

Conflict Management Curriculum for Students: Kelso's Choice

Just as we have common character traits at all elementary schools, beginning with the 2011—2012 school year all BCSC elementary students will be learning how to solve conflicts using Kelso's Choice. The philosophy behind Kelso's Choice is that students are smart enough and strong enough to solve *small* problems on their own. For big problems, students should tell an adult they trust. Kelso the Frog is the program's mascot.

In the classroom, students will learn the difference between small problems and big problems. For small problems, students will be asked to try at least 2 of Kelso's Choices before going to an adult. These are the 9 choices suggested in the curriculum:

- Go to another game
- Talk it out
- Make a deal
- Apologize
- Walk away
- Wait and cool off
- Share and take turns
- Ignore it
- Tell them to stop

Having 9 choices gives students many options when trying to solve problems, since some choices will work better than others depending on the situation. Students will be encouraged to try using Kelso's Choice at home and other places they go, too!