



Penny Young Harrison
Charter School Superintendent / CEO

May, 2005

Dear GPA Parents,

This year's school year has been very exciting with new academic and personal support programs for GPA students and families. However, as many of you have witnessed in the local and world news, bullying has been an epidemic this year in the school systems all over the United States.

Guajome Park Academy has taken the following measures last year and this year to prevent and handle school bullying. We have a no tolerance policy, and actions will be handled with thorough investigation and appropriate discipline measures. The following services have been delivered in order of action:

- January 2003-Present-Established a committee called "Ready to Learn" comprised of students, staff, administrators, and counselors (staff trained through San Diego County Office of Education) to establish school norms and leadership on how to create an atmosphere to promote learning. This team revisited the discipline code and revised many of its sections to ensure students safety.
- Anti-Bullying Curriculum-2004-2005
9th -12th Grade in advisory by counselor, teacher or administrator
6th-12th Grade in advisory done by counselor or teacher
- Support Groups-2004-2005
6th -8th Boys-Social Skills Group 6th-7th Grade Boys Growth Group
9th-12th Boys-Social Skills Group
9th-12th Grade- Girls Group
- Teacher Trainings on Bullying-2004-2005
Fall and spring semesters on internet, physical, verbal and sexual harassment
- Middle and High School Peer Mediation and Peer Listening Program, established 2004-2005
- Free community counseling for Guajome students and families-2004-2005
Life Line Counseling
- Healthy Kids Survey and Harassment Survey, given to students in 6th grade and 9th grade

We are very appreciative of the input from all our parents and students this year on school safety. We strongly encourage you to check in with your kids on a daily basis to ensure cooperative support with the school in your child's readiness to learn.

Sincerely,

Guajome Park Academy – Ready to Learn Committee

Committee members:

Craig Costello, Administrator
Rachael Gurian, Counselor
Peter Lopez, Counselor
Leigh Dick, Teacher
Chris Drake, Teacher
Duane Harper, Teacher
Ron Potts, Teacher
Cheryl Sherman, Teacher