



# GERBER RAMblings

-all the news you can ewes

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Rod Stone, Superintendent/Principal

## RAMblings – January 13, 2011

### Happy New Year!!

Welcome back to school. I hope everyone had a nice and restful break. It is now time to refocus on school and student achievement.

***A quick reminder that student achievement is directly tied to student attendance.*** Please make sure during the cold season that you are making every effort to avoid things that would contribute to your children being sick. It has really been cold lately. We want to see the smiling students= faces each and every day.

### Dealing With Bullies

Believe it or not, most of the students discipline issues we deal with have to do with Bullying. It is important that parents and students understand that they are not helpless. Parents sometimes tell their children to strike back at bullies. Usually, that creates more problems than it solves. What I hear most often from students and parents is that the student is afraid to tell me because the bullying will get even worse. But if you=re being bullied, you aren=t helpless. You can do some things that may stop the bullying. Here are a few things students might try:

- Tell a friend. Ask your friend to help you B it=s tougher to pick on a person who has someone there for support.
- Walk away. It=s harder to bully someone who won=t stand still to listen.
- Chill out. Bullies seem to target kids who respond to their taunts. It is no fun to bully someone who doesn=t care.
- Don=t fight back. Usually, bullies are bigger and stronger than you are. If you try to fight, you=ll probably get the

worse end of the deal. By fighting back, you will be part of the problem, not the solution.

It=s pretty tough to stop bullying by yourselfY even with the help of friends. So if you have tried some of the things on my list and the bullying hasn=t stopped, it=s time to tell an adult. Nobody likes to admit that they=re being bullied. However, bullies usually have more than one victim B so if you don=t tell, the bully will just keep on harassing other people, too.

There are things we can do to stop kids from bullying B but we can=t take action if the teachers or I don=t know what=s happening.

### Important News

On Monday, January 10<sup>th</sup> we held our first parent “**Internet Safety**” class. We would have liked to have seen more parents, but we still had a very nice turn out. It was well received and the parents can’t wait until we offer another class. Please stay tuned. We have a Spanish interpreter and child care available.

We would also like to have you keep an eye on the Gerber website [www.gerberschool.org](http://www.gerberschool.org) . We are in the process of adding many new items that you can do with your children at home. Great help with school work and fun activities.

### Coming Events

- 1/17 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
- 1/24 Board of Trustees Mtg.-6PM - Library
- 1/28 Student of Month Assemblies –  
9:00 & 9:40AM - Cafeteria

