



Edgewood Board of Education Office

3500 Busenbark Rd, Trenton, Ohio 45067

513-867-3400

December 3, 2023

Good Afternoon Edgewood Families, Staff, and Community Members,

I'm writing to address a matter of utmost importance that affects not only your children but the entire school community. I've been informed that there have been statements posted through social media indicating there is a perception that Edgewood staff, students, and administration, are not doing enough to address bullying in our schools.

Bullying is a pervasive issue that can have severe consequences on the well-being and development of our children. It is a problem that we cannot afford to ignore or underestimate. As parents, it is our responsibility to model appropriate behavior and work together to create a safe and nurturing environment for our children, both at home and at school. As staff members, students, and members of our Edgewood community, we follow the idea that if "We see something, we say something." If the accusation is severe, it must be reported to administration immediately.

By law, when reports are provided, they must be immediately investigated for accuracy and when facts of inappropriate behavior are discovered, appropriate remedial actions must be applied. Although we have implemented bullying policies and practices consistently, we must remain vigilant in addressing this issue.

Combating this topic requires a collective effort from all stakeholders: parents, teachers, students, and community. I urge you to engage in open and honest conversations with your children about bullying. Encourage your child to speak up if they witness or experience any form of bullying, assuring them that they will be heard and supported, and let them know that they can find trusted adults within their families and schools to help support them and their peers.

I'm asking for any interested student, parent, staff member, and community member to attend a focus group conversation on this topic, Thursday, December 7th at 6 PM in Heritage Auditorium at EHS. We will begin with an overview of the purpose, break into smaller groups for a discussion on bullying while brainstorming policy, practice, or resource needs before reporting back to share with the large group. The outcomes of this dialogue will be presented to the board on December 18th.

We will also be communicating **future community workshops** on this topic as well as ways to support mental health needs of our students and staff. These events provide valuable insights and strategies to address such issues. I'm confident that together we can make a difference and create a safe and nurturing environment for our children. ***Let us stand united against bullying and work towards a future where every child feels heard, safe, valued, and respected.***

Warm Regards,

Kelly Spivey
Superintendent

Kelly Spivey, Superintendent
Patti Bowers, Treasurer

Inspiring Minds Together