Training, Education, and Consequences:

When alleged bullying incidents are identified as bullying by either the principal or social worker, we use a progressive discipline plan that starts with a warning and can eventually require suspension or expulsion, depending on the severity and longevity of the issue.

In addition to discipline, we follow up with the students identified as bullying to reiterate healthy ways to interact with others and handle strong emotions. We also follow up with the targets to make sure the bullying has ceased and help the students with some tools to help them advocate for themselves, whether that is standing up to the bully or reporting to an adult should anything happen to them again.

We want to work together to make sure all students at Marlin have a safe and healthy educational environment and thank you for the support you give your students.

Positive Behavioral Support (PBS):

We implement several positive behavioral support programs, procedures, and protocols at Marlin.

Teachers have PBS reward structures built into their classroom management systems that help students focus on making and being rewarded for choosing positive actions. The school also has school wide reward systems designed to acknowledge positive choices on a weekly and monthly basis.

Additionally, as a school we review our school wide procedures and protocols at the beginning of the year and after winter break. This is done in a small group engaging format to help students learn what is expected of them at school. The aim of these two specific programs is to train students on positive choices, correct behavior, and school wide expectations and protocols.

Our hope is through Positive Behavioral Supports we can help strengthen our students’ choices through pre-teaching procedures and protocols and rewarding positive actions.
Beginning in Kindergarten:

Beginning in Kindergarten, Marlin students receive weekly educational guidance lessons from the school social worker for at least 10 weeks on feelings, friendship, social interactions, and problem solving to introduce students to the concepts of understanding their own and others’ feelings and perspectives on a variety of situations and how to handle those feelings.

After Kindergarten:

Each grade level after Kindergarten receives educational guidance lessons to add to what was taught the previous year. The previous years’ concepts are reviewed and then built upon to further the students’ understanding and skills in handling situations that cause conflict and bullying. Lessons are taught using a research-based curriculum from the Committee for Children, called Second Step. Most lessons are supplemented with books, videos, activities, and/or role plays as these supplements enhance the lessons and reiterate what is being taught.

Second Step Curriculum:

The Second Step curriculum not only teaches what bullying and conflict are, but it also teaches students how to be assertive and stand up for themselves, when safe and comfortable. Second Step lessons teach students how to report situations to a teacher that are not safe or comfortable. In addition, we teach the difference between tattling and reporting and how important it is to report situations to an adult, especially when the student has been assertive and a change of behavior from the other student(s) has not occurred.

Training, Education, and Consequences:

Marlin staff has also been trained on how to handle alleged bullying reports from students, document their interventions, and report to the office, when necessary.