



My name is Elena Tipton and I am from O'Connell Elementary in East Hartford and I am Connecticut's first kid governor. I would like to share with you my platform, which is kindness!

As kid governor, I have three goals I want to hit. First I want on every thirteenth of every month to be kindness day! So at your school I want you to get your friends and students super excited to be kind on the thirteenth. I will have a blog post at least twice a month about how to be kind. I want to hear from you about how your students are being kind. And if your class or your school emails me you might have a shoutout in the next blog post! I need you to help spread the word about the thirteenth of every month.

On to my second goal – I want at least ten schools to have this thing called a buddy bench. What is a buddy bench? I will tell you exactly what a buddy bench is. A buddy bench is a bench that is at recess and it literally says buddy bench on it and when someone doesn't have anybody to play with they go sit on it and another student goes and says hey why don't you come and play with me? By asking that simple question it can make somebody's day turn completely around! But your school might not have the money for it so you can take one of your old benches and put a picture of two buddies playing on it and poof you have a buddy bench. But this whole buddy bench idea was not my idea. An amazing superstar kid named Christian Bucks created the buddy bench with the help of his

principal. So talk to your students and having a buddy bench at your school so they can be super excited about being kind.

The last goal I have is to hear what the amazing kids of Connecticut are doing. So when you get back to your school talk to your friends and students about what they have been doing to be kind and feel free to email me about that. So you are probably thinking how am I going to reach my goals as kid governor? Well I am going to do this with all the help of the amazing teachers and students of Connecticut! The whole reason I did this is because I want our communities to come together and make the amazing state of Connecticut an even more kind place. I want the other states to be jealous of how kind and amazing we are and I need your help to do just that! To contact me and learn more about me and my platform, my blog, and the Connecticut's Kid Governor program visit CT.KidGovernor.org!

Thank you for your time – Be KIND!!