



*Tommie D. Saylor Jr., Principal*

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*"Excellence by Design"*

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17-DEC-18

Dear Parent/Guardian/Community Member:

On December 4th, 2018, the Gobles School District launched the *Be Nice* program with an assembly at each building. *Be Nice* is a program that was created by the mental health Foundation of West Michigan. The goal of this program is to promote a positive school environment and encourage good mental health by teaching students to **Notice, Invoke, Challenge, and Empower. While it is a proactive bullying prevention initiative, it goes far beyond just simple prevention, it seeking to educate students on the impact their words and actions have on the way others think, act, and feel.**

This can be a difficult subject for those who are struggling with the way they are being treated, but addressing it is necessary and beneficial. We want all of our students here to feel safe and proud of who they are.

Students and staff are being educated about this topic by our Liaisons, Ms. Veronica Peterson and Ms. Leah Herman, as well as by student leaders from our *Be Nice* leadership chapter. The chapter and liaisons worked at great length on the assembly that kicked off the school-wide initiative on the 4<sup>th</sup>.

We want the idea of *Be Nice* to continue to gain momentum in our school, so to this end, discussions and activities will continue throughout the school year. Any discussions you have at home that will keep our students thinking about the importance of their actions and their own personal values will be of great help. If you have any questions regarding this initiative, please feel free to email me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

*Tommie D. Saylor Jr.*

Tommie D. Saylor Jr., M.Ed.  
Principal, Gobles Middle/High School  
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