

Park Forest-Chicago Heights School District 163 242 S. Orchard Drive Park Forest, IL 60466 (708) 668-9427 www.sd163.com

Dear Parents/Guardians of Michelle Obama School of Technology and the Arts,

Illinois Public Act 097-1147, also known as Erin's Law has become mandatory in our state. This law requires schools to implement an age-appropriate sexual assault and abuse awareness and prevention curriculum for grades pre-K through 12. Providing abuse education in school is not a new initiative. Mandates under the Health Education Act and Internet Safety Education Curriculum require instruction beginning in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Erin's Law simply extends this education into grades pre-K through 12.

The Erin's Law presentation are developmentally appropriate, interactive and aligned with learning standards. The focus of the presentation is on teaching children basic skills that will help keep them safe from dangerous or abusive situations.

Students will have a presentation by our staff of school social workers and school counselors in the coming weeks. The following are some of the concepts that will be discussed.

- Distinguishing different types of touch
- Safety rules at home and school
- Saying "NO"
- Secrets
- It's not the child's fault if someone touches him or her
- Telling a trusted adult

We believe prevention to be the number one priority in making a difference in our society and our children's safety.

The district realizes that this is a sensitive topic so please contact the building administrator at 708-668-9600 if you have any questions or concerns.

The presentation will occur at your child's school the week of October 16th, 2023.

Sincerely,

## Dr. Regina Nottke

Dr. Regina Nottke Assistant Superintendent of Student Services