

Did you know that North Frederick Elementary is a PBIS School?



What is Positive Behavior Intervention and Support?

PBIS is a process for creating safer and more effective schools. It is a systems approach to enhancing the capacity of schools to educate all children by developing research-based, school-wide, and classroom behavior support systems. The process focuses on improving a school's ability to teach and support positive behavior for all students.

Rather than a prescribed program, PBIS provides systems for schools to design, implement, and evaluate effective school-wide, classroom, non-classroom, and student specific plans. PBIS includes school-wide procedures and processes intended for all students and all staff in all settings. PBIS is not a program or a curriculum. It is a team-based process for systemic problem solving, planning, and evaluation. It is an approach to creating a safe and productive learning environment where teachers can teach and all students can learn.

What is PBIS at our school?

We have adopted a unified set of school-wide expectations. You will see these rules posted throughout the school and your child has been learning them since September. Our unified school expectations, found throughout the school building are:

Expectation #1: Be Ready

Expectation #2: Be Responsible

Expectation #3: Be Respectful

Expectation #4: Enforce Rigor

As part of our PBIS process, teachers and other staff members use evidence-based practices to increase student learning and decrease classroom disruptions. To encourage, we do the following when teaching academics and behavior:

- Constantly teach and refer to our school-wide expectations.
- Provide students with more praise than correction.
- Talk to students with respect using positive voice tone.
- Actively engage everyone in the class during instruction.
- Use pre-correcting, prompting, and redirecting as we teach.
- Look for the positive first and provide positive, immediate, frequent, and explicit feedback.

Teaching Behavioral Expectations at NFES

In the past, schoolwide discipline has focused mainly on reacting to specific student misbehavior by implementing punishment-based strategies including reprimands, loss of privileges, office referrals, suspensions, and expulsions. Research has shown that the implementation of punishment, especially when it is used inconsistently and in the absence of other positive strategies, is ineffective. Introducing, modeling, and reinforcing positive social behavior is an important step of a student's educational experience. Teaching behavioral expectations and rewarding students for following them is a much more positive approach than waiting for misbehavior to occur before responding. The purpose of schoolwide PBIS is to establish a climate in which appropriate behavior is the norm.

Unfortunately, students will occasionally receive a “support” or “referral” form from a staff member. When this occurs a member of the school's Care team will spend time with the student reflecting on the old behaviors and teaching new behaviors. This is often done through restorative practices.

In an effort to improve home-school communication, if your child receives a “support” or “referral” form, it will be sent home for your records. If you have any questions or concerns about a form you receive, feel free to contact Erin Malone, the Behavior Support Specialist at 240-236-1977.