Columbia PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Today at school, your child participated in a classroom presentation about the prevention of sexual and physical abuse of children. During this lesson, we talked about safe, unsafe, and unwanted touches and the importance of using the *Touching Rule: No one should touch your private body parts except to keep you healthy,* also known as the *Private Body Parts Rule* in grades 4-5. Private body parts were defined as the areas covered by a swimsuit. We also reviewed the *Ways to Stay Safe*, known as the "3 R's":

1. **RECOGNIZE:** Is it safe? Is it unwanted?
2. **REFUSE:** Say words that mean no.
3. **REPORT:** Tell a trusted adult.

Using a video for grades K-3 and a variety of scenarios in grades 4-5, students discussed and practiced recognizing, refusing, and reporting when someone has broken the *Touching Rule/Private Body Parts Rule*. All students K-5 identified many possible trusted adults to whom a child can report, including parents, babysitters, grandparents, teachers, adult friends, or neighbors.

Grade	Streaming Lesson Media	Online Activation Key
Kindergarten	Julie Stays Safe	CPUK FAMI LYGK
First Grade	Julie Stays Safe**	CPU1 FAMI LYG1
Second Grade	David Speaks Up	CPU2 FAMI LYG2
Third Grade	David Speaks Up	CPU3 FAMI LYG3
Fourth Grade	Digital Scenarios	CPU4 FAMI LYG4
Fifth Grade	Digital Scenarios	CPU5 FAMI LYG5

** First-grade parents/guardians must add the kindergarten activation key to their dashboard to view Julie Stays Safe and access the video discussion guide. Julie Stays Safe was initially designed for kindergarten. However, the CPS Elementary School Counseling Department felt this video would also be well-suited for first grade. David Speaks Up, the video referenced in the first-grade curriculum, is used for grades 2 and 3.

It is important to continue talking with your child about unsafe or unwanted situations and how to handle them. These can feel like difficult conversations to have. To help make these conversations easier, today's streaming lesson media and discussion guide are available online in the *Families* section of SecondStep.org.

You can create an account at www.secondstep.org and enter the grade-level activation key to access these Second Step online materials and other helpful tips. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this lesson or would like more information about how to reinforce this lesson at home.

Sincerely,

Beth Ryberg
School Counselor
Ridgeway Elementary School
573-214-3550 ext. 3