

Dear Parent,

You may have heard your child come home and talk about the **R Time** rules or talk about respect and good manners, and you may be wondering "What is **"R" Time**?".

"R" Time is a structured program for elementary schools that develops positive relationships between children. It does this by creating an environment that supports and enhances good manners, respect, attainment, and citizenship. "R" Time is taught for 15 - 20 minutes once a week at all elementary grade levels in our school district. The lessons were developed by Greg Sampson who had been a teacher and a principal in England. The lessons are fun and interactive. Students are randomly paired each time a teacher conducts an "R" Time lesson. This alone cuts down on bullying and helps the student form better friendships with his/her classmates. The outcomes we hope to see are a decrease in bullying and disciplinary referrals, accelerated learning, raised self-esteem, and an increase in positive relationships among the students.

We hope that you are hearing "please, thank you, and you're welcome" from your children at home. The "R" Time rules of 1) Show Respect and Good Manners at All Times and 2) Care for Everyone and Everything are the foundations of "R" Time. We encourage you to support the use of these rules at home as well. If your child misbehaves at home, try asking him or her -

- "Were you showing good manners and respect just then?"
- "Were you caring for everyone and everything?"
- "What can you do next time to show good manners and respect?"
- "What can you do next time to make sure you are caring for everyone and everything?"

We look forward to working together with parents to equip students with good manners and respect for self and others. We feel confident that "R" Time will decrease the demoralizing effects of bullying.

If you have any questions about this program, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Bryan Smith 469-742-8228