



Elementary Family Social Emotional Learning Update September 2021

Dear Richards Elementary School Families,

Last spring, the Whitefish Bay School Board approved the adoption of the Caring School Community curriculum. The purpose of this letter is to provide 5K-5th Grade families with additional information regarding social and emotional learning instruction during the 2021-2022 school year.

At Richards, we have long focused on building supportive environments and relationships, along with providing clear expectations for students. With the District's emphasis on social emotional learning and the whole child, we are launching the Caring School Community program, a comprehensive, research-based social and emotional learning (SEL) program that builds school-wide community, develops students' social skills and SEL competencies, and proactively teaches self-management. The instruction is aligned to the [Wisconsin state social emotional learning competencies](#). Caring School Community is a companion to the social/emotional efforts, including PBIS, that are already happening in our school.

Some key components of Caring School Community are:

- Daily Morning Circle
- Weekly Class Meeting (grades 2-5)
- Buddy Classrooms
- Closing Circles
- Secret Student or Student Spotlight
- Home- School Activities

We will share more with you about CSC at Richards as the year progresses. We are very excited to engage in this work with our students!

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Jared Daigle, School Counselor

Katie Petersen, Associate Principal
Sam Purdy, School Psychologist