



## PARENT WELCOME & OPT-OUT

Dear Parent or Guardian,

In an effort to protect your child, we will be providing the *MBF After-School Safety Matters™* program in the coming months. This prevention education program, developed by the Monique Burr Foundation for Children (MBF), is based on the latest research, and was developed to educate and empower children to prevent, recognize, and respond appropriately to bullying, cyberbullying, all types of child abuse, digital abuse, and other digital dangers.

### Why does your child need a safety program?

- 28% of children have been bullied
- 1 out of 10 children will be abused before their 18th birthday
- 9 out of 10 children between ages 8 and 16 have viewed explicit online material
- 1 out of 7 children has been solicited online

The *MBF After-School Safety Matters* program addresses the critical safety issues faced by children today. The program teaches these topics in an age and developmentally appropriate way, with easy to understand language using fun lessons and activities. Children learn that adults are responsible for their safety. They also learn 5 Safety Rules and other strategies to help adults keep them safe.

Keeping children safe will benefit not only children and families, but schools, organizations, communities, and society will benefit from healthier, more productive adults as well.

*Every child deserves to be safe!*

**IF YOU “DO NOT” WANT YOUR CHILD TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM, COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW, AND CUT & RETURN THE FORM TO US BY \_\_\_\_\_.**

Because bullying, cyberbullying, and abuse are very real dangers to children, and because *MBF After-School Safety Matters* is age appropriate, fun, and provides children with critically important safety information, we ask if you decline your child's participation that you please educate them using an alternative program to help protect them.

If you have any concerns or questions, please discuss them with us prior to declining the program. You can also learn more about the Monique Burr Foundation for Children's safety and prevention programs at [www.mbfpreventioneducation.org](http://www.mbfpreventioneducation.org) or by downloading the “Child Safety Matters” app from the App Store or Google Play.

I understand returning this form means **I DO NOT WANT MY CHILD TO PARTICIPATE** in the *MBF After-School Safety Matters* lessons specified below. I UNDERSTAND THEY WILL NOT RECEIVE THIS CRITICAL SAFETY INFORMATION.

I **DO NOT** want my child to participate in the lesson(s) about:  The 5 Safety Rules  Bullying  Cyberbullying  
 Abuse  Digital Safety  Digital Citizenship **OR**  I **DO NOT** want my child to participate in any lessons

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for declining program \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Phone \_\_\_\_\_