

Junior Membership Classroom Grant Trains Elementary “Peacemakers”

KDS DAR Elementary School was very fortunate to be the recipient of a Helen Pouch Memorial Fund Classroom Grant for 2018 in the amount of \$500. Elementary Counselor Kim Smith was very excited to be able to purchase student workbooks for each child at KDS Elementary from kindergarten through fourth grade. The workbooks supplement the Mendez Foundation “Too Good for Violence” curriculum.

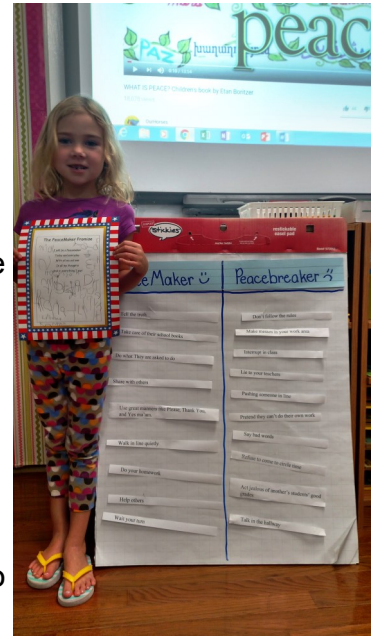
“Too Good For Violence” is a research-based curriculum to reduce violence in schools. This curriculum develops and applies social-emotional learning skills for conflict resolution, bullying prevention, anger management, and respect for self and others.

“At KDS DAR Elementary School we use this curriculum as a tool for teaching conflict resolution skills to our 408 students,” explained Mrs. Smith.

This program uses puppets, music, dancing, role-playing, and video clips to teach communication skills, empathy, and conflict resolution skills. It is a highly interactive curriculum that children really enjoy. Some Lessons include “Learning to be Peacemakers”, “What does a Peacemaker do?”, “Learn to Listen Respectfully”, and other important life skill lessons. Students learn to use “I Messages” to respectfully tell someone how they feel. They learn self-control techniques, and they learn about “roadblocks” to effective communication such as name calling, threatening, blaming, and using “put-downs”.



Deedee Eller's Kindergarten students completed their first lesson in becoming “Peacemakers”. They learned that “Peacemakers” listen, share, take turns, and solve problems peacefully. They signed a ‘Peacemaker Pledge’, and in their workbooks, they drew a picture of themselves doing something in their classroom to be a peacemaker.



Sincere appreciation is extended to the Junior Membership Committee, NSDAR, for this wonderful grant. KDS Elementary is so grateful for their valuable and much appreciated support of our efforts to create a campus full of “Peacemakers”!