

Tri-Town Council to host anti-bully programs this fall

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Wicked local photo by Elizabeth Coughlin

Brett Outchunis, known as "Ooch" came to Proctor School in Topsfield on September 22 to talk to the 4th, 5th, and 6th graders about bullying. He used a yo-yo, music and dance to teach the "super power" of embracing ones natural talents to help over come bullying. This was a TESPTO sponsored event.

By **Brendan Lewis/blewis@cnc.com**
Tri-Town Transcript

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Middleton Boxford Topsfield — Schools throughout the state have taken the issuing of bullying head on and are all now developing anti-bullying programs of their own to align with newly created state standards. To help Tri-Town schools address this issue, the Tri-Town Council on Youth and Family services will be offering a number of assemblies this fall that address the issue of bullying.

Tri-Town Council Programs and Operations Director Lisa Teichner said they are offering the programs with the help of the Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center. Teichner said many programs will focus on online bullying.

“Bullying just doesn’t happen person to person,” said Teichner.

Teichner said assemblies are scheduled for the Tri-Town elementary schools as well as seventh through tenth-grade students at Masconomet throughout October and November.

She said they are also sponsoring a professional development program for elementary educators that focuses on comprehensive intervention in bullying situations as well as a system-wide anti-bullying plan.

On Thursday, Nov. 4, the Tri-Town Council will also sponsor a community presentation open to the general public about bullying in local schools, which will be run by the center’s founder, Dr. Elizabeth Englander.

“She was a key proponent of the Massachusetts [anti-bullying] law that is in place now,” said Teichner.

One of the first programs will take place on Oct. 13 at the Proctor Elementary School called “Boys Sense.” The program is meant for parents, guardians, and educators of elementary school boys and focuses on “practical insights and simple, yet powerful recommendations” that address the needs of young boys. This free program is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 13 at the Proctor Elementary School.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Programs@tritowncouncil.org 978-887-6512.

What’s coming up!

Here is a list of upcoming programs planned for the Tri-Town and Masco School Districts:

Oct. 22: Proctor and Spofford 5th and 6th grades; student assemblies

Oct. 28: Masco Middle School; student assemblies

Oct. 29: Masco High School; student assemblies

Nov. 5: Howe Manning 5th and 6th grades; student assemblies

Nov. 4: Public presentation for parents/guardians & educators of students in grades 4-12 by Dr. Elizabeth Englander at Masconomet Auditorium 7 p.m.

All of these programs will focus on bullying, cyber bullying and social safety.

On March 16, 2011, The Tri-Town Council is hosting a program by Stephanie Meegan (Boxford resident) for parents/guardians and educators of PreK-6th grade students titled, “Bullying Prevention What Parents Can Do.”

This presentation will encompass a younger age group and perspective.

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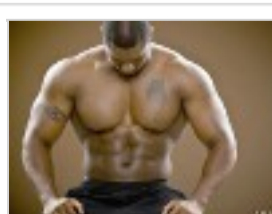
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