

This year our kids did a great job of collaborating on how they could best spread the message at our school. The kids decided to do grade level presentations in an assembly format to explain how to speak up, stand Up, and save a life.

Each presentation was aimed toward an age appropriate message. For example, our younger grade presentations featured more active things like skits about bullying, whereas for our older grades there were more facts on things like suicide and allowed more time for questions.

For next year we plan to do middle school interest service clubs to help students develop more empathy and cut down on bullying and increase empathy and kindness. It will be every Wednesday for one hour. Students will meet during the school day with a teacher and volunteer sponsor.

They will explore their area of interest (i.e. gardening, auto mechanics, etc.) and will be required to plan and carry out a quarterly community service project that goes along with their club. We are also going to have affirmation signs around campus to remind the students to use kind words as well as "friendship" benches to encourage kindness and friendship.

The following is of the kids on stage during some of their presentations.

