

BRAVE CONVERSATIONS

What is Oswego BRAVE?

Oswego BRAVE is a community initiative focused on encouraging a safe and positive learning environment for students by Being Respectful and Valuing Everyone in our community.

What is the concept of a BRAVE conversation?

Bullying or disrespectful behavior in our schools is easy to label as a “school issue.” But the reality is that the behavior in our schools is a reflection of our community, and lasting change requires community participation. In creating BRAVE conversations, we encourage you to gather friends, neighbors or family members to start a BRAVE conversation about building empathy. Our goal is to offer a structure that helps facilitate a conversation around shared experiences, expectations, ideas and feelings that help all of us build an empathetic community in which every person feels respected and valued.

Start your own BRAVE conversation

- How do you define empathy?
- Do you teach your child empathy? How?
- Do you model empathy? How do you do that?
- How do you teach your child about diversity? What role does our community play in that lesson?
- What are some of the ways that you talk to your child about bullying?
- Do you think empathy is a quality we value in our families, in our classrooms, or in our society? If so, how? If not, why?
- Where do you think empathy is missing in our society?
- What is the relationship between empathy and justice?
- Do you try to incorporate empathy into your daily life? How do you do this?
- How do you think adults contribute to the problem of bullying?
- To what extent do you think “being mean” is integrated into our society? Our community?
- Have you ever bullied someone? Why? What stopped you? What started you?
- What do you do in your house to address cyberbullying? What more would you like to do?
- Did your parents ever call your friends parents when they did something wrong to you? How did that conversation go? Do you think that should be done today? Why?
- How would you like to use your unique personality to react to a situation where you feel you’ve encountered bullying?
- How can we help our community to show more empathy toward each other?
- If you could change one thing about your community, what would it be?

Share your experience

We would love to hear about your BRAVE conversations. Tell us about your group’s lightbulb moments, the new paths the questions sent you down, and any suggestions or feedback you’d like to offer for improving these conversations. Leave comments on Oswego BRAVE’s Facebook page with #braveconversations, or send comments to oswegobrave@gmail.com.

