reteach opportunity, a warning, and time to refocus on the expectations. However, if the same type of offense is incurred three times, the minor referrals becomes a major referral. Consequences are different once a major referral occurs. Certain offenses like bullying and physical aggression are automatically classified as major referrals even on the first offense. All of our students are taught the school expectations, the purpose of referrals and the possible consequences.