



JOSEPH KUSHNER HEBREW ACADEMY

RAE KUSHNER YESHIVA HIGH SCHOOL

MIDDLE SCHOOL LAUNCHES PROJECT EMPOWER ANTI-BULLYING PROGRAM

The JKHA Middle School is proud to be implementing our anti-bullying program, Project Empower. Building on the school's many successful years as an active participant in the BRAVE program, we are pleased to be presenting this enhanced anti-bullying program. Using updated materials and engaging multimedia formats, this program reinforces the importance of positive social interactions, and teaches our students important skills to help create a positive school environment.

Last week the 6th graders participated in a workshop that underscored the critical role that bystanders play in responding to bullying. They learned specific strategies to employ if they witness bullying, and then they analyzed several video clips of these strategies being implemented in real life scenarios.

On Wednesday evening, February 7th, the 6th grade and their parents participated in our Project Empower evening. During the first part of the program the parents were introduced to the foundational principles of Project Empower, and learned about ways that they could support their children in developing skills to address bullying. Concurrently, the 6th grade students participated in engaging and creative team building activities presented by Adam Baranker, the Assistant Director of Camp Jeff Lake. The students were able to experience first-hand the importance of working together in building a responsive and supportive school environment. During the final portion of the program parents and children worked together to consider solutions that they could employ to real-life bullying situations.

The messages of these programs will continue to be reinforced through ongoing guidance department programming, as well as through our Upstander of the Month initiative, which highlights and recognizes the ways that students have stood up to bullying, and supported their peers.

