



Dear Unity Parents,

As a part of our on-going efforts to improve learning environments at Unity, we are implementing a new discipline management for our elementary students. It is a well-designed and widely used process called Positive Behavior Support (PBS).

*What is Positive Behavior Support?*

PBS is a process for creating safer and more effective schools. It is a school-wide approach to enhancing the ability of our school to educate our children by developing research-based, school-wide, and classroom behavior support systems. The process focuses on improving our school's ability to teach and support positive behavior for all students. Rather than a prescribed program, PBS provides for schools to design, implement, and evaluate effective school-wide, classroom, non-classroom, and student specific plans. PBS includes school-wide procedures and processes intended for all students and all staff in all settings. PBS is not a program or a curriculum. It is a team-based process for systemic problem solving, planning, and evaluation. It is an approach to creating a safe and productive learning environment where teachers can teach and all students can learn.

*How will PBS be implemented at Unity?*

We have adopted a unified set of classroom rules. These rules define our expectations for behavior in our school. You will see these rules posted throughout the school and your child will be learning them during his or her first days at school. Our unified classroom rules, found in every classroom and non-classroom setting in the school, are as follows:

### **A Unity Lion R.O.A.R.S.**

- Rule #1: Be **R**espectful.
- Rule #2: Be **O**rganized.
- Rule #3: Be **A**ppreciative.
- Rule #4: Be **R**esponsible.
- Rule #5: Be **S**ervant Hearted.

As part of our PBS process, teachers and other staff members use evidence-based practices to increase student learning and decrease classroom disruptions. To keep students on the rules in a positive manner, we do the following when teaching academics and behavior:

- ⇒ Constantly teach and refer to our school-wide expectations.
- ⇒ Provide students with more praise than correction.
- ⇒ Talk to students with respect using positive voice tone.
- ⇒ Actively engage everyone in the class during instruction.
- ⇒ Use pre-correcting, prompting, and redirecting as we teach.
- ⇒ Look for the positive first and provide positive, immediate, frequent, and explicit feedback.

**Students that exemplify and demonstrate the expected behaviors will be rewarded with recognition through class rewards, STUDENT OF THE MONTH certificates, school website recognition (with parental permission) special rewards such as lunch outside, free dress days, etc.**

We also have a school-wide system of consequences:

Minor behavior consequences: (consecutively over a brief period of time)

Disruptive Rule Break #1=Documented Warning

Disruptive Rule Break #2=Documented Warning

Disruptive Rule Break #3= Documented Warning

Disruptive Rule Break #4=Office referral sent and parent/teacher conference called.

**Major behavior consequences: These behaviors result in immediate office referrals.**

Minor	Major
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low-intensity failure to respond to adult requests</li> <li>• Low-intensity disruption</li> <li>• Low-intensity verbal messages/gestures</li> <li>• Non-serious, inappropriate physical contact</li> <li>• Low-intensity misuse of property or technology</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bullying/Harassment</li> <li>• Lying/Cheating</li> <li>• High-intensity failure to respond to adult requests</li> <li>• High-intensity disruption</li> <li>• Abusive, profane verbal messages/gestures</li> <li>• Out-of-Bounds</li> <li>• Serious physical contact, hitting, kicking</li> <li>• Serious misuse of property or technology</li> <li>• Stealing, theft</li> </ul>

If you have questions about Positive Behavior Support, please feel free to contact your child’s teacher. We look forward to a wonderful year of teaching your child.

Mrs. Rebekah B. Mathis  
Elementary Principal