



10/10/16

Dear Parent/Guardian,

On August 21, 2015, Governor Bruce Rauner signed into law Senate Bill 1793, or Ann Marie's Law, which mandates that Illinois public schools provide age appropriate suicide and depression awareness and prevention education programs for their students in grades kindergarten through 12.

Community Consolidated School District 146 will be addressing the mandates of Ann Marie's law with an age appropriate curriculum in order to increase awareness and protect our children from harm. Building social workers will be facilitating a lesson in kindergarten through fifth grade using resources from the Second Step program. Lesson topics will focus on identifying negative emotions, the warning signs of depression, and seeking adult help. In addition, teachers at the middle school will facilitate a lesson highlighting how to identify negative emotions and how to seek help. Lessons will occur during September and October throughout the district. Middle school social workers will also facilitate group lessons that review the warning signs for self-harm, teenage depression, and how to seek help for yourself or a peer. Should you have any questions regarding the law or its implementation, please contact your building social worker or principal.

We look forward to having this curriculum for our students as another step in providing students with the tools of personal safety.

Sincerely,

Jody Plowman, 8th grade Social Worker jplowman@district146.org

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