

# Partnering with All Staff to Learn Fly Five Vocabulary



To ensure that every school community member is familiar with the Fly Five essential life skills vocabulary, foster a shared language of **cooperation, assertiveness, responsibility, empathy** and **self-control**.

## Fly Five Connections:

- **Cooperation:** Working together across roles to create a unified school community.
- **Assertiveness:** Communicating our needs, thoughts, and feelings in a respectful, straightforward way.
- **Responsibility:** Being accountable to ourselves and others in how we contribute to the school culture.
- **Empathy:** Understanding each other's roles and the emotions that drive our interactions.
- **Self-Control:** Managing our own emotions and behaviors, even in challenging situations.

**Target Audience:** All staff in the school (administrators, classroom teachers, counselors, lunch aides, custodians, office staff, special area teachers, etc.)

**Time Required:** 30–45 minutes (can be adjusted based on team size and level of discussion)

## Introduction to Fly Five (5 -10 minutes)

### Instructions for School Leader

- **Welcome and Purpose**

"Welcome, everyone! As part of our ongoing efforts to create a positive and supportive school culture, we will explore the Fly Five essential life skills. These skills—**cooperation, assertiveness, responsibility, empathy and self-control**—are important for our students, but they're just as important for all of us as staff members. Understanding and using these skills helps us create a cohesive and supportive environment for everyone."

- **Connect to School-Wide Culture**

"When everyone uses the same language and practices these skills, we create a unified community. Whether you're interacting with students, fellow staff members, or parents, these competencies guide our interactions and strengthen our school culture."

## Sharing the Vocabulary Reference Guide (10 -15 minutes)

### 1. Introduce the Vocabulary Reference Guide

"I'm going to share a **Fly Five Vocabulary Reference Guide**. This guide includes definitions of the five core competencies and examples of how they appear in everyday situations—whether in the classroom, hallway, lunchroom or during team meetings.

### 2. Distribute or Display the Vocabulary Guide

You can distribute printed copies of the guide or display it on a screen. Be sure to highlight:

- **Cooperation:** Working together toward a common goal.
- **Assertiveness:** Expressing thoughts, feelings, and beliefs in an open, respectful way.
- **Responsibility:** Being accountable for one's actions and their impact on others.
- **Empathy:** Understanding and sharing the feelings of others.
- **Self-Control:** Managing one's emotions, thoughts, and behaviors in different situations.

### 3. Discuss Real-World Applications

Ask participants to think about how these competencies apply to their roles. For example:

- **Lunch Aides:** How does **Empathy** show up when interacting with students during lunch? How does **Self-Control** come into play when students are excited or upset?
- **Custodians:** How does **Responsibility** look in your work? What does **Cooperation** look like when working with other staff to maintain a clean and safe environment?
- **Office Staff:** How do you model **Assertiveness** and **Empathy** when helping parents or responding to students' needs?



#### 4. Fly Five Connection

Reiterate that Fly Five is not just for students—it's a shared language for all of us. Using these terms consistently creates a school culture where everyone feels supported and valued.

### Group Reflection and Discussion (10 -15 minutes)

#### 1. Small Group Discussion

Divide staff into small groups and ask them to reflect on the following:

- How can you incorporate one of the Fly Five competencies into daily interactions with students and colleagues?
- What strategies can we use as a school community to ensure these skills are practiced by everyone in every space (classroom, office, hallways, etc.)?

#### 2. Group Sharing

Ask each group to share one insight or action step they came up with for integrating Fly Five language and skills into their role.

### Actionable Takeaways (5 minutes)

#### • Next Steps

"I encourage you all to keep the **Fly Five Vocabulary Reference Guide** visible—whether in your work area, desk, or phone. This week, take time to notice how **cooperation, assertiveness, responsibility, empathy and self-control** show up in your day-to-day work and interactions."

#### • Commitment

"Before we close, let's commit to one action we can each take to incorporate one of the competencies into our interactions this week. Whether it's a conversation with a student, colleague, or parent, let's actively choose to bring one of these life skills into the moment."