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Day Creek Intermediate and Summit Intermediate School(s) Awarded the Safe School Ambassador Grant

Congratulations to Day Creek Intermediate and Summit Intermediate for their recent award of the Safe School Ambassadors (SSA) grant. Safe School Ambassadors is a research-based and student-centered model designed for students in grades 4-12. The purpose of the SSA grant is to: reduce bullying, including cyber bullying; increase student reporting to adults; reduce put-downs, harassment and fighting; improve school climate; and reduce gang involvement and activity. Each site will receive about \$4,500. These funds will enable Summit Intermediate School to enhance the anti-bullying program that they have had in place for the past three years. The funds will assist Day Creek Intermediate in implementing the program at their site.

Training for the program is provided for both students and teachers by Community Matters. The training consists of two days of interactive training at the school sites. The program identifies and selects student leaders from diverse groups across the campus and forms them into a team of Safe School Ambassadors. The Ambassadors are trained in the skills of nonviolent communication. Through the training students develop essential skills of observation, intervention, negotiation, reporting and referral. The adults learn how to facilitate ongoing small (family) group meetings that provide Ambassadors with supervision, skill development and support.

Both schools are excited about this program as it promotes a positive school culture of caring and respect for all!