# Congressman Phil Hare Supports PBIS

Contributed by Holly Sparkman
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Congressman Phil Hare, a member of the House Education and Labor Committee, voted for the Keeping All Students Safe Act, legislation which included a provision he authored to expand positive behavior supports in schools.

The State of Illinois leads the nation in implementing the Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS) program in its schools. The success is evident in the Rock Island-Milan School District: it has been 11 years since the program started at Thomas Jefferson Elementary. Now, it is a district-wide initiative. District Coordinator Diane LaMaster said Rock Island-Milan schools show marked improvement through tracking referral and out of school suspension data. “We offer many supports for students. Teaching behavior alongside academics benefits the learning environment for all students."

Representative Phil Hare visited the Primary Academy on Monday, March 8, to announce his support of expanding positive behavior supports in schools through an amendment in the Keeping All Students Safe Act. “School districts in Illinois has seen so many positive results with this program,” said Representative Hare. “We want to expand the opportunity at the federal level so all states can benefit.” Rep. Hare’s amendment to the legislation would provide financial assistance for schools to implement and sustain the PBIS program.