

PBIS Encourages Positive Behaviors at DHS

Find out what it means to be a BARB and follow the PBIS principles.

by Bethany Billips



A PBIS whiteboard in the lunchroom. Photo taken by Bethany Billips.

Here at DHS the administration has one common goal for the students, achieve academically and be safe by following school rules. PBIS co-leaders, Ms. Tragarz and Ms. Jennings work with the rest of their team to motivate students to be the best they can be in and out of the classroom.

PBIS stands for Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support. Students become involved with PBIS by following the targets for each quarter as well as the school rules. The targets for third quarter are no tardies, no unexcused absences, and no missing consequences.

Part of following the PBIS principles is also being a BARB. To be a BARB, one must Be responsible, Achieve academically, Respect self and others, and Be proud.

Students who meet the requirements each quarter are rewarded with an in school event. First quarter was a movie day, second quarter was a staff vs. students basketball game, third quarter will be a staff vs. students dodgeball game, and fourth quarter will be another movie day.

When asked how the quarterly targets are determined, Jennings wrote, "We look at behavioral data from the deans' office to determine what behaviors are most committed by our students (in other words, what negative behaviors do students need to be aware that they are committing).

With that information, we decide to announce what our focus will be each quarter and we award students for behaving appropriately. We want to challenge our students to make good behavioral choices."

When asked where the PBIS budget comes from, Tragarz wrote, "PBIS does various fundraisers throughout the year and we have a budgeted account that we use to purchase different items for our events. Community members and businesses in this area are also very generous and have donated gift cards for us to use."

Another way students become involved is to follow the DHS PBIS Twitter page! The PBIS Twitter page (@DeKalbPBIS) has recently started offering students prizes for following them and retweeting their tweets.

There's also the upcoming Staff vs. Students dodgeball tournament coming to DHS in March! Starting on January 19th students who have followed the third quarter targets will be entered into a drawing to be put on a dodgeball team. If you are not drawn to play dodgeball, you will be put into another drawing for prizes.

Keep listening to the announcements and follow @DeKalbPBIS on Twitter for more information and contests! And always remember what it means to be a BARB!



A poster advertising the upcoming dodgeball game. Photo taken by Bethany Billips.



A poster getting students to follow the PBIS twitter page. Photo taken by Bethany Billips.