

The Lions Lines

Dr. Catherine Bartlett, Principal

Hamilton Elementary

October 17, 2011

School Events

OCTOBER

- 17 4th Gr. Parent Writing Night 6:00 PM
- 18 PTO Fundraiser Pickup
- 19 Author Peter Catalanotto visits Kdg.
- 20 7:50 AM Red Choir Practice
8:00 AM Recreational Chess Club
- 21 End of 1st Nine Weeks
7:50 AM Blue Choir Practice
3rd Grade Garden Day
- 25 5th Grade – BizTown Field Trip
- 26 5th Grade – Biz Town Field Trip
- 27 7:50 AM Red Choir Practice
8:00 AM Competitive Chess Club
- 28 Book Character Dress Up Day
7:50 AM Blue Choir Practice
PAWS store open during lunch
- 31 Report Cards go home

NOVEMBER

- 1 Student Council Officers Mtg.
50th Day of School -
9:00 AM 1st Gr. Program
9:55 AM Kdg. Program
4th Grade CBA Reading
Please no lunch visitors!
- 3 7:50 AM Red Choir Practice
- 4 7:50 AM Blue Choir Practice
PTO Spirit Cart open during lunches
- 7 4th Grade Author visit
6:00 PM PTO Evening Mtg.
- 8 Student Council General Mtg.
Election Day - Pct. 805 votes in Gym
4th Grade CBA Expos.
5th Grade CBA Reading
Please no lunch visitors!
- 9 2nd Grade Garden Day
3rd Grade CBA Reading
4th Grade CBA Personal Narrative
Please no lunch visitors!
- 10 Thanksgiving Feast/KISS 4, 5, 3
- 11 9:30 AM Veterans Day Program
Thanksgiving Feast/KISS K, 2, 1



October is Bully Prevention Awareness Month, which has been sponsored by the National Bullying Prevention Center since 2006. During this

month, we will be raising awareness of bully prevention throughout our school. We will focus on how to recognize, deal with and prevent bullying.

Bullying can be verbal, physical, or via the Internet. It can severely affect the victim's self-image, social interactions, and school performance—often leading to insecurity, lack of self-esteem, and depression in adulthood. School dropout rates and absences among victims of bullying are much higher than among other students.

Students will be encouraged to be a HERO (Help Encourage and Respect Others) and to follow these guidelines:

- Never bully others.
- Do your best to help anyone who is bullied.
- Be friendly to students who are left out.
- Report bullying to an adult at school and at home.

“WIT” is an acronym for the following: Walk away, Ignore the person and Talk in a friendly/firm way.

ATTACHED TO THIS ISSUE:

- * SchoolTipline Information
 - * Peter Catalanotto autographed book order form
 - * Pajama Jam Registration
 - * Veterans Day Program RSVP
 - * Thanksgiving Feast / K.I.S.S. RSVP
 - * Strategies to Help with Bullying
-

Library News . . .

Visiting Author - Kindergarten and 1st graders will meet author/illustrator Peter Catalanotto on Wednesday, October 19th. Parents are invited to listen to his presentation, but please find alternative care for non-school-aged children. An order form for autographed books is attached to the Lions Lines. Kinder presentation is at 1:15, and the 1st grade presentation is at 2:30. Thanks to PTO for sponsoring our visiting authors!

Storybook Character Dress Up Day is Friday, October 28th. Students and staff are encouraged to dress up as characters from books that day - think fairy tales, picture books, and chapter books. We would like it if students brought in the book or at least a picture of the cover.

4th Grade Parent Writing Night October 17, 2010 6:00 PM

All fourth grade parents are invited to join the fourth grade teachers in the library for an informative session explaining the 6+ traits of writing and to view writing samples in order to better understand how they are scored.

Music Notes

Attention 3rd Grade Parents...

Volunteers are needed to assist with our upcoming Third Grade Play. An information and planning meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 25th at 11:45 in the music room.

Volunteers of all kinds are needed, including: stage decoration, practice assistants, and photographers. Most of the help needed will be during the school day. If you would like to help, please come to the meeting, or e-mail Ms. Atwood (sharon.atwood@cfisd.net).

The Office of Community Programs

presents "Pajama Jam", a Parents' Night Out event for children who can use the bathroom independently through the 8th grade to be held at Aragon Middle School on Friday, November 4 from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The night includes dinner (pizza, juice and cookies), arts and crafts, gym games and more! The registration deadline is Thursday, October 27, \$20 per student, \$45 for families of three or more. For more information, please visit www.cfisd.net and click on the Club Rewind logo – then, look for the Pajama Jam information.

PE Happenings

On Tuesday, November 1st we will be celebrating the 50th day of school. Kindergarten & First grade will participate in a "50's Day Performance" in the cafeteria. Parents & visitors are welcome to come and watch! First grade will perform at 9:00am, and Kindergarten will perform at 9:55am. Students are encouraged to dress in 50's day attire for their performance.

In other PE news, we have just introduced the sport of "Chinese Jump Roping". The kids are learning various patterns and jump routines to use with the chinese jump ropes. We have also taught the students how to make their very own rope using rubber bands. We have been getting great feedback from kids and parents over this new concept! A 4th grade student told us that she is using the jump pattern to practice her spelling words! So exciting!

PLEASE NO LUNCH VISITORS ON TUESDAY,
NOV. 1st
DUE TO 50'S DAY PROGRAM AND
SCHEDULE CHANGES!



SchoolTipline

To provide students with a more safe and secure school environment and to provide our administration with the communication tools we need to immediately inform students and parents of important and urgent information, we are happy to announce the implementation of SchoolTipline™.

SchoolTipline is the result of a multi-year university research project that studied how students and parent are an essential part of the school safety process. SchoolTipline allows students and parents to anonymously communicate school concerns or threats to administration through the Internet or text messaging.

Because of our relationship with SchoolTipline, we now benefit from the following:

- SafeTalk™ Anonymous 2-Way communication between students (or parents) and administration by Text Messaging or through Web-based reports.
- MassAlert™ Administration can send out up to 6,000 text messages and/or emails per minute if the need for quick communication to parents/students arises.
- OnlineSurveys™ Provides a quick and automated way to create surveys to statistically track effectiveness of school initiatives and gain awareness of student safety concerns.



Veterans Day Program

We honor our veterans on November 11 at 9:30 a.m. Parents and grandparents of

our students who are veterans are welcomed on this morning to hear our students sing in their honor. Because we want our students to experience this assembly, we are only able to accommodate veteran visitors and their families. Please see the attached form for more information and to RSVP.



Our Thanksgiving Feast/K.I.S.S. (Kids Invite Someone Special)

will be held November 10 and 11 in the cafeteria. Please see the attached grade level schedule for your child's specific time. We do

ask that parents RSVP for this activity so that we can run names through our v-soft system and have your visitor's badge ready. If you would like to come to the Feast but have not been scanned this year, please either stop by the school on a preceding day or arrive a little bit early with your drivers' license.

THANKSGIVING FEAST/K.I.S.S

DATES

Thursday, November 10

4th 10:45, 5th 11:45, 3rd 12:45

Friday, November 11

Kdg 10:45, 2nd 11:45, 1st 12:45

*Visitors allowed for the posted grade levels only, all other grades will be

having a picnic in the classroom.

RSVP form attached.

HORIZONS Mid-year Testing/Students K-11
Open Referral Period
October 1st through November 30th



Parents who wish to refer their child must follow the process described below:

- Please access the HORIZONS website at <http://cfisd.net/dept2/curricu/gifted/gifted.htm> and review a PowerPoint presentation entitled, *Should I Refer My Child for the HORIZONS Program?*
- If testing is appropriate, request a *HORIZONS Parent Survey and Permission to Test* form from your elementary counselor or secondary director of instruction. The form may also be accessed on the HORIZONS website.
- Return the *HORIZONS Parent Survey and Permission to Test* form to your elementary counselor or secondary director of instruction no later than Wednesday, November 30th. Students will not be screened unless the parent permission form is turned in on time.
- Kindergarten students will be tested on their campus during the school day in January 2012, and students in grades 1-11 will be tested on their campus during the school day prior to spring break. Specific testing dates will be provided to parents by the campus at the start of second semester.
- Kindergarten students who qualify for HORIZONS will receive services beginning in March with parent permission.
- Students in grades 1-11 who qualify for HORIZONS will receive services at the beginning of the 2012-13 school year with parent permission.

FROZEN FOOD
PTO FUNDRAISER PICK-UP!

ONE DAY ONLY, Tuesday, October 18th!

Thank you for supporting our Delicious Delights frozen food and EnviroVogue Totes fundraiser! The pick-up date is **Tuesday, October 18th from 2pm-3pm & 4:30-6:30pm**. Please make arrangements to pick up your orders during that time period. **We do not have freezer space to accommodate orders that are not picked-up.**

ONE DAY PICK-UP ONLY!!!



PTO Sonic Spirit Night:

Thursday, 10/20, 5-8pm, Louetta & Grant location

Grab a Cherry Coke or dinner-to-go!

Take a break and join your Hamilton community for some socializing, fun and food, all while supporting our school!



TO SUBMIT A TIP:

There are 2 ways to submit a tip to your school.

TEXT MESSAGE (SMS):

Text your school's keyword: **@shsbears** a space, and then your anonymous message to your school's tipline phone number



INTERNET TIP:

1. Go to www.schooltipline.com and click the "Find My School" button at the top of the page.

Find My School!

2. Enter your school's name or city and click "Submit."

School/Organization Search:

School Name (required)

Submit

3. From your school page, click "Submit a Tip."

Submit a Tip

ADMINISTRATORS RESPOND



If you text in your tip, the school admin can communicate directly to your phone from their computer or from their phones.



TIP STATUS

If you submit a tip, you can follow-up, reply to the admin, and check the status of your tip:

1. Go to www.schooltipline.com and click the "Find My School" button.
2. Enter your school's name and click "Submit"
3. Enter your Case ID in the upper right corner of the page and click "Search."

TAKE A SURVEY

To take a survey, go to the same place you went to submit a tip.

1. Go to www.schooltipline.com and click on the "Find My School" button.
2. Enter your school's name and click "Submit"
3. Click the "Survey" button in the main menu.
4. Choose your survey to complete

REGISTER FOR SCHOOLTIPLINE

If your school requires you to register for an account you will be prompted to register:

1. Go to www.schooltipline.com and click on the "Find My School" button.
2. Enter your school's name and click "Submit"
3. Click the link "Click Here to Register"
4. Complete the form and click "Register"

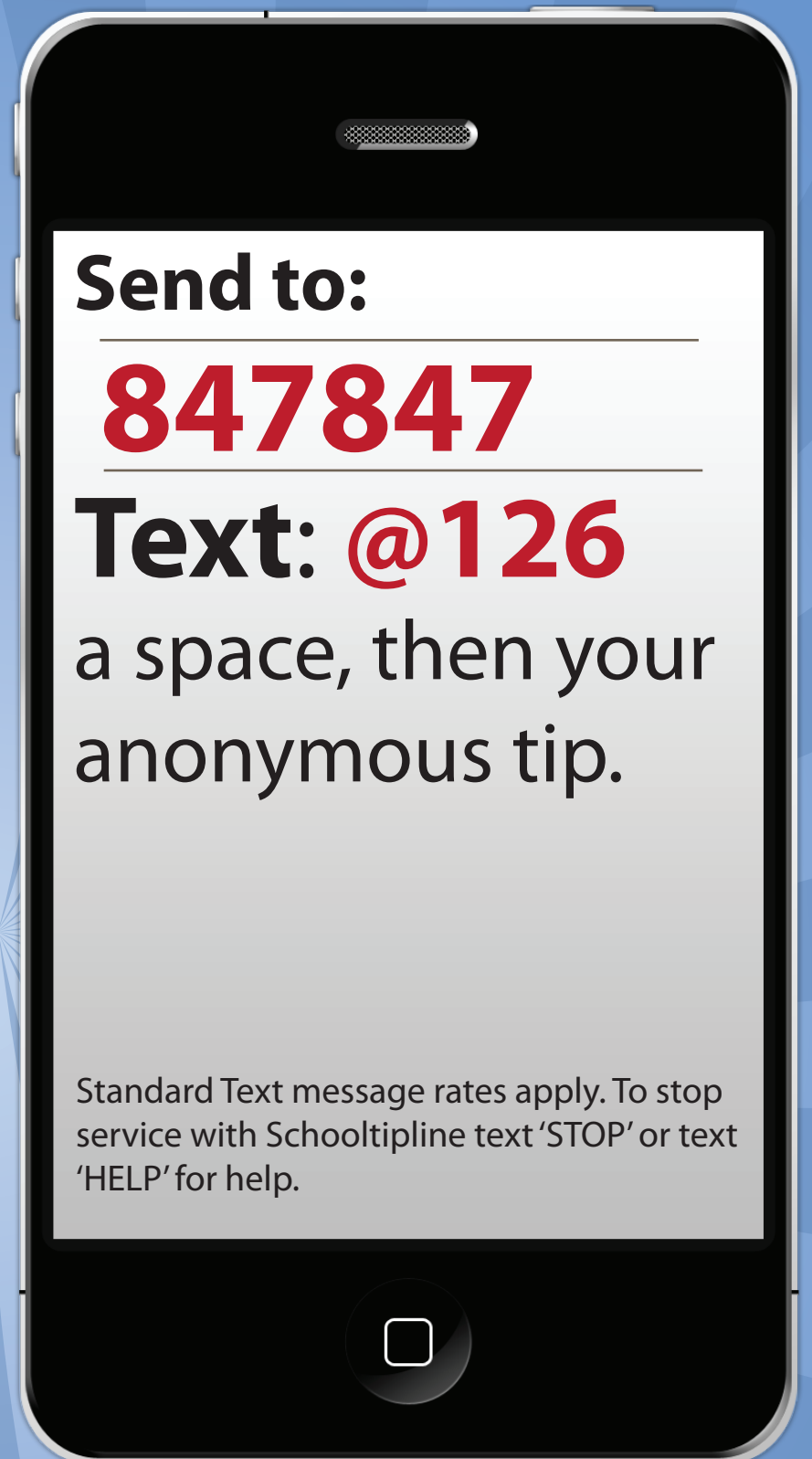
SPEAK UP!

KEEP OUR SCHOOL SAFE

text us your anonymous concerns

Anonymously Report:

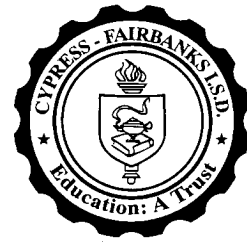
- bullying
- fighting
- threats
- weapons
- drugs
- alcohol
- theft
- violence
- cyber bullying
- gangs
- cheating
- harassment
- truancy
- suicide
- depression
- eating disorders
- and other concerns



or submit your tip online at
<http://hamilton.schooltipline.com>

Aware of a situation that could harm you or someone at your school? Talk about it anonymously with your school using SchoolTipline.





Office of Community Programs

When: Friday, November 4, 2011; 7 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Where: Aragon Middle School (16823 West Road, Houston 77095)

Who: Children up to 8th grade (For children who can use the bathroom independently)

Cost: \$20 per child, \$45 per family (3+ children)

Theme: Pajama Jam!! Wear your favorite PJs!!

Dinner: Pizza, juice and cookies included!

Activities: Dancing, crafts, team building, cartoons, and much more! Children are divided into small groups by age/grade for activity rotation.

Club Rewind membership is not required. For more info: 281-807-8900. To enroll, complete the bottom portion of this form and return with payment to a Club Rewind representative at your home campus by October 27, 2011.

Important Parent/Guardian Information: Payment MUST be included with this form. Please make checks payable to CFISD - Club Rewind. Payment is non-refundable and non-transferable. Deadline to enroll: October 27, 2011. An additional \$5 will be charged per child for forms received after October 27, 2011 at 6 p.m. After the deadline, forms are only accepted at the Office of Community Program or at the actual program event. The Office of Community Programs is located at 22602 Northwest Freeway, Cypress, TX 77429 in between Arnold Middle School and Cy-Fair High School.

Student's Name: _____ Grade (list Pre-K if younger than school age): _____

Male or Female: _____ Parent's Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone/ Pager/ Other Emergency Phone #'s: _____

Parent's E-Mail: _____

Special Instructions/ Needs/ Allergies: _____

Person authorized to pick up my child (MUST INCLUDE DL #): _____

In the event I cannot be reached to make arrangements for emergency medical attention, I authorize the facility staff or person in charge to take my child to North Cypress Medical Center (21214 Northwest Freeway, Cypress, TX 77429). I give consent for this facility to secure any and all necessary emergency medical care for my child.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

I recognize that in the event my child's behavior becomes severely disruptive, unsafe to him/herself or others, or my child does not respond to intervention, I will be called to pick him/her up immediately and I will not be reimbursed for payment. _____Initials

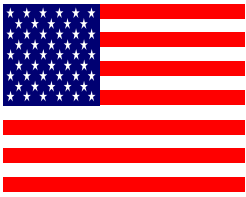
I recognize that I may not arrive to pick up my child smelling of alcohol or displaying any other erratic behavior. _____Initials

If I arrive after 11:00 p.m. to pick up my child, I recognize I will be charged a late pick up fee of \$1 per minute/child after 11:05 p.m. _____Initials

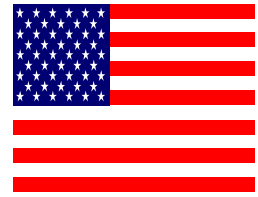
****DO NOT RETURN TO THE SCHOOL STAFF.
FORMS MUST BE TURNED INTO CLUB REWIND STAFF MEMBERS ONLY****

Next Pajama Jam: December 2.

Staff Use: Check #: _____ Amount: _____



Hamilton Elementary School
Salute to Our Heroes
November 11, 2011
9:30 a.m.



We are very fortunate to live in America. As Americans, we have many freedoms. These freedoms are protected by the men and women who have served and are currently serving in the U.S. armed forces—Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines and Navy including all the Reserves.

Salute to Our Heroes is Hamilton Elementary's way of saying thank you to our students' parents and grandparents for serving our country to keep our freedoms. The students in grades 1st through 5th will recognize the service men and women with a patriotic program by presenting them with a certificate of appreciation and calling their names by their military branch. Our kindergartners will be greeting and performing for our Military before the ceremony.

We would like for you to complete the bottom of this sheet if your veteran will be able to attend, and return it to your child's homeroom teacher by Friday, October 28, 2011.

Veteran Information:

(Please print clearly in CAPITAL letters)

Veteran's Name _____

Military Branch _____ *(necessary for seating)*

Student's Name _____

Student's Homeroom teacher _____

Non-Veteran Guest Information:

**Due to limited seating, each veteran will only be allowed one guest.

In order to expedite the check-in process we ask that you fill in the form below. You will need to come to the front of the building with your Drivers License so that you may receive a V-Soft nametag.

Yes, I will be attending the Veteran's Day program on Friday, November 11, 2011.

Guest/Parent name: _____

RSVP for Thanksgiving Feast / K.I.S.S (Kids Invite Someone Special)



Thursday, November 10
4th Grade 10:45, 5th Grade 11:45, 3rd Grade 12:45
Please no lunch visitors for 5th, 2nd, Kdg.

Friday, November 11
Kdg 10:45, 2nd Grade 11:45, 1st Grade 12:45
Please no lunch visitors for 1st, 4th, 3rd

In order to expedite the check in process we ask that you print and complete the form below. Please return it to the school no later than **Tuesday, November 1**. When you arrive at school for Thanksgiving/K.I.S.S. lunch, be prepared to present your **drivers license** to receive your preprinted nametag.

If you do not take advantage of the RSVP, you will need to report to the front desk and present your drivers license to be checked in as a lunch visitor.

Please check the day(s) you will be attending.

- Yes, I will be attending the Thanksgiving Lunch on Thursday, November 10.
- Yes, I will be attending the Thanksgiving Lunch on Friday, November 11.

Visitor name *(as printed on driver's license or i.d.)* _____

Visitor name *(as printed on driver's license or i.d.)* _____

Student Name: _____ Teacher: _____

Student Name: _____ Teacher: _____

Student Name: _____ Teacher: _____

Strategies for Helping Your Child with Different Types of Bullying

Bullying is when a person is exposed repeatedly, and over time, to the negative actions of one, or more persons. Listed below are four types of bullying and a few ways to cope with each.

Physical – pushing, hitting, kicking, biting, taking possession from, or hurting someone’s body in any way

Parents can help by encouraging your child to...

- ✓ Report immediately
- ✓ Not fight back
- ✓ look the person in the eye, tell him to stop and walk away
- ✓ Avoid going where this usually happens (when possible) and let an adult know where this tends to happen
- ✓ Try to avoid getting visibly emotional (raise voice, cry, run, anger outbursts, etc.) People who bully love to make you lose control!
- ✓ Run if in danger

Emotional – by harming another person’s self worth by name calling insulting, gestures, eye rolling, staring, threatening, intimidating, challenging in public, put downs, or hurting someone verbally in any way.

Parents can help by encouraging your child to...

- ✓ Act like it doesn’t bother him
- ✓ Ignore it
- ✓ Agree with him
- ✓ Say something funny
- ✓ Change the subject
- ✓ Have a “cue” to get the teachers attention
- ✓ Tell him how you feel and you wish he’d stop
- ✓ Role play the “comebacks” above, and if none of them work...report, or report anyway. Make sure your child knows 3-4 comebacks by memory.

Social – by harming a person’s group acceptance by gossiping, spreading rumors, playing tricks on, insulting their race/gender, arranging public humiliation, undermining relationships, trying to ruin their reputation, excluding someone, or trying to disrupt someone’s friendships in any way.

Parents can help by...

- ✓ Letting your child know it's not her fault
- ✓ Holding her accountable when she's bullies others
- ✓ Avoiding giving a solution. Help her brainstorm a strategy
- ✓ Asking, "Does she treat all of the girls this way?" If not, ask "Who is doing this?" Ask, "How does she treat the other girls?"
- ✓ Encouraging her to try out her strategy, and if it doesn't work she might consider new friends
- ✓ Helping her to remember that the most important thing is to "ACT LIKE IT DOESN'T BOTHER HER"

Electronic - by harming someone through the use of text messages, phone calls, chat rooms, emails, photos, Facebook, Myspace, blogs, twitter, or any other type of electronic means.

Parents can help by...

- ✓ Having rules and consequences for misuse of electronic devices (ie. No use of "on line slang", vulgar language, etc.)
- ✓ Not allowing cable TV, or computers in your child's room
- ✓ Installing monitoring equipment and filtering software (www.websafety.com and www.safefamilies.org)
- ✓ When cyberbullied, send a firm, non-threatening message asking for all communication to stop.
- ✓ Saving and printing out evidence of any cyberbullying
- ✓ Send a copy of cyberbullying to the school and other parent(s). Avoid contacting the other parent while angry, or electronically
- ✓ Turning in all threatening electronic contacts to the Police
- ✓ Having your child sign an internet/cell phone use contract (sample at www.safekids.com)
- ✓ Teaching: Ignore, Sign Off, Block and Report
- ✓ Helping your child learn to communicate without the use of electronic devices by solving problems face to face.
- ✓ Setting a good example.

Note: It is not considered bullying when students tease each other in a playful/friendly way. Also, it is not bullying when two students of about equal strength/power (could be physical or social power) argue, or fight. To be considered bullying 1) the behavior occurs repeatedly and over time and 2) and there's an imbalance of power in some way.

Points for Parents

“If your child is being bullied”

- If your child gives you indication that he/she is being bullied, believe your child and record the information. Remember to write down where and when it happened, who was involved, and the type of bullying that took place
- Take the initiative and talk with you child. Ask for specifics and write them down. If a child doesn't volunteer information easily ask open-ended questions like “Tell me about your day”
- Contact the school immediately. Share your written log of the bullying incident with the teacher, or administrator. As the teacher to discuss a plan to stop the bullying behavior in addition to a safety plan, if there is retaliation by the child who is bullying.
- Role play scenarios to develop more resistance skills at home. Concentrate on non-verbal cues such as stance, voice inflections, eye contact. Etc. Ask the school counselor for help with “comebacks”.
- Investigate if your child is more of a passive, or proactive victim. Have you heard that your child sometimes annoys, provoke others m or has a short temper (proactive), or is shy, sensitive, physically weaker, low self image, becomes easily upset (passive). If it's “proactive”, sometimes you can help your child change certain things that make him/her more of a target. Even if your child is a “proactive victim” it doesn't give others the right to bully him/her, but it sometimes does make it more understandable.
- Please do not do the following:
 - ✓ Confront the child who is bullying and/or parents
 - ✓ Ask your child to stand up to the bullying with physical force
 - ✓ Blame your child for being bullied
 - ✓ Keep the bullying a secret
 - ✓ Let your child hear you talk negatively about his/her school, teachers, or administrators