



BLANDFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2601 South Blandford Drive, Rowland Heights, CA 91748
(626)965-3410 Fax (626)965-2360 www.blandfordschool.org

June Sakaue, Ed.D., Principal

Maria Descallar, Assistant Principal

September 17, 2019

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

We are pleased to inform you that our school will be taking part in the *Start With Hello Week*. *Start With Hello* program teaches students the skills they need to reach out and include those who may be dealing with chronic social isolation and create a culture of inclusion and connectedness within their classroom, school or youth organization. Last year, over 12,000 schools from across the United States participated. *Start With Hello*'s three simple steps are:

1. See Someone Alone
2. Reach Out and Help
3. Start With Hello

Social isolation is the overwhelming feeling of being left out, lonely, or treated like you are invisible. It is a growing epidemic in the United States and within our schools. Young people who are isolated can become victims of bullying, violence and/or depression. As a result, many further pull away from society, struggle with learning and social development and/or choose to hurt themselves or others. The positive news is that there are cures for disconnection and loneliness if we reach out and help one another.

We encourage you to talk to your child about the *Start With Hello* program. This will demonstrate to your child that you take this subject seriously and can support them in their actions to create a more connected and inclusive home, classroom, school and community.

From September 23-27, Blandford Elementary will have a spirit week to support *Start with Hello* and show how we can create a more inclusive and connected school community. For more information about *Start with Hello*, please visit Sandy Hook Promise programs at <https://www.sandyhookpromise.org/>.

Thank you for supporting the *Start With Hello Week*!

Sincerely,

June Sakaue
Principal