2022-2023 MARYETTA EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDENT HANDBOOK

470819 E 810 Road Stilwell, OK 74960

Website: www.maryetta.k12.ok.us



Pre-School Office 696-7030

C.N. Headstart 696-3751

Front Office 696-2285

Fax 696-6746

Carlene Yell 696-2285 ext. 3010

Lori Means – Superintendent

Carlene Yell— Elementary Principal

MARYETTA PUBLIC SCHOOL EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

Dear Families,

Welcome to the Early Childhood Center and Maryetta School Preschool Program. We are happy that you have chosen our program for your child's preschool enrichment. We look forward to providing a year filled with exciting and rewarding experiences to all our preschool friends.

We hope the information provided in this handbook will help you to gain an understanding and appreciation for your child's preschool experience. The aim of preschool is to provide a basic foundation for your child's education and to make each child's first experience with school a successful and happy one.

As teachers and parents, we must remember and keep in mind that a positive self-image is the main ingredient to a child's success. It is our job as parents and teachers to make this a priority. Knowledge enters the mind gradually, almost unconsciously. It is the teacher's job to plant it like a seed, tend to it with encouragement and love, and nurture it while it grows and blooms. We believe the teachers, specialists, and support staff in our program provide such an atmosphere for all our students to grow and bloom.

Enjoy your year with us! We know we will enjoy the year getting to know all of our friends and families at the Maryetta Early Childhood Center.

Sincerely,

The Early Childhood Staff

MARYETTA EARLY CHILDHOOD FACULTY & STAFF

Preschool (Three-Year Old)

Linda Hardbarger Kelli Longshore Robin Vann

Pre-Kindergarten (Four-Year Old)

Crystal Chambers
Patty Frederick
Keni Poindexter
Holly Stilwell

Assistants

Mika Chuculate, Bonnie Davis, Kristen Kidd, Riva Owl, Martina Kester, Jaynelle Scott, and Joann Watie

Preschool Office

Michelle Brooks

School Counselors

Karen Shell, Counselor Diane Weston, CCPS

Cherokee Nation Office

Shelly Hummingbird, Terri Fourkiller and Valorie Robertson

The Early Childhood Center

Classrooms Open 7:45 a.m. First Bell Rings 7:55 a.m. School Starts at 8:00 a.m.

Morning Tardy Bell 8:30 a.m. (Preschool students ONLY)

End of the Day Parent Pick-Up begins at 2:50 p.m. (Preschool students ONLY)

Bus riders dismissed at 2:55 p.m. Dismissal bell rings at 3:00 p.m.

Morning extended care is offered beginning at **6:30 a.m.** After school extended care ends at **5:30 p.m.**

Pick Up and Drop Off Areas

| GRADE LEVEL: | Designated Pick-up/Drop off Area: | |
|--|--|--|
| Preschool 3 & 4's | EAST Preschool Porch Area (look for DARK BLUE banner) *Afternoon pickup Begins at 2:50 p.m. | |
| Kindergarten | WEST Preschool Lobby Doors (look for RED banner) | |
| 1 st Grade | Pool Doors by the Flag Poles (look for WHITE banner) | |
| 2 nd Grade 3 rd Grade | Boys & Girls Club West Entrance (look for BLACK banner) | |
| 4 th Grade 5 th Grade | West Preschool <u>Parking Lot</u> (look for YELLOW banner) * Rain/bad weather enter through Pool Doors | |
| 6 th , 7 th & 8 th Grades | Activity Center Front Lobby Area (look for LIGHT BLUE banner) *Morning drop off at 6:30 a.m 7:45 a.m. | |
| | * <u>Afternoon</u> pickup at <u>Jr. High Bldg</u> begins at 3:00 p.m. until 4:15 p.m. | |

Attendance and Tardies

Regular school attendance is necessary for your child's academic success. Children learn important social, emotional and academic skills each day. We understand children will have doctors and dentist appointments that are necessary for your child's well being. However, every effort should be made for students to be at school each day.

Any Early Childhood student arriving after 8:45 a.m. will be counted tardy. As a reminder, three (3) unexcused tardies does equal one (1) absence. Excessive absence/tardiness will warrant contact by school personnel to work with families and create positive school connections.

Ten (10) consecutive absences will result in students being withdrawn from school (unless the school has been notified) to accommodate students that are on a waiting list to enroll.

Visitors

Parents are always welcome to visit school, but all parents and visitors must check in and out with the front offices and wait for a teacher/staff member/administrator to escort them to the meeting location. Parents who would like to visit an administrator or teacher should call and schedule an appointment during the teacher's planning period. As students arrive at school in the morning, they will be directed to go to their classrooms or general area in which social distancing is feasible. Parents will not be escorting their children into the building. No parents are allowed in the hallways of any building. All parents will be asked to remain in their cars and drive through the drop-off line to ensure a safe exit from and entrance into their family vehicles. Teachers are available by email, text messaging, Facebook Classroom Pages, Google Classroom and by calling to set up an appointment for conferencing.

Communication with Staff

Teachers communicate classroom news and activities through Facebook Classroom Pages, Google Classroom, newsletters and/or calendars. Important information may be obtained by visiting our district live feed site at: http://maryettaok.apptegy.us.

<u>Please download the Maryetta App from the app store on your cell phone to stay informed.</u>

Your input is vital to your child's educational success. Teachers welcome an opportunity to meet with you concerning your child and your child's education. If you need to contact your child's teacher you may email them. If you need to speak with your child's teacher, please, schedule a time. It is sometimes difficult to visit at the beginning or ending of the school day. You may email the teacher or call the preschool office at 918-696-7030 to schedule an appointment.

Parents may also download the **STOP It!** app to anonymously notify staff and administration of bullying, crisis issues, and/or other information important to the district. If you would like more information on the Maryetta App or the STOP It! App please contact the preschool office or a district administrator. See Additional Information and School Forms section at the end of the handbook.

Conferences and Meetings

Parents are encouraged to take an active role in their child's education. Parent/Teacher Conferences are offered twice each school year. If needed, conferences concerning your child may be scheduled anytime during the school year. Progress reports will be sent home at the end of each nine weeks. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns regarding your students educational progress.

Family Engagement Nights will be held each month either onsite or via ZOOM. Families are strongly encouraged to attend or participate. These meetings will provide your family with early child education activities, literacy training, parenting

skills, fun projects focused on Science Technology Engineering Math (S.T.E.M.) and other helpful information.

Parent/Guardian Contact Information

If at any time your contact information changes, please notify the preschool office immediately. Contact information includes address, home, and/or phone numbers (home, cell or work numbers). This is for the safety and well being of your child.

Update Emergency Contact Information Regularly

Children will only be released to parents or persons listed as emergency contacts on the school enrollment forms. You may add names to the pick up list by calling the preschool office. However, if an individual is not listed on the pick up list the student **will not be allowed** to go with that person until a parent/guardian is contacted to confirm.

Please provide a copy of any court documents, such as custody or guardianship documents to the preschool office, as soon as possible.

Sickness/Appointments

We understand small children are sometimes ill, have various appointments or do not feel well everyday. Please notify your child's teacher and call the preschool office to let them know if students must be out for the day. Keep your child home for at least 24 hours if they are experiencing diarrhea or vomiting. According to the school nurse guidelines, students will be sent home if they have a temperature above 100 degrees. Students' fever should be less than 100 degrees for at least 24 hours, without medication, before returning to school. Please make sure your child's teacher and the office have current contact information in case of emergencies.

Medication

If a physician requires a student to take medication during school hours, and the parent or guardian cannot be at school to administer the medication, the school nurse or designee may administer the medication as follows: Prescription medication must be in the original container that indicates the following:

Student's name
Name and strength of medication
Dosage and directions for administration
Name of physician
Date and name of pharmacy

Non-prescription Medication

Non-prescription medication may be administered after the parent/guardian completes the Student Treatment Release form as part of the enrollment packet. Medication will be administered in accordance with the label directions located on the medicine.

Head Lice

Students diagnosed with live head lice do not necessarily need to be sent home early from school. However, families will be contacted concerning head lice preventive solutions. Students can go home at the end of the day, be treated, and return to class after appropriate treatment has begun. Nits may persist after treatment, but successful treatment should kill crawling lice. The School Nurse will send additional information home concerning the treatment and prevention of head lice.

Head Lice Treatment (https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/treatment.html)

School Counselor

The district has school counselors onsite that are available for students, parents, guardians and/or staff. The school counselor can be contacted in regards to questions parents may have about their child's behavior, development, or other areas of concern. The district counselor(s) are credentialed and continue to receive the most innovative, up-to-date training in the area of child and family mental health.

The Curriculum

Onsite (Traditional) Classroom

The district highly recommends that all preschool three-year olds and preschool four-year olds come onsite for a balanced learning experience and to develop the social skills necessary to be successful students in the upper elementary grades. It is hard to replicate learning centers, outdoor experiences, psychomotor class, swimming, and how to developmentally collaborate with other students in a positive manner when other learning paths are initiated.

Virtual (Online) Classroom

Early Childhood students will not be placed into a virtual/online program without health issues and/or extenuating circumstances. If applicable, the district does provide virtual learning opportunities for students that have health issues or have families with multiple comorbidities. The district will provide an iPAD, One-Tab devices and/or Mobile Internet (MIFI) Hot Spots for each preschool student accepted into the virtual (online) classroom. Teachers will prepare pencil/paper packets, have Google Classroom Pages or Facebook Live sessions, and/or Bitmoji Google pages to aid in replicating the onsite (traditional) classroom experience.

Learning Centers/Activity Time

New learning centers are introduced throughout the year. Each center is related to the present curriculum theme or specific skill. Integrated curriculum including literacy skills, language arts, math, art, science and social studies are included within each theme or unit. Students have an opportunity to work independently at their own pace as well as cooperatively. Centers provide opportunities to practice and enhance concentration, imagination, cooperation and creation. Center time also allows the teacher time to work with small groups or with students individually. Each center is designed with the student's various development levels in mind. Children develop along the same continuum, but not all children develop at the same pace.

Outside Activity

Outside activity/play is an essential part of a child's development and learning experience. Physical activities such as running, climbing, skipping, and balancing are an important part of a child's large motor development. Expressing newly acquired physical ability can help strengthen self-control and self esteem in students. Outside activity also benefits students by helping to develop some very important social skills.

Music/Movement Activity

Students are given many opportunities to move within the classroom on a daily basis. Activities are based on the child's creativity, as well as specific movements that help the children focus their attention. Music is incorporated daily to increase attention and memory, facilitate language development, sequencing and of course fun!

Psychomotor

This is a scheduled time each week for students to work on building concepts such as body awareness, motor planning, ball playing, balance, running, jumping, upper and lower body strength.

Pool

This is a scheduled time each week for students to learn how to swim and to use their large and small muscles to develop healthy motor skills. Several certified lifeguards are on duty with at least one lifeguard in the water with students. Teachers and/or teacher assistants also remain in the pool with students. This is a required activity at Maryetta School and students will be participating unless a doctor's note is given to teachers. If a student has a note from his/her parent for more than three times in a row, he/she must also have a note from a doctor.

Snack Time

Snack time is an opportunity for children to sit, relax and enjoy a healthy snack together. Students engage in small group discussion, build language skills and practice social skills.

iPads

Maryetta Early Childhood Center utilizes a creative curriculum in which student's are issued individual iPads for classroom use. Students will use iPads to enhance their current classroom curriculum allowing students to create and be digital learners.

Typical Daily Schedule

Daily activities include a variety of individual and group projects. A typical day may consist of morning meetings, circle time, center time, art projects, math and literacy activities, science exploration, swimming, psychomotor, and much more. Each classroom schedule will differ slightly. Please, see your child's teachers for a copy of the daily classroom schedule.

Classroom Parties

Due to school safety policies, we ask parents and family not to attend classroom parties. We are making an effort to ensure our campus is as safe as possible for all students. Parties must be approved by the teacher and communicated to administration.

Toilet Training

Students should be toilet trained before beginning school. No diapers/pull-ups are allowed at school (unless a student has an IEP and/or doctor medical diagnosis). We understand that OCCASIONALLY children will have accidents. However if accidents are occurring often, you may be asked to keep your child home until they are toilet trained. Extra clothes including socks and underwear must be provided to change students in case an accident occurs.

Clothing

Children should dress in comfortable play clothes (paint, markers, glue, etc. may stain clothing). Please, dress your child for outdoor play when weather permits. Children will play outside each day weather permitting. Including cool temperatures, please dress appropriately. Please, mark ALL clothing and other belongings. Shoes or boots should be easy for the students to take off and put on by themselves. All children will need to bring a change of clothes including underwear. Students will also need a swimsuit. We ask that you consider purchasing a one-piece suit for girls. We will wash the suits at school and it can be difficult to keep up with both pieces of a two-piece suit.

Supplies

Maryetta School provides most supplies for the classroom activities and learning opportunities. However your child will need:

- A change of clothes (including socks and underwear)
- Nap mat (blanket or pillow, optional)
- Swimsuit and towel
- Backpack (Very important for transporting papers and notes home!)

Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

Morning and afternoon extended care is available for working parents. Morning extended care begins at 6:30 a.m. and continues until 7:45 a.m.. Students may be dropped off at the preschool doors beginning at 6:30 a.m. Students arriving after 7:45 a.m. may be taken to their classrooms using the backdoors on the porch areas until 8:30 a.m. The school day begins at 8:00 a.m. If your child arrives after 8:30 a.m., you must sign them in at the preschool lobby. **Please, do not take your child to their classroom.**

Someone will be available to walk your child to class. Beginning at 2:50 p.m., you may pick your child up by coming to the preschool parking lot area. Afternoon extended care is available from 3:15 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. Extended care is a privilege we are glad to offer families. However, if a student is picked up late (after 5:30 p.m.) three or more times, they may not be allowed to participate in the extended care program. Extended care forms will be sent home to working families wanting to utilize this program. Please notify your child's teacher and/or the preschool office to obtain forms.

Parking

<u>Please</u>, do not block the driveway under the awning. This area is reserved for student drop-off and pick-up only. Designated staff will be assisting students in the process to keep the pick-up/drop off line moving smoothly and safely. If you are bringing your child in or picking them up, please use the parking available in the parking lot (NOT along the fence next to the playground). See posted signs for family parking. Do not drop off students in bus loading zones located by the cafeteria.

Raider Parent Pick-Up Cards should be placed on the passenger side dash for visibility to ECC staff. Raider Cards are available from the teacher or preschool office. To ensure safety of students please have cards visible each day, if a card is lost please see the preschool office.

Behavioral Management Plan

The goal of discipline is to guide children in the development of self-control. Teachers will discipline in a consistent, constructive manner, based on the understanding and varying developmental levels of students. We ask that parents/guardians support the teacher's efforts to allow students to learn and grow.

Teachers and staff may use a variety of corrective measures, such as:

- Verbal correction
- Time out
- Loss of privilege (loss of extra curricular activity or recess)
- Changing seat arrangement
- Parent conference (by note, phone, email or in person)
- Referral to Principal
- Referral to School Counselor

Student Expectations

- Students are expected to follow rules and/or procedures established by the teacher, staff and district.
- Maintain self-control in class, in the cafeteria, on the bus and at all school sponsored activities.
- Practice appropriate social behavior and treat others with respect
- Be attentive.
- Respect school property and the property of others.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND SCHOOL FORMS

Copy of this form must be placed in student cumulative folder ***PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS PAGE TO TEACHER***

Parent/Guardian Agreement

I want my child to achieve. Therefore, I will encourage him/her by doing the following:

- Make sure my child attends school each day and is on time
- Support the educational process by working with teachers / school staff
- Support the school in its efforts to maintain proper discipline
- Attend monthly Family Literacy Events
- Stay aware of what my child is learning
- Read with my child as often as possible

I have read and understand the Maryetta Early Childhood Handbook

| Parent/Guardian | Date |
|-----------------|------|

School Agreement

As a school, in order to give students every opportunity to be successful, the Administration and Teachers agree to the following:

- Believe that all students can achieve.
- Provide an environment that allows for positive communication between the teacher, parent(s) and student.
- Encourage students and parents by providing information about student progress in a timely and effective manner.
- Use special activities in the classroom to make learning enjoyable.
- Strive to keep parents informed of special school events affecting their child.
- Comply with district and school policies, rules and regulations and directives.
- Be in regular attendance, on time, and prepared to perform their teaching duties with appropriate preparation, assignments, and resource materials.
- Teach to the standards of performance required by the district and the state of Oklahoma.
- Serve as appropriate role models for their students, families and colleagues, in accordance with the standards of the teaching profession.

| Teacher | Date |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| <u> Cori Means</u> | <u> August 2022</u> |
| Lori Means, Superintendent | Date |

PARENTS RIGHT-TO-KNOW LETTER

Date: August 1, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians:

In accordance with Parents Right-to-Know requirement under the *Every Student Succeeds Act-ESSA*, *Section1112* (e)(1)(A) this is a notification from Maryetta Public Schools to every parent/guardian of a student in a Title I school that you **have the right** to request and receive in a timely manner:

- a) information regarding the professional qualifications of your student's classroom teachers. The information regarding the professional qualifications of your student's classroom teachers shall include the following:
- If the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade level and subject areas taught;
- If the teacher is teaching under emergency or temporary status in which the state qualifications and licensing criteria are waived;
- The teachers baccalaureate degree major, graduate certification, and field of discipline; and
- Whether the student is provided services by paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications [ESSA, Section 1112(e)(1)(A)(i)-(ii)]
 - b) information regarding any State or local educational agency policy regarding student participation in any assessments mandated by section 1111(b)(2) and by the State or local educational agency, which shall include a policy, procedure, or parental right to opt the child out of such assessment, where applicable.

[ESSA, Section 1112(e)(2)(A)]

- c) upon request, parents of an English learner may:
- have the child immediately removed from an English Learner (EL) program; [ESSA 1112(e)(3)(A)(viii)(i)]
- decline the child's enrollment in an EL program, or choose another program or method of instruction, if available; [ESSA, Section 1112(e)(3)(A)(viii)(ii)]
- receive assistance in selecting among various programs and methods of instruction, if more than one program or method is offered by the eligible entity. [ESSA 1112(e)(3)(A)(viii)(iii)]
 - d) notification if your student has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet the applicable state certification for licensure requirements at the grade level and subject area in which the teacher has been assigned.

[ESSA, Section 1112(e)(1)(B)(ii)

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the school principal at 918-696-2285.

Sincerely,

Lori Means Superintendent

CHILD FIND, INTERVENTIONS AND ELIGIBILITY

A. Student Identification Process

The District ensures that the public is made aware of the educational rights of students with disabilities as well as the availability of special education services.

The District child find representative initiates and carries out child find awareness activities. The District's designated child find representative is Monica Dandridge, Special Education Services Director, Maryetta Public Schools, 470819 E. 810 Road, Stilwell, Oklahoma, 74960, telephone (918) 696-2285, extension 2036, email address mdandridge@maryetta.org. The District conducts periodic community awareness campaigns at least once annually to secure public cooperation in locating individuals with possible disabilities. The following information is included in the awareness efforts:

- 1. Children from age three through age 21 who are suspected of having a disability have the right to a formal determination as to whether or not they have a disability at any time throughout the year.
- 2. Children with disabilities aged three through 21 who have not graduated from high school with a regular high school diploma have the right to a free appropriate public education.
- 3. Students with disabilities from the age of 3 through 21 will be provided individualized education programs appropriate to meet their educational and related service needs.
 - a. A child, upon reaching his/her third birthday, becomes eligible for services through the District as of that date.
 - b. The District will cease educational services to a young adult with a disability upon completion of eighth grade.

B. Pre-Evaluation Process (Student Success Team Process)

When a student experiences problems that significantly interfere with learning, the staff will utilize the Response to Intervention (formerly known as the Student Success Team) process. The process is team-based and designed to provide interventions and assistance. The RTI Team conferences are part of the regular education process and do not constitute a special education referral.

The RTI Team process, which is charged with the responsibility of providing, prior to initial evaluations, interventions, accommodations and/or modifications to the instructional services provided to the child in the regular education setting. The District strongly recommends that such interventions be implemented prior to initiating the evaluation process. Consideration should also be given to determining a student's Section 504 eligibility status prior to initiating an evaluation.

- The RTI Team process is as follows:
 - 1. A Request for an RTI Team Meeting Form is completed and a meeting held among the members of the RTI Team. The RTI Team will consist of the student's regular classroom teacher(s), RTI coordinator, guidance counselor, designated administrative representative and parent. Although the student's parents should be given the opportunity to attend, parent attendance is not mandatory at the RTI Team meeting. At the meeting, the Team will discuss areas of concern involving the student and interventions, accommodations and/or modifications the Team could implement in the regular classroom setting to address those concerns. The Team will complete a RTI Plan to document its decisions. The Team will also gather existing information about the student that could later be used to complete a Review of Existing Data form (OSDE Form 3), if needed.
 - 2. Following the meeting, school personnel will implement the RTI Plan to determine its effectiveness in addressing the concerns the Team identified.
 - 3. At the end of the time period designated for its implementation, the RTI Team will reconvene and review the results of the Plan. At that point, the Team will determine whether the interventions were

effective and the concerns addressed or whether it is appropriate to begin the process for initial evaluation under the IDEA.

4. Prior to initiating the evaluation, a team of knowledgeable persons should consider the student's Section 504 eligibility to determine if the child is eligible under Section 504 for services. The team of knowledgeable persons should include the same persons who served as members of the student's RTI Team and a special education teacher certified or with registry training in the area(s) of suspected disability. A student may qualify for a Section 504 accommodation plan and still be referred for initial evaluation under the IDEA. The two are not mutually exclusive.

ANNUAL NOTICE

HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The McKinney-Vento Act defines homeless children and youth as:

- Children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, and includes children and youth who are:
 - sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason
 - living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations
 - living in emergency or transitional shelters
 - abandoned in hospitals
 - living in a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings
 - living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
 - migratory children who qualify as homeless because the children are living in circumstances described above

If you are personally aware of or are acquainted with any children or youth who may qualify according to the above criteria, the <u>Maryetta School District</u> provides the following assurances to parents and guardians of homeless children and youth and unaccompanied homeless youth:

- The child or youth shall be immediately enrolled and allowed to fully participate in school, even if unable to produce records normally required for enrollment (e.g., academic records, immunization and other required health records, proof of residency, or other documentation) or has missed application or enrollment deadlines during any period of homelessness.
- Homeless children and youths are not stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless and have full and equal educational and related opportunities.
- Meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children including special notices
 of events, parent-teacher conferences, newsletters, and access to student records.
- Immediate enrollment and transportation to the school of origin. "School of origin" means the school that a child or youth attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child or youth was last enrolled, including a preschool.
- Written explanation of any decisions related to school selection or enrollment made by the school, the local educational agency, or the State educational agency involved, including the rights of the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth to appeal and receive prompt resolution of such decisions.

Please contact <u>Carlene Yell</u>, homeless liaison for the <u>Maryetta</u> School District, at (918) 696-2285 or email at cyell@maryetta.org for additional information about the rights and services described above.



Maryetta School

"National School of Excellence" 470819 E 810 RD., Stilwell, OK 74960 (918) 696-2285 Fax (918) 696-6746 Lori Means, Superintendent Chad Harp, Principal

Board Members
Larry Eagleton, Pres.
Larry Hatfield, Vice Pres.
Kevin Stuhmer, Clerk

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are excited to inform you that our school has enrolled with STOPit!

STOPit is an online reporting tool designed to deter and mitigate bullying, cyber abuse, and other inappropriate behaviors. The **STOPit** system consist of an app and an incident management system for school administrators.

Our students will have access to the **STOPit** mobile app, which has two simple but powerful features.

A <u>Report</u> feature can be used by students to report incidents to school contacts anonymously. It can also be used by parents and guardians.

A <u>Messenger</u> feature can be used to engage in anonymous two-way communication with school contacts.

Both **Report** and **Messenger** empower students to stand up for themselves and for one another. Students have the power to help put an end to harmful and inappropriate behavior they see online through social media and other means. They can use **STOPit** to reach out for help if they or a peer are facing a personal crisis or experiencing bullying, abuse, or are otherwise in need of assistance. Our goal with **STOPit** is to create safer, kinder, school communities both online and off.

No student information is needed to use **STOPit**. The only way personally identifiable information will be accessible through **STOPit** is if a student voluntarily includes it within the content of a report or message.

Both our school and **STOPit** are committed to protecting the privacy of student data. **STOPit** is a signatory to the <u>Student Privacy Pledge</u>, spearheaded by the Future of Privacy Forum and the Software & Information Industry Association. You may review **STOPit's** <u>Privacy Policy</u> for details, including more information on how anonymous reporting works.

Please note that during a school assembly for the 5th-8th grades on 2/26/19, the students were invited to download the **STOPit** app on their smartphone or tablet at no charge. If your child has a smartphone or tablet at home, feel free to help them download the app on google play or the app store. You, as a Maryetta parent, are also welcome to download the app and if you have a child younger than 5th grade who you would like to have access to the app, feel free to help them download the app on their device.

More information and resources can be found online at stopitsolutions.com.

Maryetta's access code is: MARYETTA2285

Thank you,

