

## Sorry is not the hardest word.... No is....

- When we are overwhelmed we may not know how to set limits or get what we need from those who place demands on us and our children.
- If your home is feeling out of control and the demands of the school or your life are too much you need to make tough decisions every day.
- We are all in this together hut no one knows what

# How many ways can you say No?

- We all say "no" in our own ways.
- Ignoring a call
- Refusing to answer an email.
- Calling to yell at someone who is demanding too much.

#### Passive "NO"

- Saying no is often easiest to do when we do NOTHING.
- If you are feeling embarrassed or uncomfortable saying that you can't do something or don't know how, you may just avoid contact or fail to communicate.
- Feeling unskilled or overwhelmed makes everyone

#### Active "NO"

- Telling someone you can't or won't do something directly.
- Calling to yell at someone.
- Sending a refusal email or text.

# Saying no without saying "no"

- Yes. I heard your request, and I'll do that some other time.
- I don't know how to do that now, but maybe can work on it later.
- I'm not ready yet.....Ask me again in a week.

### It's ok to say NO

Self-care comes first.

11 . 1 .1 .

- Academics are not the most important thing in our lives.
- If you are working or caring for multiple children, or both you may have no time currently.
- Everyone's situation is different and you may not be

### Best practices

- Responding to requests is always better than avoidance or refusal.
- You can say no without having to share your life details.
- Asking for help or alterations to demands for your child is OK.

### Best practices

- Everyone is overwhelmed, so think before you yell or attack via messaging.
- Don't be afraid to offer alternatives to assignments that are practical (chores, projects, child care help).
- Focus on the activities your child finds interesting first and share that info rather than going quiet.
- Teachers are not going to fail students who communicate