



March 1, 2019

Dear CSS families,

It has come to my attention that some students at CSS have been discussing the “Momo Challenge” that is circulating on the Internet and some have accessed YouTube videos of the image. I have done some preliminary research on the viral phenomenon and the most credible news outlets indicate that this is a hoax. However, it is truly frightening our kids.

So what is CSS doing about this? This morning I sent an email to teachers letting them know about this and asking them to monitor student internet use closely. Additionally, each 3rd-5th grade teacher will be discussing the purpose of our ChromeBooks and the consequences for using them inappropriately. We met with our district technology specialists and they are making efforts to ensure that our students are protected from such information. Our technology department constantly monitors inappropriate content that targets our students.

Keeping our students safe, both physically and emotionally, is the primary factor in providing an optimal learning environment for all students and we take this very seriously. I would like to share the following tips to support your child if you feel that it is developmentally appropriate (probably 3rd-5th graders):

- Become familiar with the “Momo Challenge” and talk to your children about the dangers involved and remind them that “Momo” is not real.
- Remind your child/children that if they come in contact with a “Momo” video, they should tell their parents, guardian or another adult.
- Supervise games that your children are playing.
- Ensure that electronic devices are restricted to age-appropriate content.
- Be mindful of videos your children are watching on YouTube or YouTube Kids.
- Remind your children not to give out personal information online to anyone that they do not know.

I am sharing two links to recent news stories for your information.

[Washington Post Article 3/1/19](#)

[BBC News Night 2/28/19](#)

Please feel free to contact me if you have concerns and/or suggestions. Thank you for the trust that you put in our school to educate your children and know that their safety is as important to us as it is to you.

Cougars CARE!

Martha Monahan, Principal