

Dear Parents/Guardians,



My name is Lisa Redmer, and I am your student's School Counselor at Bellevue Community Schools.

I will be working with my certified therapy dog, which is trained to provide comfort and support to students, as well as to assist with the overall positive climate of the school. My therapy dog is a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel named Fable. We are certified through the Alliance of Therapy Dogs.

Therapy dogs provide many benefits. They help children learn compassion, empathy, responsibility respect, and self-discipline.

Trained therapy dogs offer comfort and non-judgmental love with studies to prove that even a short time with a dog can decrease levels of anxiety and increase emotional security.

If you do **NOT** feel comfortable with your student interacting with Fable, sign this form and return it to your student's 1st hour class on or before March 14, 2020. By not signing and returning this form, you are giving your consent for your student to interact with Fable under my supervision.

Please feel free to contact me at redmer@bellevue-schools.com or call the school and ask for me to discuss any questions or concerns.

OPT-OUT FORM

I, _____, do **NOT** give permission for my student, _____ (student's name), to interact with the certified therapy dog.

Reason _____

Signature _____.

Date _____

Sincerely,

Ms. Redmer

Lisa Redmer, District Counselor,
Bellevue Community Schools