**Sunset Elementary Bully and Hazing Policy**

Sunset Elementary has a bullying and hazing prevention program based on bully research and follows the Davis School District Student Services suggested bullying prevention program, which includes the following components. (Please ensure that your child knows and understands these steps to reduce/stop bullying, as well as the consequences for bullying).

The faculty and staff at Sunset Elementary will prevent bullying by talking about it, building a safe school environment, and using bullying prevention strategies. They will communicate any issues to parents in a timely manner.

**Definition:**

Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. Bullying is intentional negative behaviors where one is intimidating or controlling another. The behavior is repeated over time. Bullying hurts, harms, or humiliates.

1. **Don’t Bully—**This starts with YOU, every individual student. If you are bullying, then you are showing others that bullying is okay. The example you set, through your actions, needs to tell others that bullying is not acceptable and will not be tolerated by you.
2. **Always Help Others**—Standing up to a bully can start with YOU! If you see something, say something. Find an adult to talk to about what you saw or what might have happened to you. When you speak up, you can help stop bullying from happening.
3. **Stand Strong**—If you tell a bully to stop, believe that he/she is going to stop. Speak up, speak loudly, look them in the eye. In your strongest, most confident voice, say “I don’t like what you are doing, you need to stop.” If you yell at a bully, you have given them what they want, a reaction. The bully has taken your power.

**Do not retaliate against a bully**!Just because someone acts with negative behavior, doesn’t give you the right to do the same. Positive actions will change bullying.

**If you are a bystander**—You need to be smart when you approach a bully. It could possibly be dangerous or if you feel you could be hurt, do not walk into the situation alone. If you feel safe enough to approach the bully alone, you can walk up to the person and state, “Knock it off,” “Leave him/her alone,” or “You’re not being nice.”

It is very important not to walk into a situation with aggressive behavior or language.

If you feel safer in a group, ask a few people around you to go with you to confront the bully. There is always strength in numbers.

1. **Stay Away**—Someone who is bullying wants a reaction; they want you, or others, to recognize what they are doing. If you don’t give them this reaction, often they will find someone else who will react. Tell the bully to STOP and then WALK AWAY. Remember to let your teachers and parents know what happened, and that you handled it, simply so they know in case it happens again. If a bully bullies you again, even after a week, you need to immediately tell an adult and report what happened.
2. **Get Adult Help**—If you have asked a bully to stop, and walked away from it, but it doesn’t stop, you need to “report” this to an adult and get their help. Getting an adult must happen to let the bully know that you are not playing around, and you seriously want this to stop.

**Consequences of Bullying or Hazing:**

Our counselor, teachers, and administration work with students on an individual basis to help students who are targets of bullying and harassment, as well as with a student who may be exhibiting bullying behaviors. Our teachers will communicate with parents when these issues arise, and continued problems of bullying and harassment will be referred to the administration. Depending on the severity or reoccurrence of the bullying that occurs, suspension or expulsion could result.