



Kenston Local Schools Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports

What is PBIS?

Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports ("PBIS") represents a school-wide systematic approach to embed evidence-based practice and data-driven decision making to improve school climate and culture in order to establish a respectful, responsible and safe learning environment that supports the needs of all students.

The process to create and sustain a positive school culture is ongoing. PBIS encompasses a range of systemic and individualized positive strategies to reinforce desired behaviors, diminish recurrences of challenging behaviors, and teach appropriate behaviors to students. Parents are critical partners in guiding and supporting students' positive academic and personal choices.

Why PBIS?

In January 2013, the State Board of Education adopted a policy that requires all Ohio school districts to implement a system of school-wide positive behavior intervention and support strategies.

Key Ideas of PBIS

Identify and define expectations ▪ Teach expectations ▪ Monitor Expected Behavior ▪ Acknowledge and encourage expected behavior ▪ Data driven decision making

PEAK (Peaceful Environment At Kenston)

The focus of PEAK is to create a positive and inclusive learning environment that teaches and reinforces positive social development and citizenship. PEAK guides us in maintaining a school culture that is positive, safe, and consistent.

Our district leadership team developed the following common building and classroom behavioral norms, characterized by the acronym of PEAK (Peaceful Environment At Kenston) which supports PBIS.

PEAK Mission Statement

The Mission of the Kenston Local School District is for each student to achieve individual academic excellence and to maximize personal growth in a community which demonstrates and develops mutual respect, responsibility and life-long learning. In accordance with our district mission, six essential elements have been identified that encompass our continuous efforts to maintain a safe environment where students, staff, and members of the public behave in a manner toward themselves and others that instills a harmonious existence within our school environment and at all school-related events.

Six Essential Elements of PEAK

1. Safe Harbor

In each building there is a place and people available for students and staff to confidentially report, share, and/or discuss concerns. Every effort is made to maintain anonymity to prevent repercussions of any kind. Examples include:

- Guidance Office
- Trusted staff member

2. Parent/Family/Community Education

A variety of information and resources related to maintaining peaceful schools are communicated on a regular basis throughout the school year.

- Handbooks
- District calendar
- Weekly folders-elementary
- Newsletter- school/classroom
- Website with links to resources
- District-wide brochure
- Faculty newsletters

3. Behavioral Expectations

Kenston students, staff and members of the public are expected to behave in a manner that shows respect for themselves and others during the school day and at all school-related events. Each building regularly reviews specific behavioral expectations that support peaceful schools and which foster student's ability to become independent and successful. Examples:

- Posted conspicuously throughout the building
- Reinforced through daily announcements
- Practiced and modeled across the curriculum
- In alignment with the building

4. Character Traits

The Kenston School District regularly emphasize key qualities that encourage positive and respectful actions toward oneself and others, and also promotes the development of the necessary life skills to live and prosper in a peaceful environment

- *July - Fairness
- *August - Hard Work
- *September - Responsibility
- *October - Respect
- *November - Gratitude
- *December - Love
- *January - Self Control
- *February - Compassion
- *March - Positive Attitude
- *April - Honesty
- *May - Good Judgement
- *June - Integrity

5. Character Reinforcement

An abundance of grade-level programs are offered to reinforce and support the goals for peaceful schools and the ideas it represents. Related discipline incidents and attendance expectations are established and monitored for trends to drive decision-making. Administrators, teachers, office personnel, health aides, psychologists, and counselors work together to ensure expectations for student behavior are consistent and intervention occurs. Students are recognized and acknowledged for promoting character traits in themselves and others. Some examples of these programs are:

- *Student Ambassadors
- *International Day of Peace Celebration
- *National Mix-it-up Day
- *PEAK Retreats
- *Sandy Hook Promise - Start with Hello/Say Something
- *Service Learning Projects
- *Student of the Month

6. Staff Development

In the school community, teachers are the first ambassadors and are expected to model the qualities we desire in our students. Training for staff focuses on sustaining awareness of the goals set for the Kenston Local Schools' PEAK program and to promote a harmonious climate and respect in our District. Teachers are trained in Crisis Prevention Interventions to de-escalate conflict situations. Additionally, teachers receive ongoing professional development on pertinent and current topics (suicide risk awareness, internet and social media safety, technology trends, etc.).

July 2018