

Lakeview Elementary Counseling Program

September 22, 2010

Dear Parent,

Students learn better when they are confident, feel like they are an integral part of their community, and when they have strong problem solving skills. We have Kid Coaches at Lakeview for this reason. Kid Coaches are 5th and 6th grade students who help out our Kindergarten-4th grade students during lunch recess. They help by encouraging others, mediating small conflicts, teaching kids the rules to games, helping them to use their Kelso's Choices to solve problems on their own, recognizing students for making smart choices, and modeling what it means to be kind to others.

If you are familiar with Kid Coaches, we are doing things a little differently from last year. This year our Kid Coaches will not be working outside at lunch recess. Unfortunately our lunch room schedule this year makes it difficult for our Kid Coaches to help out during the primary age recess without missing 30 minutes of class time each week. Of course we want them to be in class to learn, so this year they will be working in a private room to help our younger students work through any conflicts that they had trouble with during their recess. We will also have Kid Coaches help out with other situations as they arise.

While being a Kid Coach is loads of fun, it is also hard work. Kid Coaches must take part in a 4 day training (during their lunch and lunch recess), be a positive role model at all times, attend monthly meetings, and commit to working during their lunch or lunch recess time once a week. During the four day training they will learn about effective communication, identification of feelings, perspective taking, conflict resolution, problem solving, teamwork, and friendship skills.

Your child has expressed an interest in becoming a Kid Coach at Lakeview Elementary. In order to be considered as a Kid Coach, your child must fill out a student application, have a teacher or other staff member fill out a recommendation form, and get parent permission (your signature is required on the student application).

Kid Coaching is a fantastic opportunity for our 5th and 6th grade students to help our younger students be the best they can be. I'm looking forward to working with our Kid Coaches this year!

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

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