THE MISSION OF STARS
To help young people pursue their unlimited potential.

STARS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion or creed, sex (including pregnancy, gender, gender identity, and sexual orientation), national origin, age, socioeconomic status, language, disability or genetic information. No one shall be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any of STARS' programs, services, trainings or activities.

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**KIDS ON THE BLOCK** (KOB), a program of **STARS**, educates students in grades K–4 about health and social concerns that affect their lives. Using puppets and other teaching tools, KOB promotes understanding and acceptance of all children and adults, regardless of their differences.

**KOB LITERACY PROGRAM**
This six-week literacy program targets those students whose proficiency is 10 to 15 percent behind, and works with them to help increase reading scores through an assortment of activities including a presentation with the Kids on the Block puppets.

**KOB PRESENTATIONS**

**KINDERGARTEN:**
**TEASING AND NAME-CALLING**
Discourages teasing and name-calling that can lead to future bullying, while encouraging kindness. (25 minutes)

**FIRST GRADE:**
**AWARENESS OF DIFFERENCES**
Promotes respect, understanding and acceptance of all individuals regardless of their differences. (45 minutes)

**SECOND GRADE:**
**SAFE SCHOOLS PROGRAM: Stand Up! Empowering Students To Resolve Conflict and Report Bullying**
Teaches that there is more than one way to solve a problem and how to safely intervene in a bullying situation. (45 minutes)

**THIRD GRADE:**
**CHILD-ABUSE PREVENTION**
Educates students to identify child abuse and neglect, empowers them to say “No!” and encourages them to talk to a trusted adult. (Recommended 60 minutes)

**FOURTH GRADE:**
**BE A HERO**
Designed to examine the challenges around prejudiced thinking and bullying. (60 minutes)

**ACCORDING TO TEACHER SURVEYS ...**

- 91% of teachers and counselors reported that the program had a positive impact on the students.
- 75% of the teachers state that students volunteer to read more often following the KOB literacy program.
- 67% of the teachers stated that their students read with more confidence following the KOB literacy program.
- 79% of the teachers state that they would recommend future struggling readers to the KOB literacy program.
- 87% of the students stated that they learned something new.