

# Pine View School

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<http://sarasotacountyschools.net/schools/pineview>

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Dear Families:

I am pleased to inform you about a fantastic curriculum we are bringing to our elementary students through the guidance department. It teaches students how to identify what makes them feel included, as well as how to identify what makes others feel understood and appreciated. These concepts are based on Dr. Gary Chapman's *The 5 Love Languages*, and they have been adapted to be appropriate to the needs of elementary school students. The lessons provide an opportunity to share vocabulary and concepts regarding the socio-emotional skills we want our students to learn.

The five concepts will be taught over several weeks with one new focus being revealed each week. Each lesson will explore one of the love languages listed below and will also discuss its opposite. Here is a summary of the lessons:

1. Words of Affirmation vs. Harassment
2. Quality Time vs. Leaving People Out
3. Acts of Service vs. Bullying
4. Gifts vs. Bribery
5. Safe Touch (Hugs) vs. Unsafe Touch (Pushing and Personal Safety)

It is our desire to have a school where students are making connections and are actively engaged in good citizenship. We want to educate the whole child! Many students who go through these lessons say they feel closer to their family, friends, and teachers. Studies have also shown that students who make connections with others tend to perform much better academically.

We encourage you to discuss with your child what they have learned during the lessons to reinforce the concepts. The forums will be listed on the calendar on the Pine View web site, so you can follow along.

Thank you for embarking on this adventure with us. If I can answer any questions or if you have any concerns about the content of the program, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Kate McManus/ Elementary School Counselor