

Promoting Positive Relationships at Archbishop Bergan Catholic School

Did you know that cultivating Positive Relationships is a priority at Archbishop Bergan Catholic School?

Recently a parent led committee has been formed with the following as the group's guiding principle.

Archbishop Bergan Catholic School will foster an environment where positive peer to peer and student to staff relationships are developed. All students and staff will feel safe and welcome in the school environment daily.

Here are some of the current practices to promote this goal at Archbishop Bergan Catholic School...

-Stacey Lichtenberg from the Bridge (formerly the Crisis Center) visits and presents to students monthly in Grades K-12 about the skills necessary to build positive relationships

-Staff members meet with students individually and in group settings to gain student perspectives and address any current issues taking place. When needed, staff members mediate student group meetings to help students work through negative issues they are experiencing.

- Staff members attempt to be as visible and present as possible in unstructured times/areas of the school day in order to deter any negative behaviors.

-Archbishop Bergan Catholic School has instituted the only Christ Centered Bullying Solution Curriculum available called "Peace Be with You". This curriculum is used in grades 7-12 during weekly HOUSE activity period.

-Administration has conducted a student climate survey to gauge student's feelings about bullying in our school, having a trusted adult here at Bergan, if they feel safe/welcome at school. Results have been evaluated and decisions about areas of focus have been made based on these findings.

Things that we are working on for the future...

-Get students more involved in the process allowing them to help make decisions about the future of our school .

-Continue to use activity period time to gather student groups to discuss the social dynamics of the class and get issues identified.

-Institute a student led mentoring system in which 7th grade students are paired with an 11th grade student as a mentee/mentor pair.

-Institute the "Peace Be with You" curriculum in grade 4, 5, and 6 for the 2015-2016 school year.

If you are parent that would like to get more involved in helping us support our goal of creating a more positive environment please join us on the last Wednesday of the month at 5:30 in the Middle/High School Library. We would love to have you be a participant in helping us develop solutions.

Know that we at Archbishop Catholic School place a premium on student self-esteem, school experience, and daily interactions with other students and staff. We would hope that everyone would show compassion for each other following Jesus's teachings to love one another.