***Warrior Way* Lesson for Monday, January 26, 2015*: STICKS AND STONES***

**School Wide Expectation:** Be Respectful

**Setting:** ALL LOCATIONS

**Lesson Focus: Names DO hurt!**

**Purpose of the Lesson**

1. Identify WHY some “I’m only joking” nicknames are rude and unacceptable
2. Identify ways students can discourage such name calling, which is a form of bullying
3. Demonstrate the correct behavior

**SEL standard(s) met:** 1B3a; all of 2

**Discussion Points**

These discussion questions can be used for discussion purposes, role-plays, for writing prompts, or for topics of debate to teach appropriate ways to argue a point.

1. ***Exactly what happens when you call someone a name that is not friendly...in other words, a name that is mean, or unflattering or unkind?***

Obviously, feelings are hurt. However, it produces a climate of imbalance; the person calling the name feels powerful, and the one called the name feels weak, and angry. Name-calling occurs because we are uncomfortable with people who are different, or because fail to control impulses to use those kinds of names.

1. ***Why do we think it’s okay to call someone a name?***

Maybe the name caller has heard other people use that name, and they think it’s okay. It might be that the nickname is okay for a group of friends to use, but no one outside that group should use the name. Also, what the student hears at home and on TV and in the movies all make a difference, too; if a student hears the inappropriate name over and over in music, or a favorite TV show, he or she might think it’s okay to use that name in reference to someone else.

1. ***Take a guess: What percentage of 8-11 year olds in a national survey said that they are teased or bullied in school? What percentage of 12-15 year olds said they are teased or bullied in school?***

The percentage of 8-11 year olds is 74%; it’s 86% for the 12-15 year olds. By definition in the survey, teasing or bullying is unwelcome and unwanted (Kaiser Family Foundation Survey 2001). Those percentages are probably still accurate and apply just as well to Parkview. In fact, 78% and 79% of parents for each age group respectively have talked about teasing or bullying with their kids. Unfortunately, more than half of the kids don’t ever remember the conversation about bullying or teasing.

1. ***So, what do we do about this?***

First and foremost: stop calling each other by unwelcome names, and develop an awareness that just because your favorite rap or hip-hop artist uses those names doesn’t mean you should too. Think about what you see in the movies and on TV; do they REALLY have to use all the name-calling, or could the story be just as good if it were cut out? Try putting yourself in the other person’s shoes; if you call him “shorty” and you’re tall...would you really like it when people started sneering “beanpole” at you every time you turned around, and NO ONE called you by your real name? Think carefully before answering that question with a, “Yeah, I’m okay with that.” If you do...add a few more unflattering names, based on your ethnic origin, your race, your actions, and your mannerism. Suddenly you are all of those things...or are you?

Think carefully...do unflattering names *really* describe who YOU are? If not...then why should they really describe other people?

**Reinforcement Activities**

1. Give a WARRIOR BUCK if you overhear students talking about the expectation.
2. If you know of a student who uses unflattering nicknames, and you see that he doesn’t, reward that with a WARRIOR BUCK and verbal praise.
3. When you hear a student address another student by name, give him or her a WARRIOR BUCK and verbal recognition.