



September 2009

Dear School Business Official,

Bullying is a serious and potentially dangerous issue. Unfortunately, we have seen the devastating effects of bullying manifest themselves in horrible tragedies in Wisconsin and across the nation.

As a not-for-profit welfare trust that works exclusively with public school employees, we understand the impact bullying has on students and school employees alike. Psychological effects, such as depression, anxiety, and low self-esteem, as well as physical symptoms such as headaches and stomach ailments have a debilitating effect on bullies, their victims, and those who work in our schools. These effects often carry over into adulthood. Bullying is a behavior that has existed for a very long time and requires many different entities to work together to cause change.

That is why the WEA Trust (the Trust) has made the financial commitment to fund the cost of this Bullying Prevention curriculum for grades three through eight in every school district in Wisconsin. We simply believe that this issue and its long-term effects are that important.

Our sponsorship of this bullying prevention curriculum is not only the right thing to do; it's a sound investment for Wisconsin public school children, employees, and the communities in which we live. By partnering with the Department of Public Instruction, the Trust strives to help schools statewide build healthy environments that support academic achievement and make both students and staff feel safe at all times.

We hope you find the curriculum to be a strong tool in combating the issue of bullying in your schools.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fred Evert".

Fred Evert
Executive Director, WEA Trust

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