



January 21, 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

On June 30, 2017 Bree's Law took effect under the *Alaska Safe Children's Act*, requiring both teachers and students in grades 7-12 to receive training on dating violence prevention and intervention. Students at Star of the North will soon be involved in an important program discussing what positive relationships look like as well as red flags for abusive situations. Lessons will begin February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022. This effective, research-based program targets the attitudes and behaviors associated with dating abuse and violence.

**If you DO NOT want your student to participate in these lessons, please sign below and return to the school.**

Dating abuse can be a significant problem for teens as young as middle school. The Alaska Safe Dates Curriculum helps teens more clearly define what a healthy dating relationship looks like and the indications of an abusive relationship. It helps teens understand the causes and consequences of dating abuse as well as the key ways to prevent abuse from happening. We understand that some parents and caregivers do not want their teens dating until they are older. These lessons do not push or promote dating. It does, however, provide students with guidelines for safe and positive relationships.

The lessons do not discuss any sexually explicit content. However, the program does talk about sexual assault in general terms. The goal of this program is to help teens be safe as they develop healthy relationships with friends. You can find more information of the FNSBSD website: [k12northstar.org/Page/8857#SafeChildrensAct](http://k12northstar.org/Page/8857#SafeChildrensAct).

If you have any questions about the *Safe Dates* program, please feel free to contact the school and I will be happy to answer any questions.

**To have your student NOT participate: *Sign below and return* the form to the school before the lessons are given. An alternative lesson will be provided for students who opt out.**

I **DO NOT** want my student in the lesson on The Alaska Safe Children's Act. I would like them to do another activity.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Sincerely,  
Joyce Widman  
School Counselor for Star of the North  
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