

CRYSTAL CITY 47 SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Subject: Trauma Informed Schools Initiative

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Pursuant to Missouri Senate Bill 638, Section 161.1050, the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) has established the “Trauma-Informed Schools Initiative.”

For the purposes of this initiative, the following terms are defined as follows:

1. “Trauma-informed approach” - an approach that involves understanding and responding to the symptoms of chronic interpersonal trauma and traumatic stress across the lifespan
2. “Trauma-informed school” - a school that:
 - a. realizes the widespread impact of trauma and understands potential paths for recovery
 - b. recognizes the signs and symptoms of trauma in students, teachers and staff
 - c. responds by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into its policies, procedures and practices; and
 - d. seeks to actively resist re-traumatization

Our school district staff is here to assist your children as needs arise. Please feel free to contact the schools at any time. The Missouri Trauma – Informed Schools Initiative may be reached via the website <http://motraumaschools.com>.

Sincerely,

Crystal Reiter