

# Byars Dowdy Elementary School-Wide Positive Behavior Support

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new year at Byars Dowdy! We are very excited about this school year and want to share some important information with you. Our mission at BDE is “to build a legacy of excellence one student at a time.” Simply put, we want to build the solid foundation that allows your child to excel in life. This mission is accomplished by using the best instructional strategies, embedding a sense of pride in self, helping each child set goals, and by implementing a behavior model that centers on prevention.

Our behavior/discipline plan is called School-Wide Positive Behavior Support (SWPBS). The goal of this approach is for us to teach the appropriate behavior; focusing on prevention, data collection, and maximizing instructional time. This is consistent school wide. Every classroom and support area has the same rules and procedures for handling behavior and encouraging positive interactions. Research reveals that students receive an average of 3.5 hours of instruction each day. However, a SWPBS school boasts an average of 4.5 hours each day.

Most discipline plans are considered “wait to fail” meaning that a student misbehaves and is then punished. The cycle repeats continuously, adding to the amount of time that a student is not in the classroom. SWPBS changes this cycle and focuses on preventing misbehavior, correcting and teaching when misbehavior does occur, and keeping your child on task and learning. Consequences are still given relating to the behavior and it will focus your child toward self regulating his/her behavior. Self regulation is a life skill that is a foundation of SWPBS.

## **Traits of our SWPBS Classrooms / School**

- School wide rules: **Responsible, On Time, Always Safe, Respectful**
- Positive interactions: verbal praise, ROAR tickets, good office referrals, etc.
- Classes will conduct a class meeting each morning that sets the focus and positive atmosphere for the school day
- Each class will have a traffic light that allows students to see when their behavior may be inappropriate and have the opportunity to self regulate back on task. If your child hits the red area during the day, their teacher will send home a discipline action (DAR) referral form. **Parent should sign and return to school.**
- Data will be gathered as to when students do misbehave to both chart and analyze the following: what happened, why it happened, and how do we extinguish the behavior.

This is our basic introduction of school wide positive behavior support. There will be more information throughout the school year.