Sullivan School District #300- SULLIVAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Many states, including Illinois, in the past several years have passed laws with the intent of increasing the awareness of child sexual abuse. You may have heard of this legislation under its more common name, Erin's Law, in honor of Erin Merryn, a brave young woman who has crossed the country advocating for laws that will increase awareness of this crime against children. One of the requirements of this law is that schools provide an age appropriate curriculum to all students relating to sexual abuse prevention, which may include a variety of discussions, activities, videos and role play scenarios. The purpose of the lessons is to provide students with tools needed for personal safety and to provide a nurturing and caring environment open for disclosure of any incidents.

During the 2019-2020 school year**,** Growing Strong Sexual Assault Center (non-profit local organization) will be presenting a lesson to your student's class to meet the requirements of Erin's Law. The following concepts will be discussed:

- Ways to be safe, such as but not limited to, wearing a bike helmet, asking before petting a dog crossing the road, and safe and unsafe touches
- Ask First Rule, for example, asking before going to a friend's house
- How to say "no" and tell a trusted adult

February 10th and February 11th, Sullivan Middle School will be hosting the Growing Strong Sexual Assault Center to present Erin's Law information to our students. Through the program aimed at educating and empowering students, we want to provide your student with the knowledge and skills to use if ever affected by sexual violence and empower them to be safe. For more information on Erin's Law, please visit www.erinslaw.org.

If you have any questions about the content of the program, please contact Melissa Ashmore, High School Counselor at 217-728-8341 or Stefanie Keifer, Middle School Counselor Intern at (217) 728-8381 .

All students will participate in sexual abuse prevention lessons unless you choose for your child to NOT participate. Please sign below and return ONLY if you DO NOT WANT YOUR CHILD TO PARTICIPATE.

Sincerely,
Melissa Ashmore
Sullivan School District #300 School Counselor

----------**PLEASE CUT AND RETURN BOTTOM PORTION BY January 31, 2020** ----------

_____I DO NOT wish for my Sullivan School District student _____to

participate in Erin's Law presentation for the Academic Year 2019-2020.

_____
Parent/Guardian Signature

ONLY return this form if you DO NOT want your student to participate in Erin's Law presentation by January 31, 2020.