



# Twin Valley School District

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

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### **HBEC TO HOLD BULLY PREVENTION KICK-OFF**

*Grant Received through PA CARES*

Elverson, PA – Honey Brook Elementary Center (HBEC) officials are pleased to announce that they will officially kick-off the Olweus (pronounced Ol-VEY-us) Bullying Prevention Program (OBPP) on Friday, January 30, 2009 at the Center located at 1530 West Walnut Road in Honey Brook. HBEC was named a recipient of a \$7,500 grant last year entitled “PA CARES,” a new initiative to help schools implement the OBPP to address bullying in order to provide a safe and nurturing learning environment.

The school will hold a Family Night from 6:30 – 7:30 PM which includes an informational presentation on the Bully Prevention Program and a free Mexican Taco dinner for the whole family. There will be entertainment for the kids as well as raffles and fun.

The Olweus program has been found to reduce bullying among children, improve the social climate of classrooms, and reduce related antisocial behaviors, such as vandalism and truancy. It was begun in 1983 after three adolescent boys in northern Norway committed suicide as a result of severe bullying by peers. The Norwegian Ministry of Education commissioned Professor Dan Olweus to conduct a large-scale research and intervention project on bully/victim problems resulting in the program. It has since been refined, expanded, and evaluated with positive results, as well as implemented in many countries including the United States, the United Kingdom and Germany.

In addition to the funding, staff at HBEC will receive on-going training and technical assistance to implement the program for a three-year time period beginning this school year.

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Twin Valley School District is an equal opportunity public education institution that is committed to excellence in education. In partnership with parents and the community, the District aspires to prepare students for challenges in an ever-changing world.