

# Newtown Middle School



**Jim Ross**  
Principal

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Center for Empowerment and Education (CEE) has been invited to Newtown Middle School in an ongoing effort to prevent and reduce interpersonal violence in our schools and communities through their age-appropriate prevention education programs. For over twenty years, students throughout the Greater Danbury area have enthusiastically received these interactive presentations.

CEE's mission is to break the cycle of interpersonal violence through empowerment, education and support services utilizing inclusive, trauma-informed, and client-centered practices for all individuals in the community. CEE provides state approved interpersonal violence resources and services to Northern Fairfield and Southern Litchfield counties. CEE operates from the knowledge that education and awareness can prevent or reduce violence in our communities.

All CEE staff are certified domestic violence and sexual assault counselors in accordance with C.G.S. 52-146k. Below are the main learning objectives they cover throughout the grade clusters.

<p>K-4 Learning Objectives Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Respect and kindness</li><li>• Self-esteem</li><li>• Conflict resolution skills</li></ul> <p>Safety rules regarding bodily autonomy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identifying trusted adults</li><li>• Empathy</li></ul>	<p>5-8 Learning Objectives Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Healthy relationships and boundaries</li><li>• Conflict resolution skills</li><li>• Identifying boundaries</li><li>• Technology safety</li><li>• Identifying trusted adults and resources</li></ul>	<p>9-12 Learning Objectives Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understanding dating abuse and sexual assault</li><li>• Self-esteem</li><li>• Respect and empathy</li><li>• Conflict resolution skills</li><li>• Technology safety</li><li>• Bystander intervention skills</li><li>• Identifying and accessing resources</li></ul>
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Effective October 1, 2016, all local and regional school districts in Connecticut are required to implement sexual assault awareness and prevention programs in grades kindergarten through twelve, as per Section 17a-101q of the Connecticut General Statutes. To meet this statewide mandate, Newtown Middle School is partnering with The Center for Empowerment and Education (CEE) and their prevention education team to provide programs to students that align with the guidelines set forth through the state-wide framework.

*"An unbelievable program that students can take away to apply life-long skills of understanding how to make appropriate choices. The presenters are engaging, compassionate and knowledgeable." – Teacher, Newtown Public Schools*

No student is required to participate in these programs. *Please sign and return the attached form to your child's teacher only if you do not wish for your child to attend these programs.*

**I DO NOT WANT MY CHILD TO ATTEND CEE'S PROGRAM**

Please excuse my child, \_\_\_\_\_ from attending.

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

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**"OPT-OUT" MUST BE RETURNED TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER BY:**

**10 / 18 / 24**