

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Erin's Law (House Bill 6193) was signed by Governor Pat Quinn on Jan. 24, 2013. This law requires schools to implement an age-appropriate assault and abuse awareness and prevention curriculum for all grade levels. For more information about Erin's Law, please use link <http://erinslaw.org/>.

Counselors from The Zacharias Center assist many Lake County elementary districts in the implementation of this law. These counselors will be collaborating with our elementary social workers to provide lessons in grades kindergarten through five (K-5). Participation in this program will help reduce a child's vulnerability to unsafe situations by teaching the following concepts:

- Safety rules at home and school
- Assertiveness strategies
- How to utilize peer support
- Distinguishing safe from unsafe touching, and
- Identifying trusted adults in the school, community, and home.

Classroom sessions will not exceed 45 minutes in length, and your child's classroom teacher and building social worker will both participate. The program is presented in a single classroom session.

This year, per implementation of this law, sessions for students are scheduled to occur in October and November.

If you do not wish to have your child participate in this program, please send a note to your child's teacher and we will arrange for alternate activities during the presentation.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact your building principal, social worker/school psychologist, or the Director of Special Services.

Sincerely,

Dr. Chris Otto, Director of Special Services
Kerri Bongle, Principal of Adler Park School
Candice Kehoe, Principal of Butterfield School
Lori Poelking, Principal of Copeland Manor School
Jeff Knapp, Principal of Rockland School