

What is PBIS?

School-wide Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS) is a proactive, team-based framework for creating and sustaining safe and effective schools.

The Ultimate goals:

- * Increase student academic performance
- * Decrease problem behavior
- * Increase safety
- * Establish positive school climate through research-based strategies and systems



How can families be more involved in STARRS/EPIC at Sterling?

- * **Learn more about PBIS** by reviewing the PBIS section of the Sterling School website (www.sterlingschool.org) or the Department of Education website (www.pbis.org).
- * **Get involved in Sterling Community School's PBIS initiative** by contacting Sterling's PBIS coaches: Jackie Angelone or Dr. Kristen Weissinger.

What can I do at home?

- * **Discuss STARRS or EPIC expectations with your child**
- * **Consider posting the STARRS/EPIC expectations in your home to use as a reference**
- * **Consider creating your own positive expectations for how to be STARRS or EPIC at home**
- * **Acknowledge appropriate behavior**

**For guidance on how to do any of the above listed suggestions, please contact Jackie Angelone or Dr. Kristen Weissinger!*



Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports

PBIS at SCS



PBIS at SCS

The school-wide PBIS framework at Sterling Community School includes differentiated programs for grades K-4 and grades 5-8. These programs include proactive strategies for defining, teaching, and supporting appropriate student behaviors to create a positive school environment.

PBIS methods are research-based and are proven to significantly reduce the occurrence of problem behaviors. The key is to focus on prevention by consistently acknowledging positive, appropriate behaviors while using preventative strategies for problem behavior when it occurs.

The primary components of an effective school-wide PBIS system involve:

- Clearly defining and teaching a set of behavioral expectations.
- Consistently acknowledging and rewarding appropriate behavior.
- Proactively preventing problematic behavior.
- Effectively using behavioral data to assess progress.

An important piece of the PBIS framework is creating a set of 3-5 behavior expectations/positive rules that are well known to all affiliated with our school. These behavior expectations are explicitly taught for all locations in a student's school day: the classroom, hallways, café, bathroom, recess, assemblies and the bus. As part of our system to catch students being good, all staff and faculty distribute colored tickets for each program to acknowledge students who demonstrate positive behaviors throughout the day in all areas.

The PBIS team created acronyms to help define and communicate the behavior expectations. The PBIS framework at SCS has two differentiated programs across grade levels. STARRS (Students That Are Respectful, Responsible and Safe) supports grades K-4 and EPIC (Engaged, Prepared, Independent, Collaborative) supports grades 5-8.

STARRS- Grades K-4

Students That Are Respectful,
Responsible and Safe

When children begin school and as their foundation is formed through the elementary grades, behavioral expectations are established that seek to build a common understanding of fundamental expectations for success at school. Here at SCS we shine the light on Respect, Responsibility and Safety with our STARRS program. Students are specifically taught the expectations for these behaviors in all settings throughout the school day. Students are acknowledged with specific praise statements regarding their behaviors and accompanying STARR tickets. Students save tickets in their classrooms and use them for bi-weekly incentive activities.



EPIC- Grades 5-8

Engaged, Prepared,
Independent, Collaborative

In addition to the expectation that our students have learned to be **STARRS** (respectful, responsible and safe), beginning in 5th grade students are acknowledged for being **EPIC**. Students in grades 5-8 are recognized for being Engaged, Prepared, Independent and Collaborative within the classroom and throughout the day. Students are acknowledged with specific praise statements and accompanying EPIC tickets. Students use tickets for bi-weekly incentive activities.

As our programs develop, the PBIS core team is working hard to expand our incentive activities to include ideas and suggestions generated from student feedback about what motivates them learn.

Stay tuned...

