



Take a Stand

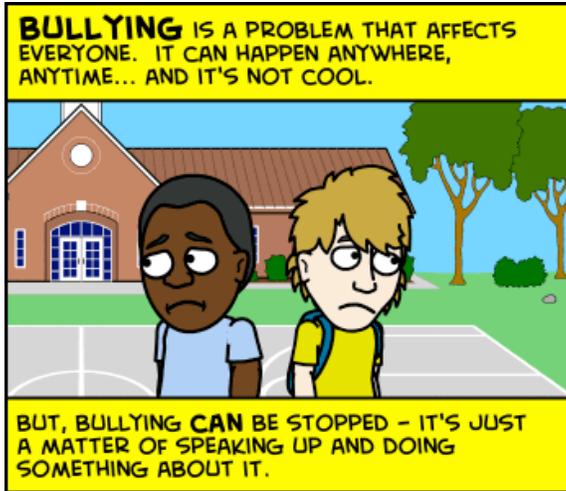
by Jami

What is a bully? The Scott Foresman dictionary says that a bully is a person who teases, frightens, threatens, or hurts smaller or weaker people. Bullying effects everyone in one way or another. Research by Nevada Pep (2013) states that more than 160,000 U.S. students stay home from school each day out of fear of being bullied. It also states 77% of students are bullied socially, verbally, and physically and, 19% of students admit to saying something hurtful to others online. Because bullying is such a growing concern, October is National Bully Prevention Month.

Bullying comes in many different forms. The social form of bullying may include behaviors such as spreading rumors, purposely leaving someone out of group activities or telling people not to be someone's friend. Social bullying can occur within any social setting, including those by way of the Internet. Another form of bullying is verbal. This might include teasing, name-calling or threatening to cause harm to others. Bullying can also be physical and include hitting or kicking others, as well as breaking other people's personal items.

In response to National Bully Prevention month, Neuwoehner High School organized a variety of activities

in which teachers and students can participate. "This month teachers focused on anti-bullying skills within



Graphic courtesy Cartoon Network

their curriculum," Ms. Bubash shared. Within their classes, teachers included character education lessons to address what bullying is and what to do if you see or experience it. As well, the character education word for October is respect. But the anti-bullying message isn't just being shared inside classrooms. Walking through the halls, you will see doors decorated with positive messages that support anti-bullying and an anti-bullying banner for both students and staff to sign.

According to Mrs. Roth, a social worker at Neuwoehner, there is a zero

tolerance rule against bullying. Located in the student handbook is a school compact form that students, parents, and staff sign ensuring that they will do their part to adhere to school rules maintaining a safe environment. At Neuwoehner if a bullying situation has occurred the classroom staff, social workers, administration and parents of both parties are made aware of the allegations. These stakeholders work together to address the situation and make sure zero tolerance has been followed.

When faced with bullying, students react in different ways. When asked what he would do if he were bullied, one student said that he would try to "handle it himself in a safe manner". Another student said he would "talk to the bully first, if possible, or try to ignore the behavior". The best way to deal with bullying, however, is to tell an adult or authority figure and allow them to handle the situation by following the proper measures.

If you feel you have witnessed bullying or feel you are being bullied please contact Missouri School Violence Hotline at 1-866-748-7047 or text **ReportIt** to 847411.

Nevada PEP (2013). Bullying Statistics. Retrieved from www.nvpep.org/bullying/bullyingstatistics.html

From Homeland to America

by Isaac

On October 10th, Metro Theater came to Neuwoehner to perform New Kid, a play written by Dennis Foon. It was funded by a Special Education Foundation mini-grant earned by Ms. Bubash. The play was in correlation with Bully Prevention Month.

In New Kid, Nick and his family move from Homeland to America. On his first day at school, Nick has difficulty understanding the other students. They make fun of him because he's new and different, which makes Nick feel unwelcome. When he talks to his mother about this, she tells him to keep trying, but later in the play Nick's mother faces the same judgment from others. Eventually, Nick makes friends with another student from school and things get better.



Photo courtesy Ms. Dillon

Staff and students enjoyed the play and said they would use information they learned from it to help prevent bullying. "My students have been bullied and have bullied. This is something we talk about and work with on a daily basis and I remind my students about accepting everyone," said Mrs. Mayali. When talking about how bullying affects classroom dynamics Ms. White, room 7, shared, "It doesn't make for a fun learning environment because students can't enjoy learning" when bullying occurs in the classroom.

This play was a great learning scenario for our students as well. "It taught about how people can be bullied," said Kara. When asked how to welcome a new student to our school, Matthew said he would "say hi" to the new student and greet him or her with "my name is Matthew."

Team Up to Read by Isaac

This school year, Title I Reading Specialist, Mrs. Hutchcraft, created a program called Partner Reads. Partner Reads is a program designed to accelerate literacy development in children by sending books home with students to read with a partner. Mrs. Hutchcraft's goal in implementing this program is to encourage the enjoyment of reading while promoting parent involvement. According to an article by the Center for Comprehensive School Reform and Improvement (2005), "The benefits of parent involvement are clear, a growing body of evidence shows that successful parent involvement improves not only student behavior and attendance but also positively affects student's achievement."

Partner Reads books were selected to address a variety of student interests. First, nonfiction books were included because informational text is one of the core components for the new national Common Core Standards that our state is in the process of adopting. Next, Choose Your Own Adventure books were picked because they are of high interest with multiple choice multiple endings where the reader gets to choose the path they take throughout the story based on decisions they make as they read. Finally, Mrs. Hutchcraft selected the We Both Read series because it's a series in which parents and students take turns reading. Parents read on the left side, which has a higher reading level, while students read on the right side, which has a lower reading level. The books for the project were purchased through Title I funds.

Since going school wide this year, all Title I resources are available for all students. Staff can locate the books in a bin on a cart in the school library labeled Partner Reads. Mrs. Hutchcraft received feedback from staff saying it is a great idea and parents expressed excitement about it because they think it's a great way for kids to bring home books that they are interested in. Mrs. Hutchcraft said, "The reason I decided to implement this program was to promote the importance of parents reading with their children." Parents are the most important partner in a child's education. Such relationships require a lot of work by both the educators and parents (2005).

The Center for Comprehensive School Reform and Improvement (August 2005). Meeting the Challenge: Getting Parents Involved in Schools. Washington, DC. Retrieved from www.readingrockets.org



Photo courtesy Mrs. Mayali

Cardinals Day

James, Dan, Kara and Carla, students and staff from Mrs. Mayali's classroom, sporting red in honor of Cardinals Day, October 4th.

Air Quality Index By Isaac

At the beginning of this school year, Neuwoehner began using the Air Quality Index, which is part of the School Wellness Program. The Air Quality Index became SSD district policy in May 2013 because of an awareness of pollutants in the Missouri area and health needs of students in the school.

The information for the daily Air Quality Index is taken from AirNow.gov which shows the current conditions. The Index includes a list of pollutants, a map of the area, a forecast, and the current ozone level.

Air Quality Index	
Green	Air is very clean.
Yellow	Air is clean.
Orange	Air is not clean enough for some people.
Red	Air is polluted.
Purple	Air is very polluted.

The air quality can affect staff and students health. On days with poor air quality, people with health problems are advised to stay inside.

Neuwoehner's Air Quality Index is located on the wall across from the main office, next to the staff mail room. The air quality is also included within the morning announcements.

Student Council Report by Jami

The votes are in! On September 19th-20th, elections were held for student council. Over 200 staff and students voted. The outcome was great. The 2013-2014 student council members are as follows

Elected Officials

President - Tracey
Vice President - Jami & Brendan
2nd Vice President - Louis
Secretary - Kara
Treasurer - Jamie
Historian - Alex
Mediator - Josie

Classroom Representatives

Isaiah Willie
James Maizy
Forrest Shea
Nikki Brianna
Monica

This year the student council's mission is to promote leadership involvement in our school. Their goal is to increase student activities by May 2014 as measured by the end of the year activity review.

To achieve the goal members have weighed in on the topic. Monica said, "I am excited about this opportunity because I feel it will allow me to voice my opinion and make decisions." She is also excited to be involved with other students while engaging in school activities. The school president, Tracey, has some high hopes for this school year. He wants to help raise money for the planned activities as well as help the students in the school have a successful year.

Student Council has ideas in the works for fundraising support. In the past they have collected donations for many important organizations such as Shriner's, St. Patrick's Center, and Humane Society to name a few. They ask for your help in continuing their efforts to assist those in need.

Special Olympics

Bowling



Tower Climb

Photos courtesy of Coach Green, Mrs. Hutchcraft, Ms. Laird, and Ms. Dillon

Monthly Disability Report

By Killian

ADD (Attention Deficit Disorder) and ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) are often interchangeable disorders, however, the American Psychiatric Association only recognizes ADHD. Frequently, when people refer to ADD they are actually referring to one type of ADHD. ADHD is usually diagnosed when a child is about 3 or 4 years old. Parents report that approximately 9.5% of children 4-17 years old (5.4 million) have been diagnosed with ADHD as of 2007 (2013).

ADHD comes with many everyday problems such as not being able to focus, being overactive, or not being able to control behavior. The three categories of ADHD symptoms include inattention, hyperactivity, and impulsivity. A person with inattention may have difficulty paying attention, be easily distracted, appear disorganized or forgetful, and/or put off starting and completing tasks. Inattention may not be seen in children until they become school age and have to focus in the classroom. This is also the form of ADHD that people may refer to as ADD. Hyperactivity symptoms may include fidgeting or wiggling while seated, lack of ability to play or work quietly, frequent talking and/or a constant need for movement. Symptoms of impulsivity may include impatience, blurting out or interrupting conversations, and/or acting without thinking. Hyperactivity and impulsivity often go hand in hand and symptoms of both are often seen in children before they begin school.

There is no single medical, physical, or other test for diagnosing ADHD. To determine if you or your child has ADHD, a doctor or other health professional will need to be involved, and you can expect him or her to use a number of different tools: a checklist of symptoms, answers to questions about past and present problems, or a medical exam to rule out other causes for symptoms (Smith & Segal, 2013).

Center for Disease Control and Prevention. (2013). *Attention-Deficit / Hyperactivity Disorder*. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/adhd/data.html>

Smith, M., Segal, J. (2013). *ADD/ADHD Tests and Diagnosis: Diagnosing Attention Deficit Disorder in Children and Adults*. Retrieved from http://helpguide.org/mental/adhd_add_diagnosis.htm

Up Coming Events

October 31, 2013

- NeuNews Survey (outside cafeteria during lunch)

November 1, 2013

- NeuNews Survey (outside cafeteria during lunch)

- Special Olympics Volleyball at Ladue

November 8, 2013

- No School (Professional Development Day)

November 11, 2013

- Veteran's Day

November 12, 2013

- Picture Retake

November 14, 2013

- Student Council Meeting for Holiday Donation Collection (1:30pm-2:00pm)

November 15, 2013

- Special Olympics Bowling Practice at Brunswick

November 18, 2013

- Student Council Collecting for Holiday Donation

November 27 - 29, 2013

- Thanksgiving Break

Suggestion Box

The NeuNews Staff would like to let everyone know that there is a suggestion box in the front office. We would like you to put suggestions for articles for the paper, upcoming events, or other ideas you "the readers of NeuNews" would like to see in the paper.

How Does Your Garden Grow?



Photos courtesy Mr. Malinski

Students, RaeJean and Dan, show off the vegetables they picked from the Neuwoehner garden.

Student Survey

What is your favorite class?

(Lunch & Recess are **NOT** classes)

- A. Math
- B. Science
- C. Language Arts
- D. History
- E. Other (please specify):

Submit your answers outside the cafeteria during lunch times on October 31 and November 1.

Among The Stars

By Shea

Room 9 has been very busy this school year. Mrs. Hudson and her students have been working on a solar system project. Three staff and five students from room 9 gathered information about the solar system from discovery education, classroom textbooks, and videos.

After learning about the solar system, they used foil, tag board, cardboard boxes, and paint to create a solar system model. They created the model in the hallway outside their classroom.



Photo courtesy Room 9

Mrs. Hudson said the solar system was part of their science curriculum and they needed to not only learn it but to learn it "in a way that would be fun for them." The kids loved working on the project because they had fun making the stars out of foil, watching the videos about the solar system, and reading books about the way the solar system works.

The project has taken about a month to complete. Go check it out! The final project can be seen hanging from the ceiling outside room 9, located in the northwest pod.



NeuNews Mission

The Newspaper staff will create a student newspaper using critical thinking, problem solving and collaboration to inform and entertain the student body of upcoming events and fun facts.

Puzzle Box

Directions: How many words can you make using the name of our school?

Neuwoehner High School

Examples:

- **N** **e** **w** **o** **e** **h** **n** **e** **r** **H** **i** **g** **S** **c** **h** **o** **o** **l** ... **n** **e** **w**
- **N** **e** **w** **o** **e** **h** **n** **e** **r** **H** **i** **g** **S** **c** **h** **o** **o** **l** ... **w** **h** **e** **e** **l**



TEAM Tiger -
Together **E**veryone **A**chieves **M**ore

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