

Almor West's behavioral matrix identifies specific positive behaviors for each of our behavioral expectations (S.T.A.R.S.)

Stay safe

Take ownership

Act responsibly

Respect self and others

Support each other

within specific settings. Those settings include common-use areas such as assembly, bus, cafeteria, hallway, bathroom, playground, and arrival & dismissal. The behavioral expectations are written as a clear list of the behaviors our students *should* be engaging in. These behavioral expectations are consistent for every grade level in our building, Pre-K thru 5. Further, our behavioral matrix spells out specifically what each appropriate behavior looks and sounds like. Great care has been taken to demonstrate each of the appropriate behaviors for the students and provide them with numerous opportunities to practice these behaviors. For example, when students are in the hallway they are to face forward, walk on the right side of the hallway, keep their hands and feet to themselves, and be silent. Additionally, they are to greet others with a silent nod, wave or thumbs up. When in the bathroom, students are to wait calmly for their turn and allow "emergencies" to go first. Further, students are to "Think two": use two squirts of soap, two paper towels, and take care of their business within two minutes or less. Having school-wide procedures will ensure everyone knows exactly what is expected of him/her at all times. That, in turn, will help reduce discipline problems, thereby allowing teachers more time to teach and students more time on task.

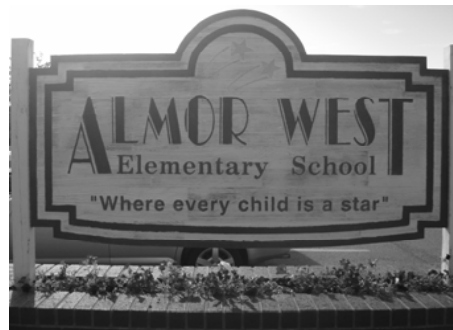
## PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND PBIS

To be successful, our behavior program needs to be a partnership between home and school. Throughout the school year the PBIS team will provide updates and additional information about PBIS in our school newsletter. We invite your ideas, comment, and concerns to make PBIS work at our school.

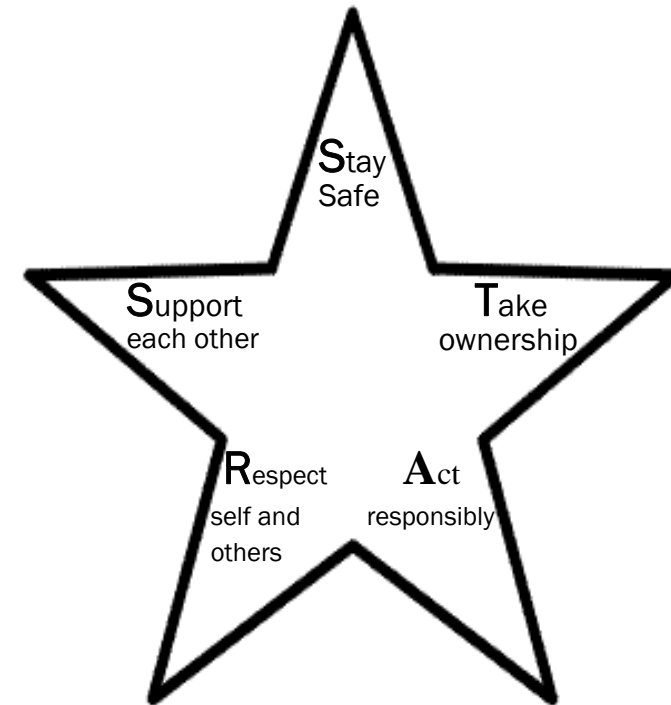
Please support PBIS at Almor West by:

- Reviewing behavior expectations with your child
- Signing and returning the behavior matrix slip sent home with your child
- Providing positive reinforcement (rewarding good choices with compliments or quality time) at home
- Reviewing, signing, and returning the Office Discipline Referral form when it's sent home.
- Make P.B.I.S. a topic of conversation at home.

Together we can achieve more!



# Almor West



Positive Behavioral  
Interventions and Supports:  
A P.B.I.S. Guide for Parents

**Almor West Elementary School**

Where every child is a star!

## WHAT IS PBIS?

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is an approach to teaching and supporting positive behaviors and meeting the needs of ALL students. This school-wide approach to discipline focuses on building a safe and positive environment in which all students can learn.

At Almor West Elementary the foundation of PBIS is our set of five building-wide expectations:

- **Stay safe**
- **Take ownership**
- **Act responsibly**
- **Respect self and others**
- **Support each other**

In addition to our behavior expectations, PBIS has four other components: 1) a **behavior matrix** which explains behavior expectations in each school setting; 2) **direct teaching** of the expectations; 3) **“Gotcha’s”**; and 4) **Office Discipline Referrals** to record and address inappropriate behaviors.

## BEHAVIOR MATRIX

The behavior matrix is a detailed description of expected behavior in each setting of the school. For example, in the dining hall it is respectful to say “please” and “thank you.” It is responsible to clean your space. The matrix will be posted in classrooms, around school and sent home.

## TEACHING EXPECTATIONS

Throughout the school year, students will be taught how to behave according to the five expectations. Teachers will help students learn what the expectations “look” and “sound” like in every setting during the school day. These lessons will be re-taught and reinforced throughout the school year, and become a regular part of our instructional program.

## “GOTCHA’S”

Acknowledging and reinforcing positive behavior is one of the best ways to change inappropriate behavior and encourage appropriate behavior. At Almor West each student will earn “Gotcha’s” for meeting behavior expectations. Students will be able to trade “Gotcha’s” for tangible rewards, special activities, or unique privileges.

## OFFICE DISCIPLINE REFERRALS

Even with clear expectations and positive reinforcement, sometimes children will misbehave. Discipline issues are divided into major and minor infractions.

- Major infractions are issues that result in office time. Parents/guardians will always be notified by the principal or teacher about major infractions. We will send home a copy of the O.D.R. for you to review with your child, sign, and return to school the next day. If the O.D.R. is not signed and returned, an Almor West faculty member will be contacting you to confirm you have seen the O.D.R.
- Minor infractions are behaviors that are disruptive to the learning environment, but are handled by the supervising staff member. If a child receives three minor infractions, it becomes a major infraction and the principal will address the behaviors and parents/guardians will be notified.

When a child repeatedly receives minors or majors, parents/guardians, teachers, support staff and the principal will meet to build an effective behavior intervention plan for that child.

