

MAKE YOUR DAY CITIZENSHIP PROGRAM

BOULDER CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Make Your Day program is intended to be proactive and gives all students the opportunity to learn in a positive atmosphere, to make choices, and to evaluate and self-correct.

We believe that . . .

“No one has the right to interfere with the learning, safety and well being of others.”

We are committed to the following:

“We will do what is expected and do it the best we can.”

BOULDER CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

"MAKE YOUR DAY PROGRAM"

1997-1998

INTRODUCTION & OVERVIEW

During the 1996-1997 school year, the staff and parents of Boulder Creek voiced concern relative to citizenship awareness. In response to these concerns, we have implemented the **MAKE YOUR DAY** Citizenship Program. The **MAKE YOUR DAY** is no more than the understanding that **NO STUDENT HAS THE RIGHT TO INTERFERE WITH THE LEARNING OR RIGHTS OF OTHERS** and that each student is to **DO WHAT IS EXPECTED AND DO IT THE BEST THEY CAN**.

If a student is interfering with the learning or rights of others, they are permitted to take time away from the current activity in order to process the consequences of their current behavior, its effect on those around them, and engage in problem-solving to resolve the difficulty. In a few minutes, the student is allowed to return to designated activities if they indicate a willingness to participate appropriately. More time is allowed if a student needs additional time to reflect and/or to gather self-control. On occasion, a three way conference between the staff member, the student, and the parent(s) is structured to give the student an opportunity to assess and take responsibility for their behavior, provide alternate choices for future situations, and indicate a readiness to return to the classroom.

Throughout the day, each student is aware that the consequences of their behavior, both positive and negative, result from their choices and not from decisions made by the staff. Students who did not meet expectations are required, on a written form, to describe why they did not **"MAKE THEIR DAY."** Students are expected to discuss their behaviors with their parents, ask their parents to sign the form, and return it the next day. Communication with parents is critical for changing negative behavior and an important strength of this program.

MAKE YOUR DAY is positively motivated, not negatively motivated. It constantly puts students in positions to succeed, not fail. If a student does not **MAKE THEIR DAY**, they are simply provided with an opportunity to learn from a mistake or to modify their behavior. This is not a program about "good" or "bad," this is a program about choice and taking responsibility for personal behavior. It allows a student to make a mistake without feeling like he/she is a bad person. Students are provided with the opportunity to develop lifelong skills in taking responsibility, in making choices, and in effective communication.

Your teacher or the principal will be happy to answer any questions you may have about this program. Thank you for your support and understanding of our efforts to create a safe and positive learning environment for your child at Boulder Creek Elementary School.