**Class Meeting: November 11, 2015**

**Ground Rules**

**Icebreaker: Clap Game (5-7 minutes)**

**The goal: Clap in unison (as a class)**

**BullyBuster or Teacher should lead the game- calling out the number of claps per round.**

**Start by clapping together 3 times. If people are out of sync, restart. Once you have accomplished clapping in unison 3 times, go to the next round. Any time anyone is out of sync, restart that round. Add on one clap per round for a maximum of 11 claps.**

**BullyBusters:**  So far this year we have been focusing our Class Meeting time on getting to know each other and getting used to talking and working together. Now it’s time to start focusing on how to proceed with Class Meetings in the future. Before we can begin to have these class meetings and cover some of the serious topics that will come up, let’s review the purpose of our Class Meetings. Our purpose is to:

* Learn about bullying
* Discuss bullying situations
* Discuss how we are treating each other and how to be kinder, more respectful and more helpful to each other
* Work together to stop or prevent bullying at Oakview
* Talk about other issues that are important to Oakview and our class

To make sure everyone gets a chance to say his or her opinions and feels comfortable in these Class Meetings, we will need a few ground rules.

We are going to work in small groups to talk about what those should be, and then we will come up with a class set of ground rules.

1. **Teachers/BullyBusters:**  Divide class into small groups. Each group should have a piece of paper (regular 8.5 x 11 paper is fine for this). Groups should discuss what rules they think should be included in the ground rules for Class Meetings.
2. **Teachers/BullyBusters:** Monitor groups for about 5 minutes or until they are able to get some ideas down on paper. Have groups stay together but start class discussion.
3. **Teachers/BullyBusters:** Have groups share the ideas for ground rules with the class. Teachers, you may want to take notes or you may want to appoint a note taker who can paraphrase what students are saying.

After you have heard all of the suggestions, try to distill them down to 5 or 6 rules that will work for your class. *You may want to keep these suggested ground rules in mind and ask leading questions to get them to come up with these suggested ground rules in their own words. Or, state the suggested ground rule and have them talk about what that means/what that should look like. Classroom ground rules will be worded slightly different for each class.*

***Rule #6 from the list below must be included in each classroom’s set of rules.***

***Suggested* ground rules (except for #6 which is mandatory):**

1. We raise our hand when we want to say something.
2. Everyone has the right to be heard.
3. We let others speak without interrupting.
4. Everyone has a right to pass.
5. We can disagree without being disagreeable or saying mean things. No verbal or non-verbal “put-downs”.
6. **When talking about bullying or other problems between students, we don’t mention names.**

Please write the ground rules down on your board as the discussion unfolds. Post them in your classroom at some point after today’s meeting.

1. **Teachers/BullyBusters:** In their groups, ask students to discuss and write down their definition of bullying and the different types of bullying. After they have had a few minutes to discuss, have each group share with the class their definitions and types of bullying.
2. **BullyBusters-** please collect the papers with definitions of bullying and bring them to the debrief.