

HILLTOP ELEMENTARY PBIS KICKOFF PROVES SUCCESSFUL



Jada Dukes/Staff Writer 📅 **Wed, Sep 04, 2019**

Friday morning the students from Hilltop Elementary School gathered for a pep rally featuring the Veterans High School Warhawk cheerleaders and marching band to kick off their Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program.

Veterans High School students got a friendly visit from members of the Veterans High football team, cheerleading squad Mascot, Harold the Hawk and Warner Robins Mayor Randy Toms also made an appearance.

As students gathered into the gymnasium, they were met with a spirited hello from their war hawk counterparts. VHS football students by giving out high fives and posing for pictures. VHS students dressed as Marvel's Captain America and Disney's Pinocchio were there showing support as well.

Throughout the event, it was clear the school staff wanted to cement one acronym into the minds of the students in attendance stands for Safety first, staying On task, Always being respectful and Responsible. These are the four principles by which the school operates throughout the school year and the administration made sure to emphasize them at the event.

The goal of the PBIS kickoff was to encourage students to practice proper behavior in school and highlight students for their good behavior. Staff members performed songs promoting positive classroom conduct and respect for others as a way of implementing this strategy.

Veterans head football coach and athletic director Milan Turner reminded the young hawks about the importance of everyday choices that affect all areas of life. He told the elementary schoolers that good choices determine what kind of life someone will have. "At Veterans, we talk to our guys all the time about making good choices. VHS students are encouraged to make great choices each and every day. "At Veterans, we talk to our guys all the time about making good choices. "At Veterans, we talk to our guys all the time about making good choices," he said.

Zumba instructor Simone Wilkerson spoke to the crowd of students about a donation she made to Hilltop, the school her daughter attends. Wilkerson put on a back to school Zumba event to gather school supplies. She gathered napkins, tissues, binders and more school supplies. The young hawks had a successful school year.

According to the official press release, PBIS is funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Special Education programs and is a proactive strategy to define, teach and support appropriate student behaviors.



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