

# Erin's Law

Butler 53 Parent Presentation  
2019

# What is Erin's Law?

## Illinois Law Requiring:

- Child sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention
- Part of HB 6193, Section 3- Comprehensive Health Education Program
  - "age appropriate sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education in grades pre-kindergarten through 12..."
- Named after Erin Merryn who was sexually abused by two different people

# Why was this law passed?

Because:

- 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys will experience sexual abuse before they are 18 years old
- Only 1 in 10 sexually abused children will tell someone
- Only one third of teens who were involved in an abusive relationship confided in someone about the violence
- Roughly 1.5 million high school boys and girls in the U.S. admit to being intentionally hit or physically harmed in the last year by someone they are romantically involved with
- 33 percent of adolescents in America are victim to sexual, physical, verbal, or emotional dating abuse
- Self-report studies show that 20% of adult females and 5-10% of adult males recall a childhood sexual assault or sexual abuse incident

# What will this education look like for our students?

- Brook Forest social worker and school psychologist will present age appropriate lessons to students 4 years old to 5th grade. The class will be taught in the 4 year old rooms at the Oak Brook Park District and in Guidance Classes at Brook Forest. Classroom teachers will also be present.
- Elementary and Early Childhood Students
  - Second Step- Child Protection Unit
    - Age appropriate, research based, scripted program to teach children many different safety rules
    - 3 R's - Ways to Stay Safe
      - Recognize- Is it safe?
      - Refuse- Say words that mean NO
      - Report- Tell an adult
    - Posters, songs, story lessons

# Child Protection Unit Structure

- 6 Lessons - March 13th to April 28th
- 1st Grade
- 3rd Grade
- 4th Grade
- 5th Grade

Differences with 4th and 5th compared to lower grades - How to be safe when you're alone or with friends, calling 911, making good decisions.

- Lessons build on each other, promoting safety rules. Makes comfortable transition to safe and unsafe touches, and the touching rule.

# Lesson Structure

- Introduction to Lesson - Discusses Ways to Stay Safe (3 R's) and the Never-Never Rules
- Story and Discussion - Includes a picture and a story about it.
- Skill Practice - Skills are modeled and students are given an opportunity to practice the skill.
- Wrap-Up - Brief review of what students learned during the lesson.

# Secondstep.org

Here are the activation codes for parents to learn more about the program:

ECE: CPUK FAMI LYGE

K: CPUK FAMI LYGK

1st: CPU1 FAMI LYG1

2nd: CPU2 FAMI LYG2

3rd: CPU3 FAMI LYG3

4th: CPU4 FAMI LYG4

5th: CPU5 FAMI LYG5

\*Home Links will be sent home after each lesson explaining what was covered in class.

# What to do if a child discloses that they have been abused

## Do's

- Believe them
- Ask them what they need
- Actively listen to what they are telling you
- Validate what they are feeling
- Contact a professional who can help the child



# What *not* to do if a child discloses sexual abuse

## General Don'ts:

- Do not tell them they are lying or making up stories
- Do not try to get more information-let them share what is comfortable for them
- Do not make promises you can't keep
- Do not react in shock or disgust

# How to Handle a Disclosure

## Helpful Phrases

- This is not your fault.
- I believe you.
- I am here for you.
- You are not to blame.
- You didn't do anything wrong.
- You did what you had to do
- I'm sorry this happened.
- Thank you for telling me about this.

# School Services and Resources

The following people can provide interventions and referrals for our students:

- School Social Workers (Kim Bayer & Katie Guerrero)
- ECE teacher (Kimberly Voltaire)
- School Nurse (Terry Hillen)
- School Psychologist (Katey Groya)
- DARE Officer (Officer Yager)
- School Principals (Chad Prosen & Amy Read)

# Questions?

Please feel free to contact us at anytime.

Kim Bayer, Social Worker, LCSW

Katey Groya, School Psychologist

Katie Guerrero, Social Worker, LCSW

Kimberly Voltaire, ECE Teacher

# Community Services and Resources

- Oak Brook Police Department
  - 630-368-8700
- Department of Children and Family Services
  - Hotline number: 800-252-2873
- Child's Advocacy Center
  - 630-407-2750