

## **DON'T PASS RUMORS**

A RUMOR IS INFORMATION OR A STORY THAT GETS PASSED AROUND A SCHOOL WITHOUT ANY FACTS TO SHOW THAT IT IS TRUE. RUMORS ARE USUALLY EXCITING OR INTERESTING STATEMENTS SO KIDS WILL WANT TO SHARE WHAT THEY HAVE HEARD. FOR EXAMPLE, "DID YOU HEAR THAT CARLY LIKES FREDDY?"

### **WHY DO KIDS PASS RUMORS?**

- THEY ARE BEING SILLY
- THEY ARE BEING MEAN
- THEY WANT TO FEEL IMPORTANT
- THEY ARE PLAYING A JOKE
- THEY WANT TO HURT THE PERSON THE RUMOR IS ABOUT

### **WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I PASS A RUMOR?**

- I MAY GET IN TROUBLE WITH TEACHERS AND OTHER STUDENTS
- THE KIDS MAY GET ANGRY OR LAUGH AT ME
- RUMORS MAY BE SPREAD ABOUT ME BECAUSE I SPREAD A RUMOR MYSELF

### **HOW DO I FIND OUT THE TRUTH ABOUT A RUMOR?**

- I CAN ASK MY PARENTS IN PRIVATE
- I CAN ASK MY BEST FRIENDS IN PRIVATE
- I MAY NOT FIND OUT, EVEN IF I ASK MY CLOSE FRIENDS

-I SHOULD NOT ASK THE PERSON/S WHO THE RUMOR IS ABOUT BECAUSE IT MAY BE HURTFUL

**WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I FEEL CONFUSED WHEN TOLD A RUMOR?**

-I STOP AND THINK ABOUT WHETHER IT COULD BE TRUE

-IF IT IS NOT ABOUT ME, I DON'T NEED TO CARE ABOUT IT

-I DON'T REPEAT IT

-I REMIND MYSELF THAT IT IS PROBABLY NOT TRUE

**REMEMBER: DON'T SHARE RUMORS!**

**(SOCIAL RULES FOR KIDS: THE TOP 100 SOCIAL RULES KIDS NEED TO SUCCEED, DIAMOND & GORDON, 2011)**