HAWTHORN DISTRICT 73
Learning For All. Every One. Every Day.

Hawthorn District 73
841 West End Court
Vernon Hills, IL 60061

Dear Families,

Hawthorn School District 73 focuses on the growth and learning of the whole child. This includes programming that supports students' social and emotional development, in alignment with the Social and Emotional Learning Standards outlined by the State of Illinois.

Social and emotional learning (SEL) is the process through which children develop awareness and management of their emotions, set and achieve important personal and academic goals, use social-awareness and interpersonal skills to establish and maintain positive relationships, and demonstrate decision making and responsible behaviors to achieve school and life success. In order to address the SEL standards, our elementary schools have adopted curricular, instructional, and assessment tools designed to support our students' social-emotional development.

The foundational resource we use to support students' mastery of SEL standards is Second Step. Second Step is a social and emotional learning program that includes units of study focused on empathy, emotional management, friendship skills, and problem solving. In addition to this curricular resource, District 73 implements Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). More information about how PBIS is implemented at Hawthorn is outlined in this letter.

Hawthorn School District also administers a social and emotional screening tool each fall, winter, and spring. The *Social, Academic, and Emotional Behavior Risk Screener for Students* (*SAEBRS*) is an efficient tool that educators use to help assess risk for social, emotional, and behavioral concerns. In the third, fourth and fifth grades, students complete the MySAEBRS screener, a 20 item rating scale that asks students to reflect upon their social, academic, and emotional behaviors. In kindergarten - third grade, teachers use the SAEBRS observation tool to screen students. Data gathered from MySAEBRS and SAEBRS is used in conjunction with teacher, parent, and student referrals to identify students in need of additional social, emotional, or behavioral support. A member of your child's educational team will reach out to you with any questions or concerns about your child's results. You are also welcome to contact your child's teacher or building administrator for access to your child's report. **Our fall benchmark for SAEBRS and MySAEBRS will occur during the week of September 28, 2026**.

Our school district is committed to providing our students with every opportunity to succeed, and there is strong research indicating that supporting students' social and emotional development improves their readiness to learn, classroom behavior, and overall academic performance. If you have any questions regarding our social and emotional curriculum, please contact us. If you have questions about your child's social-emotional needs, or would like to secure additional support for your child, please connect with your building principal.

Thank you,

Mrs. Megan Goldman
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