



Date _____

Dear _____ School Parents/Guardians:

During the 2018 legislative session, Senate Bill 401 was passed which requires public school districts in the state of Georgia to provide annual, age-appropriate sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education in grades kindergarten through ninth grade and in-service training for school personnel providing the instruction. In Richmond County Schools, the curricula that will be used to provide this instruction are the *Child Safety Matters (grades k – 5)* and *Teen Safety Matters (grades 6 -9)* programs from the Monique Burr Foundation for Children.

The MBF Child Safety Matters/ Teen Safety Matters programs include the topics of bullying, cyberbullying, child abuse, sexual abuse and digital dangers with an emphasis that adults are responsible for children’s safety. _____ the school counselor, will conduct the lessons here at school or virtually during her classroom lessons. All materials that will be used in the classroom are available at school for viewing by parents upon request. You can also learn more about the programs at www.mbfpreventioneducation.org.

Please know that goal of this requirement for our district is to keep children safe. The topic of sexual abuse is sensitive, and the Richmond County School System respects parents’ right to determine if they want their child to be a part of these lessons or if they would prefer to have the discussions at home. If you have questions or concerns, please contact us here at school at _____.

Language of the program that will be used:

- Each grade’s lesson talks about “private parts” as the parts of a body that a bathing suit covers. No technical/medical vocabulary is used in these lessons.
- In Kindergarten through second grade lessons, “abuse to body” is used rather than the term “sexual abuse”.

You can learn more about the MBF Child Safety Matters at www.mbfpreventioneducation.org. You are also invited to speak to your school’s counselor to review the materials before making the decision for your child to participate. Lessons are scheduled to begin on _____, so if you want to view the materials, please arrange to do so before this date.

IF YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR CHILD TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM, we request that you write a letter to your child’s principal expressing a desire to teach this curriculum at home and call the school for a conference to review what you will be responsible for teaching; your child will be evaluated on this information. If the school office does not receive a letter from you, your child will participate with all students in this program. Letters must be received at the school by _____.

Sincerely,

Principal