

Dear Parent/Guardian,

J. T. Reddick is participating in an important state and district initiative titled, Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS). PBIS is a data-driven framework supported by the Georgia Department of Education and the Tift County School District to promote and maximize academic success and behavioral proficiency. PBIS practices are currently taking place in grades 6-12 throughout the district. PBIS is a process for creating a safer and more effective school environment. It is a systems approach to enhancing the capability of schools to educate all students by developing research-based, school-wide, and classroom behavior support systems. The process focuses on improving our schools ability to teach and support positive behavior for all students. Schools are successful when students are encouraged and allowed to grow academically, socially, and emotionally. The ultimate goal of PBIS is to create a safe and productive environment where educators can teach and all students can learn without disruption. By setting clear social and behavioral expectations and directly teaching our students how to model those expectations we can create a positive and productive atmosphere to facilitate optimal learning for all Tift County students. We are proud to be a part of this exciting initiative which will allow JTR to:

- ❖ Teach students the behaviors we expect
- ❖ Provide a safe environment where students excel academically and socially
- ❖ Encourage positive behavior and interactions
- ❖ Decrease problem behavior and keep student in class
- ❖ Reduce the number of office discipline referrals

As part of the PBIS initiative our school has defined a set of school-wide expectations and rules for behaviors in all areas of the school. These expectations will be posted throughout the school in hallways, cafeteria, restrooms, gym, and other locations throughout the building. All students will be explicitly taught these behavioral expectations through school developed lesson plans that include examples and non-examples of the specific expectation being addressed. Students will not only be taught about the behavioral expectations but they will be provided with opportunities to practice them as well. By detailing every expected behavior and teaching students in a proper positive way, we will provide a common language for everyone in the building, including students, teachers, front office staff, paraprofessionals, and all support personnel. As an integral part of PBIS, JTR will begin using a consistent positive rewards system to celebrate students' success as they model appropriate behavior in the school. Students who are caught exhibiting desired behaviors outlined in the behavior matrix of expectations will be rewarded with a Reddick Buck. These dollars can be used to purchase items or privileges from the school PBIS store. Our school-wide expectations are:

- ❖ **Be Respectful**
- ❖ **Be Responsible**
- ❖ **Be Ready**

Just Think Responsibly!!

We believe that by helping students practice good behavior, we will build a school community where **ALL** students have an environment where they **CAN** succeed and grow both academically and socially.

We would like your input and your involvement as we move forward with the PBIS initiative in our school. Please contact us if you have any questions or need further information (229) 387-2435. Thanks for your support!

If you would like more information on Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports please visit the following websites:

General Information:

<http://www.pbis.org/> - English

<http://www.pbis.org/spanish/main-es.htm> - Spanish

Family Involvement and PBIS:

<http://www.pbis.org/family/default.aspx> - English

<http://www.pbis.org/spanish/families-es.htm> - Spanish