



#AP\_EveryStudentEveryDay

# Algonquin Middle School

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AMS Families:

Here at AMS we work hard to create a school climate that is free of bullying and harassment.

To enhance this work, we're excited to announce a new theme week coming up from September 15th through September 19th. As a school, we will be spending time each day talking about the importance of positive decision making when it comes to peer relationships, conflict, bullying and harassment.

Under the banner of "Second Step Week," students will work with teachers to learn about recognizing bullying and harassment, managing relationships and also navigating social conflict. These activities will be distributed across the week in various content classes, helping students see that we are "all in this together" as we work to create a positive, supportive school climate for everyone.



Grades 7 and 8 student activities will all occur during the Second Step Theme Week while grade 6 students will participate in additional lessons during their Keys to Success classes. These classes kick off on September 15th. These intermittent weekly lessons will provide a foundation for building-wide expectation and student social skill development. We are excited all students will be involved in some way.

Topics addressed in Grade 6 include: Common Types of Bullying, Responding to Online Bullying, Managing Emotions, Considering Multiple Perspectives, Respectful Communication as well as goal setting and having a growth mindset for the start of middle school.

Grade 7 students will participate in activities on: What Makes a Conflict Escalate?, Perspective Taking, Resolving Conflicts and Taking Responsibility for Actions.

Grade 8 students will learn about: Understanding Bullying, Social and Environmental Factors that Contribute to Bullying, Being Inclusive and Being an Upstander.

Thank you for your continued support of our school community as we work to create a positive school climate for all.

Sincerely,

Robert Messia