



# JEFFERSON

## Elementary School

KATE WYMAN  
Principal

220 East Jefferson Street • Morton, Illinois 61550-2091 • Phone: (309) 263-2650 • Fax: (309) 284-3031 • [kate.wyman@mcusd709.org](mailto:kate.wyman@mcusd709.org)

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is time again for our annual Erin's Law Presentations. Erin's Law (PA97-1147) passed in 2014 and mandates that Illinois public schools provide training to certified staff on prevention of child sexual abuse. It also mandates that public school children pre-kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade be educated on body safety rules and how to protect themselves from a perpetrator. This program is designed to introduce elementary students to the subject of child sexual abuse in an easy to understand, non-threatening way. This year, our Erin's Law Lessons will be presented by The Center for Prevention of Abuse. Lessons at Jefferson will occur at every grade level on November 28, 2023. The school social worker or school psychologist will be present during all lessons.

All lessons will review personal body safety rules, safe touches, and defining safe people through videos or books. Upper elementary students will also learn about good vs. bad secrets, advocating for themselves, and how to use social media appropriately.

**Some points the program emphasizes are:**

- Their bodies are their own.
- There's a difference between good touches and bad touches.
- Only they can decide whether a touch feels good or bad.
- They can say "No!" or "Stop that!" to unwanted touches.
- The parts of their body covered by their bathing suit are private.
- There's a difference between keeping good secrets and keeping bad secrets.
- If someone gives them a bad touch, it is not their fault.
- The "touching rule" says that no one can touch their private parts except to keep them clean and healthy.
- If someone breaks the "touching rule," they must tell an identified, trusted grown-up.
- If the first grown-up doesn't believe their story, they should keep telling until they find someone who will help.

We hope all parents will partner with us to educate our children. Please contact your building principal if this is a concern. Parents have also asked questions about participation for a child who has been abused; we will work with parents and students on an individual basis to make the best decision for that student. If you have any questions about the materials being presented, please contact the principal or school social worker. Parents are also encouraged to visit the Morton District 709 website to find more information on Erin's Law under parent resources to guide you in discussions at home. Additional materials and discussion starters will be sent home after the presentations are completed.