



Above the Line

**HMS Bullying
Prevention and
Intervention
Program**

What is Above the Line?

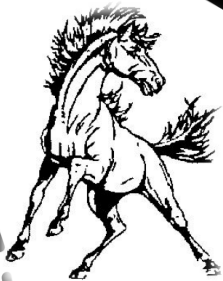
The basic idea of "living above or below the line" is that we are taking ownership of our behavior and learning how our choices affect our lives and the lives of others—both good and bad.

Why do we have this at HMS?

- To help students improve academically
- To help students develop healthy life skills
- To improve the climate of our school



A word cloud containing the following terms: helping, acceptance, responsibility, compassion, empathy, empower, positive, and choice. The words are arranged in a roughly rectangular shape, with 'helping' at the top, 'empathy' and 'empower' in the middle, and 'choice' at the bottom. The words are in various shades of gray and brown.



Mustangs Live ABOVE the Line

Kindness

Helping

COURAGE

RESPONSIBILITY

**POSITIVE
CHOICES**

Compassion

Acceptance

Empathy

BELOW THE LINE

JUDGMENT

SOCIAL EXCLUSION

**PHYSICAL
ASSAULT**

RIDICULE

TEASING

*We take responsibility for our own life.
We own our actions and behaviors.
We have greater control of our life.
We stop blaming others for our situation.*

1. I will show self-control over my own behavior & emotions.

ABOVE THE LINE
BELOW THE LINE

*We ignore our responsibilities.
We blame others for our shortcomings.
We make excuses for our behaviors.
We deny our ability to control our life.*



The Top 3 "Below the Line" Behaviors at HMS

- Spreading bad rumors about people
- Keeping certain people out of a group
- Teasing people in a mean way-name calling

• Data from HMS School Atmosphere Survey, Spring 2017

At HMS, we want to have a positive school atmosphere. Here's how YOU can help:

- Treat everyone with respect
- Stay away from rumors
- Include new people in your group
- Take responsibility for your mistakes and learn from them
- Report Below the Line behavior to a trusted adult
- Recognize Above the Line behavior

If you want to report Above or Below the Line behavior anonymously, you can use the SNAP box. What is the SNAP box you ask? The SNAP box stands for Students Need Assistance & Praise. There are 2 boxes—one is located in the hallway between the café and the gym; the other is located in the hallway to the left of the front office.

When Reporting Anonymously, Remember...

- Who was involved?
- What happened?
- When did it happen?
- Where (location) did it happen?
- Why did this happen?
- Possible Witnesses

Write it down on paper and put in the
SNAP box.



Why take this seriously?

Because it is the law!

The SAVE Act

(Schools Against Violence in
Education)

Says that schools should be a
place where kids can feel safe.

It is also TN policy and
GMSD policy.

How Above the Line Works

- Teachers follow their regular discipline plan.
- Parents may be contacted.
- Students may fill out a Think Sheet.
- Counselor or Administrator may be involved.
- Immediate response by administrator for Bottom Line Behaviors

Where are You Living?

Above the Line?

- Taking responsibility
- Showing integrity
- Demonstrating honesty

Below the Line?

- Denying
- Blaming
- Justifying

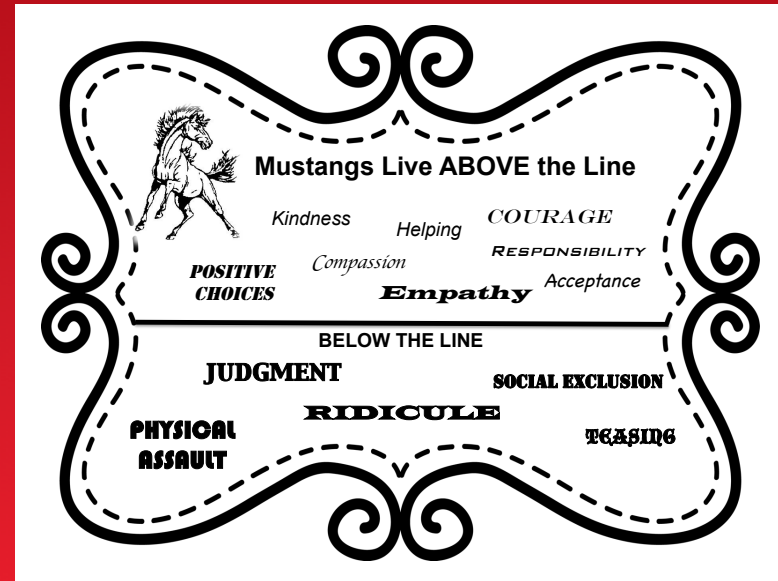
Bottom Line?

- Fighting
- Threatening others
- Repeated below the line behavior

Where are You Living?

Where do
You Want
to Be
Living?

We may visit
Below the
Line, but we
don't have to
live there!



REMEMBER

When someone is nasty
or treats you poorly,
don't take it personally.
It says nothing about you
but a lot about them.



**BE KIND,
FOR EVERYONE YOU
MEET IS FIGHTING A
BATTLE YOU KNOW
NOTHING ABOUT.**