

September Jefferson Elementary

SHINE BRIGHT!

This school year, our theme is "SHINE BRIGHT"... a reminder to our students that they each have unique strengths, talents, and potential, and that our school is a place where they can grow, take risks, and discover what they are capable of.

Throughout the year, we will encourage our students to:

DREAM BIG — Believe in what is possible and set goals for your future.

BE YOU — Embrace who you are, celebrate your strengths, and let your individuality shine.

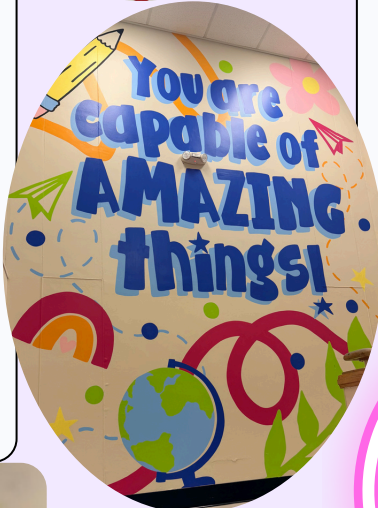
SHINE BRIGHT — Share your talents, kindness, and positive energy with others and make a difference in our school community.

Our goal is for every student to understand that their voice matters, their strengths matter, and they have something meaningful to contribute. "Shine Bright" is more than a theme—it is a message we want students to carry with them throughout the school year and beyond.



NEW MURALS

We are excited to showcase the beautiful new murals created by Kailey Royer LLC of Sycamore, IL! These vibrant additions bring creativity and school spirit to our building and were partially funded through the Casey's Cash for Classrooms grant. We are so grateful for the support that helped make this project possible!



COMMUNITY CONNECTION

With the help of Dr. Huyett, Mrs. Thorpe, Mr. Sagel, and Mrs. Full were able to prepare and delivered a presentation to the YMCA after-school program staff focused on Conscious Discipline. The presentation introduced key Conscious Discipline strategies and provided the YMCA team with practical tools and a shared language to help support students' emotional regulation, problem-solving, and positive behavior during the after-school program.





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PBIS to Conscious Discipline

From Compliance to Empowerment

This year, Jefferson is evolving our approach to student behavior and social-emotional growth. We will continue the structure and accountability of our PBIS systems while placing a greater emphasis on teaching students the internal skills they need to make responsible choices independently.

- FROM → Quarterly Behavior Focus TO → Monthly Conscious Discipline Power Skill

Extrinsic Rewards → Intrinsic Motivation & Recognition

"I'll make a good choice because I might get an award." → "I can make a good choice because I understand my feelings, my actions, and their impact on others."

Compliance when adults are watching → Responsible choices because students understand themselves and others

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE

Teach the Skill: Staff explicitly teach and model the monthly Conscious Discipline Power Skill.

Practice & Reflect: Students have opportunities to practice skills, reflect, and build self-awareness.

Recognize Growth: Positive Office Referrals recognize effort, growth, and practice of the monthly skill.

Reteach When Needed

"The Growth Zone" provides targeted reflection and reteaching for students needing additional support, beginning around Weeks 3-4 based on discipline data.

CELEBRATING STUDENTS

Positive Office Referrals

- Friday recognition
- Positive phone call home
- Student recognition/photos
- Referrals contribute toward quarterly class celebration tickets

Quarterly Class Celebrations

- Continue with an updated approach
- Student-centered celebrations such as popcorn, pizza, ice cream, and more

WHAT IS NOT CHANGING

Expectations + Accountability + Consistency

Our school-wide behavior matrix, classroom expectations, reteaching, interventions, and consequences remain in place.

THE GOAL

We are not lowering expectations. We are strengthening the skills students need to meet them. Teach it. Model it. Practice it. Build independence.

