



Mt. Zion Elementary School



260 Eureka Church Rd.
Carrollton, GA 30117
Phone: 770-832-8588
Fax: 770-832-0326

Melissa Dearman--Principal <http://mze.carrollcountyschools.com/> Shana Hartsfield- Assistant Princ.

Dear Families,

Our school is participating in an important district initiative. It is called Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS).

What is Positive Behavior Interventions and Support?

PBIS is a process for creating safer and more effective schools. It is a systems approach to enhancing the capacity of schools to educate all children by developing research-based, school-wide, and classroom behavior support systems. The process focuses on improving a school's ability to teach and support positive behavior for all students. Rather than a prescribed program, PBIS provides systems for schools to design, implement, and evaluate effective school-wide, classroom, non-classroom, and student specific plans. PBIS includes school-wide procedures and processes intended for all students and all staff in all settings. PBIS is not a program or a curriculum. It is a team-based process for systemic problem solving, planning, and evaluation. It is an approach to creating a safe and productive learning environment where teachers can teach and all students can learn.

What is PBIS at our school?

We have adopted a unified set of school rules. Similar to the MZE Code of Student Conduct, these rules define our expectations for behavior in our school. You will see these rules posted throughout the school and your child will be learning them during his or her first days at school. Our unified classroom rules, found in every classroom and non-classroom setting in the school, are as follows:

**Safety First
Own Your Behavior
Always Respectful
Responsible and Ready**

As part of our PBIS process, teachers and other staff members use evidence-based practices to increase student learning and decrease classroom disruptions. To keep students on the rules in a positive manner, we do the following when teaching academics and behavior:

- **Constantly teach and refer to our school-wide expectations.**
- **Provide students with more praise than correction.**
- **Talk to students with respect using a positive voice tone.**
- **Actively engage everyone in the class during instruction.**
- **Use pre-correcting, prompting, and redirecting as we teach.**
- **Look for the positive first and provide positive, immediate, frequent, and explicit feedback.**

Students will be able to earn Class Dojo points daily, inside and outside of the classroom, towards weekly and quarterly rewards. Each week, students with an 80% or higher Class Dojo average for the week will be entered in a drawing for a SOAR Buck. On the Monday morning announcements, 5 SOAR Bucks per grade level will be drawn for those students to receive a reward. Teachers may also allow students to redeem their Dojo points for rewards in class, but this will not affect their average. At the end of each nine weeks, students who have an 80% or higher average on Class Dojo for the nine week period will attend the SOAR Party. If a student receives an office Behavior Referral, they will not be able to attend the SOAR Party for that nine week period. It is very important that parents stay connected to their child's teachers through Class Dojo to be able to stay informed on your child's progress towards their goals, as well as staying up to date with school information and events posted in School Story.

At MZE, we have a school-wide system of consequences. Students will always receive a reminder before taking a Needs Work Dojo point. If the negative behaviors continue, students will receive a Minor Incident Report.

Minor Incident Report # 1 = Documented Warning with Consequence and Parent Contact

Minor Incident Report # 2 = Documented Warning with Consequence and Parent Contact

Minor Incident Report # 3 = Documented Warning with Consequence and Parent Conference

After 3 MIRs and a Parent Conference, if the behaviors continue the student will be referred to the Office with a Behavior Referral, and will not be able to attend the SOAR Party for that nine week period.

If you have questions about Positive Behavior Support, please feel free to contact your child's teacher. We look forward to a wonderful year of teaching your child.