

March 1, 2019

Dear Somers Families,

Viral challenges and trends have quickly become a part of our children's online experiences and every day conversations.

The images and instructions can be both alarming and disturbing, the recent Momo challenge being a prime example.

I ask that you pay particular attention to what your children, at every age, are doing and seeing online. Please have a conversation with them about the harm these challenges and trends can do to their physical and emotional health.

While we are not aware of any particular instances involving Somers students directly, and we have a comprehensive internet filtering system in place in the district, no system is infallible. Parents' involvement in their children's digital world is crucial to their safety and well-being.

For tips on how to talk to your children about online safety, here is a website that compliments the guidelines students learn in school. Our school guidance counselors are ready to assist parents and students in dealing with these difficult issues.

https://www.dracutps.org/sites/dracutps/files/uploads/9_social_media_red_flags_parents_should_know_about.pdf

Sincerely,



Dr. Raymond H. Blanch
Superintendent of Schools