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Cyber Safety in Schools Parent Workshop
Adams Middle School on Wednesday from 6:30 to 8:30pm

January 6, 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians of Current Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Grade Students:

We would like to cordially invite you to a “Cyber Safety in Schools” presentation next **Wednesday evening, January 13 at 6:30 pm in the Adams Auditorium. This meeting is designed specifically for parents.** This presentation will be delivered as part of a joint collaboration between Onyen Yong, Assistant District Attorney and IT Director at the Middlesex District Attorney’s Office, and Adams Middle School staff. Up-to-date research and parent information provided by the Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center at Bridgewater State College will serve as the source of the information on adolescent cyber use and strategies for parents to use to educate their children on how to use the Internet, cell phones, and other emerging technologies responsibly. This presentation will be highly interactive between the presenters and the audience; if you have specific questions or concerns please share them during the meeting.

This presentation has been updated and substantially revised from last spring’s presentation based on parent survey feedback; there are four major outcomes that we have planned for this evening:

1. Overview of how boys and girls differ in their use with the Internet and updated information around cyberbullying.
2. Identify the issues and responsibility around cell phone use with specific discussion about the ramifications of adolescents’ use of text-messaging, sexting, picture and video-sharing.
3. Introduce five key principles of what adults need to know about how their children use technology, what kids don’t understand and how we (adults) can teach them to better understand the responsibility required to manage emerging technologies such as social networking sites, 3G phones, and on-line gaming.
4. Provide strategies to parents on how to establish and continue an ongoing dialogue with your child about how to manage Internet & cell phone use as well as introduce a parent/child Technology Contract.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (508) 429-0657 ext. 1106 or email harutunianj@holliston.k12.ma.us.

Sincerely,


John Harutunian