

February, 2015

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Erin's Law, House Bill 6193 was signed by Governor Pat Quinn on January 24, 2013. This new law requires schools to implement an age-appropriate sexual assault and abuse awareness and prevention curriculum for grades pre-K through 12. For more information on Erin's law, please visit www.erinslaw.org.

School District 53, will be using the *Second Step* program in your child's classroom. This program will be used in the 4 year old Oak Brook Park District preschool program through third grade for six weeks starting March 9, 2015. *The Second Step* program teaches children important skills for getting along with others and doing well in school. It also helps our school be a safe and supportive place where everyone can learn. To help make our school even more safe and supportive, we are also going to use the *Second Step Child Protection Unit*. In these lessons, students will learn three types of skills:

- **Personal Safety.** Students will learn important safety rules, such as safety with guns, sharp tools, and fire, and when riding on wheels or in cars. They will also learn ways to help them decide if something is safe or not.
- **Touching Safety.** Students will learn about safe, unsafe, and unwanted touches, and rules about touching private body parts. They'll also learn to say no to unsafe or unwanted touches, and to tell an adult if someone breaks rules about touching private body parts.
- **Assertiveness.** These lessons will also give students a chance to practice asking an adult for help, telling an adult about an unsafe situation, and being assertive to get out of unsafe situations.

Your child will bring home *Home Links* to help you understand what he or she is learning about safety at school and to give your child another chance to practice safety skills. To keep your child safe and protected, everyone at school needs to be involved. So all our staff will get special training in how to:

- Recognize and report suspected child sexual abuse
- Respond to and support children who have been abused or who are facing other challenges
- Use strategies that promote a safe and supportive school climate

For more information on what your child is learning, please go online to **SecondStep.org** and log in with the following activation keys.

- Early Learning: CPUK FAMI LYGE
- First Grade: CPUK FAMI LYF1
- Second Grade: CPUK FAMI LYF2
- Third Grade: CPUK FAMI LYF3

If you have any questions about *the Second Step* program, please contact Kim Bayer, LCSW (kbayer@butler53.com) or Ann Wolff, LCSW (awolff@butler53.com) at 630-325-6888.

Thank you for helping us to make our school a safe and supportive place where everyone can learn.

Sincerely,

Kelly Voliva
Principal
Brook Forest School