

**SANTA FE ISD**

# **SAFETY MATTERS**

*Santa Fe ISD Safe and Secure Schools Update*

*September 28, 2018*

## **Renovations Update for SFHS**

As a part of the renovations to the high school, the window system in the back area of the school was determined to be replaced entirely due to damage in the framework of the existing window system. The new window system was part of the Division One change order that was approved at the July 10, 2018 board meeting.

The contractor, Division One, released the window company to begin engineering the new window system in July. The new window system had to meet current Texas Department of Insurance windstorm code and the engineering took about 3 weeks to complete. The shop drawings were submitted to Cre8 Architects and SFISD for approval on August 1, 2018. The shop drawings were approved and returned to Division One for manufacturing on August 8, 2018. SFISD, Division One, and Cre8 requested expedited delivery of this system at the time of ordering.

Due to the window system being windstorm certified and meeting the Texas Department of Insurance wind rating the glass takes 8 weeks to manufacture. The window system supplier also had some supplier/manufacturing delays these last two months. The window system was ready to install this past weekend but with rain chances above 30%, the contractor has opted to wait. The rescheduled date is [Monday, October 1, 2018](#) to get the window system completed. If the rain chances are below 30% the contractor will install the new window system.

## **National Bullying Prevention Month**

October is National Bullying Prevention Month set aside to encourage students, parents, recreation programs, religious institutions, and community organizations to engage in a variety of awareness and prevention activities designed to stop bullying and to make our schools and communities safer for all children and adolescents.

As stated in [District Policy FFI](#), Santa Fe ISD prohibits bullying, requires a timely investigation and notification, and prohibits retaliation against those who report bullying. The District takes bullying of any kind very seriously and information about reporting bullying includes:

- Means of Reporting – District Threat Assessment Teams, Santa Fe High School [anonymous reporting](#), [Tribal Tips for anonymous reporting](#) and Social Media Monitoring

- Investigation - there is a clear process in place when bullying is reported
- Next steps - if you are not satisfied with the campus-level decision, Dr. Jacqueline Shuman is the next level of contact.

Next week, we will include more details on the process of reporting and investigating bullying in our schools.

## **Bullying Prevention Programs at Santa Fe ISD schools during October**

### **Santa Fe High School**

New this year at Santa Fe High School is Safe School Ambassadors (SSA), an international program that enables schools to develop a cadre of motivated, trained, and supported student opinion leaders who de-escalate conflict and reduce exclusion, cruel humor, bullying, and other forms of mistreatment on their campuses. The program identifies and selects student leaders from diverse groups across the campus. Ambassadors are trained in the skills of non-violent communication to stop bullying, cyberbullying and harassment. Santa Fe High School has identified approximately 40 students and eight teachers who attended a two-day training in which students develop essential skills in observing, negotiating, intervening, reporting and referral, and the adults learn how to facilitate ongoing Family Group meetings to provide Ambassadors with supervision, skill development and support. The SSA will meet twice a month during Advisory to do SSA lessons and discuss ways to reinforce positive communications with other students at the school to help prevent bullying of any kind. The SSA will also have gatherings to discuss ways they can support all Santa Fe High School students. They also have activities planned for the spring semester.

### **Santa Fe Junior High**

At Santa Fe Junior High bullying prevention activities and events that will take place in October include:

- Junior High Counselors will lead a #stompoutbullying campaign where students will do various activities and share their perspectives to show they are supportive of being positive advocates on campus.
- Counselors will share bullying/cyberbullying lessons for Acceleration classes.
- Counselors are creating “Think before you post” signs, posters and lessons for Acceleration classes.

### **Dan J. Kubacak Elementary School**

For Bullying Prevention month and the #stompoutbullying campaign, an author will visit the school and talk to students about friendship, anti-bullying and respect. Counselors will create weekly class lessons and videos on bullying and cyberbullying prevention that will be shared with students, and activities will be provided to teachers. The difference between bullying and peer conflict will be addressed with parents in Parent Pow Wow. Also, weekly kindness announcements will be made for students and staff, and notes will be sent to parents. The school will host theme days, and the Texans “Toro” will visit the school. An author will visit students and discuss the importance of making smart choices. The school will also have signs and posters that support bullying prevention.

### **Roy J. Wollam Elementary School**

As part of the #stompoutbullying campaign in October, the school counselors at R. J. Wollam Elementary are sharing lessons with students about bullying and cyberbullying prevention, and both Wollam and Kubacak Elementary Schools will be holding a Coffee Talk on bullying prevention on October 12 at 9:30 a.m. at the Cowan Administration Building. On October 22 and October 23, an author will visit students and discuss topics like making good choices, bullying intervention and other topics. The school will also have signs and posters that support bullying prevention. On Wednesday, September 26, 2018, first and second grade students had a special visit from Channel 13 Meteorologist, Travis Herzog, who shared his expertise on Weather Safety.

**Reminder: The Resiliency Center provides free long-term services at no cost to Santa Fe community members.** The Center's caring professionals provide a safe and supportive healing environment dedicated to everyone affected by the incident. As a referral hub, the Center works with partner agencies that provide spiritual care referrals, training, advocacy, legal aid, equine therapy, recreational therapy, and more. The Resiliency Center is open daily, and for more information, contact the center directly at 409-218-7129 or email [cgaylord@ci.santa-fe.tx.us](mailto:cgaylord@ci.santa-fe.tx.us).

### **Questions?**

Please submit any questions you may have to the Santa Fe Strong Interactive Web Portal at: [santafeupdates.com/contact-us](http://santafeupdates.com/contact-us)