St. Johns County School District 40 Orange Street St. Augustine, Florida 32084 (904) 547-7500 www.stjohns.k12.fl.us

Joseph G. Joyner, Ed.D. Superintendent



Dear Parents,

As we begin the 2013-2014 school year, Sheriff David B. Shoar and Doctor Joseph Joyner will continue to address the increasingly complex issues of bullying, cyber bullying, and violence in schools.

In an effort to honor the commitment to provide students with a safe school environment in which to learn, and a safe community in which to grow, the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office and St. Johns County School District are seeking to enlist the help of the families and the community to support our students.

This year, initiatives to prevent and stop bullying are the focus of law enforcement officers; as well as the faculty and staff at local schools. It is imperative that these officials work in a coordinated effort with families to combat bullying at every angle.

In order for the school system to carry out its duty of providing all students with a safe environment in which to learn, grow, and develop – the schools seek to enlist the support and cooperation of all parents. These issues have been identified and it has been well established that they are not confined to school grounds. Bullying at school can have a lasting impact on a child's home life, relationships within neighborhoods, and online interactions. We must work together to take immediate action, whether a child bullies, is a victim of bullying, or is a witness to bullying.

More information about bullying prevention can be found at the district website http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/. Once at the website, search "bullying prevention," then follow the links. There are several resources included in this documentation; including Florida State Statue pertaining to harassment and a section regarding harassment and bullying outlined in the Student Code of Conduct Book.

We encourage you to take some time to review the information with your family; as it is required by Florida State Statute that this communication is provided to students and parents. Thank you and we look forward to a great school year in St. Johns County.

Joseph 4. Jayrer D. X 5. Show