

# Hurlbutt Elementary School

9 School Road  
Weston, Connecticut 06883

February 2024

## PBIS ASSEMBLY

Our January PBIS assembly focused on learning to regulate our feelings and shift from one quadrant of the mood meter to a different quadrant. We had fun celebrating our safe, kind and responsible award recipients by dancing to the song "Everything is Awesome." After getting very energized, we talked about how we can shift our emotions based on what task lies ahead. We wanted to calm our bodies and minds so we could go back to class and continue learning. We chose to do a body scan mindfulness activity with some calming music and words to notice each part of our bodies and how they are calm. We will be meeting with our buddy classes to talk more about taking a Meta-Moment and stopping to picture our "best selves" using strategies from our toolkits to shift our moods.



## ZONES OF REGULATION!

| Blue                                           | Green                                                    | Yellow                                                      | Red                                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                |                                                          |                                                             |                                                                                 |
| Sick<br>Sad<br>Tired<br>Bored<br>Moving Slowly | Happy<br>Calm<br>Good to Go<br>Focused<br>Ready to Learn | Frustrated<br>Worried<br>Silly/Wiggly<br>Anxious<br>Excited | Mad/Angry<br>Mean<br>Yelling/Hitting<br>Out of Control<br>I Need Time and Space |

COPYRIGHT - JESSA WISHNET, OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST



## HOW CAN YOU HELP YOURSELF?

| The BLUE Zone                                                                             | The GREEN Zone                                                                                                   | The YELLOW Zone                                                                                                  | The RED Zone                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                           |                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                            |
| HOW MIGHT YOU FEEL?                                                                       | HOW MIGHT YOU FEEL?                                                                                              | HOW MIGHT YOU FEEL?                                                                                              | HOW MIGHT YOU FEEL?                                                                                                        |
| SAD<br>TIRED<br>BORED<br>MOVING SLOWLY                                                    | HAPPY<br>OKAY<br>FOCUSED<br>READY TO LEARN                                                                       | NERVOUS<br>CONCERNED<br>SILLY<br>NOT READY TO LEARN                                                              | ANGRY<br>FRUSTRATED<br>SCARED<br>OUT OF CONTROL                                                                            |
| WHAT MIGHT HELP YOU?                                                                      | WHAT MIGHT HELP YOU?                                                                                             | WHAT MIGHT HELP YOU?                                                                                             | WHAT MIGHT HELP YOU?                                                                                                       |
| TALK TO SOMEONE<br>STRETCH<br>TAKE A BRAIN BREAK<br>STAND<br>TAKE A WALK<br>CLOSE MY EYES | THIS IS THE GOAL!<br>WHAT CAN YOU DO TO GET TO THE GREEN ZONE?<br>HOW CAN YOU BE HAPPY, CALM AND READY TO LEARN? | TALK TO SOMEONE<br>COUNT TO 20<br>TAKE DEEP BREATHS<br>SQUEEZE SOMETHING<br>DRAW A PICTURE<br>TAKE A BRAIN BREAK | STOP WHAT I AM DOING<br>MAKE SENSIBLE CHOICES<br>TAKE DEEP BREATHS<br>ASK FOR A BREAK<br>FIND A SAFE SPACE<br>ASK FOR HELP |

## PTO SUPPORT

Our PTO has been supportive in our goal to revitalize the North House playground. The Hurlbutt School Experiences online auction was a HUGE success! The PTO raised **\$5,428** for the North House Playground project!! Our goal is to replace some of the playground pieces in the summer of 2024. Stay tuned for more information on this exciting project.

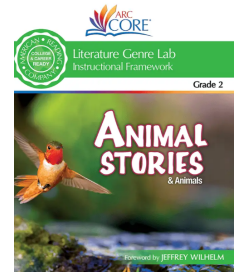
## WINTER WONDERLAND



Our PTO organized and ran our first Hurlbutt Winter Wonderland event. During this sold out event, our students enjoyed winter crafts, hot chocolate and dancing to music in the South House cafeteria. It was wonderful to see our families and students enjoying this festive event.

### Reading and Writing

Our second grade readers and writers are in a unit of study called Animal Stories and Animals. Through guided instruction and independent reading practice students are learning how to retell a story to demonstrate an understanding of literary text. Each week students focus on mastering a component of a comprehensive retell including characters, setting, plot and events. Students then discuss the lessons learned in the story, which builds an understanding of the author's purpose. Throughout the unit, students are discussing and honing their skills to compare and contrast stories. Throughout all of our units, our teachers continue to teach foundational skills to ensure that our students are becoming accurate and fluent readers.



### Math

Second grade mathematicians just completed a unit on measurement. Students learned the customary and metric systems. Through hands-on activities, we immersed students in estimating and measuring length. Students learned to be accurate in their measurements. They were then able to identify which unit would be most appropriate to measure an object. Building measurement vocabulary was an important target in this unit.

Our first graders have been immersed in developing conceptual understanding of numbers through 40. Through hands-on activities and multiple strategies, they are becoming fluent with addition and subtraction facts through 20. Being flexible with numbers is an essential skill for understanding higher level math. By decomposing numbers, or breaking them into parts, students strengthen their number sense and understanding of the relationship between their values.



Our youngest mathematicians in kindergarten recently completed a unit on measurement. We build strong foundational skills and conceptual understanding by starting with non standard units. Students explore and practice measuring using a variety of everyday objects such as paper clips and dominos. Non-standard measurement helps our students focus on the skills needed for accuracy while measuring before they learn to read and use rulers. They also hone their skills with estimation and for choosing the correct measurement tool based on what they are measuring. Measurement vocabulary development is essential to help support conceptual understanding.

### **Celebrating Kindness and Friendship**

Our students enjoyed celebrating kindness and friendship in school on Valentine's Day. Our students are committed to treating each other with respect and kind words. Students exchange notes and cards with each other so that everyone feels valued and included.

