



# P.S. 108

The Philip J. Abinanti School



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Dear P.S. 108 Families,

We are excited to announce that our school is implementing an evidence-based approach, **Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)** for the upcoming school year. With this initiative, the learners are awarded for excellent behaviors and for meeting the objectives set for them. One of the key components of PBIS is establishing school-wide expectations for behavior. These expectations will be taught to students and reinforced throughout the school day, and we believe this will help create a positive and safe learning environment for all students so that we all have a successful and exciting school year!

It is important to offer a brief overview on this initiative. PBIS is an evidence based tiered framework for supporting students behavioral, academic, socially and emotionally. This framework is divided in three main Tiers. Within Tier one, “we are all involved”, such as stakeholders, educators, staff members, including students, within the entire learning environment to promote positive behavior. On the other hand, Tier two provides an additional layer of data to support group of students’ behavioral challenges among individuals and groups of learners within the school setting. Lastly, Tier three addresses team-based strategies to support individual learners with challenging tendencies. PBIS is not a new concept, but our school is taking a proactive step in ensuring that all our stakeholders are well-equipped with the necessary skills to create and maintain a positive learning environment. At P.S 108 we believe this will go a long way in promoting our students' academic success and social-emotional growth.

Most importantly, we are excited to share that taking into consideration that the main focus of PBIS is preventing and not punishment, to promote positive behavior. Our school, P.S 108 has developed a new strategy using an exciting positive reinforcement reward system, and this is how it will work...



Students will be recognized for following the school-wide expectations and rewarded for their positive behavior. In particular, the educators will keep PAWS

or tickets within the classroom setting, which are reward systems to help improve and promote positive behaviors. This new rewards system acts as a motivation for the students to feel motivated “to doing the right thing”. The PANDA PAWS will run each month.



P.S 108 will celebrate PANDA DAY(s)! If a student engages in good behavior, they will receive a PAW and will be able to enjoy many fun prizes and activities. These PAWS can be traded in for different prizes that the student can choose from. The prizes can be anything from visiting the PANDA store, being able to choose a seat in class, or even saving PAWS for many exciting enriching activities and trips! The structure of this reward system provides immediate feedback to the students regarding their behavior, which is an important part of the PBIS framework.

So, listen up families! The school is looking to partner with parents to make this system successful for their child and the school. We understand that parents are the primary influence in a child’s life, and we value your input and feedback. Additionally, we need help to promote the school’s mission and values to a wider community. In essence, the parent will play several roles including, encouraging students to apply the expectations of excellent behavior at home, reminding learners about positive behavior expectations before leaving for school daily, and ensuring that the students follow the required rules to allow them to receive daily PANDA PAWS.

Parents, this partnership is essential because it will help create a cohesive system in which everyone is working together to promote positive behavior. We would appreciate any support you can provide in reinforcing the school-wide expectations at home.

We are confident that PBIS will positively impact our school and we look forward to working together to create a safe and positive learning environment for all students. Additionally, we believe the system will provide a solid foundation for our students to develop into responsible and productive citizens.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our school administration, or your school social worker Ms. Pereyra (Ms. P) and we will gladly provide more clarification on this subject.

Now let’s all have a PAWS-itive school year!!!!!!

Yours truly,  
P.S 108