

March 4, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The safety and well-being of your child are our top priorities. It has come to our attention that there is a disturbing social media game called the "Momo Challenge" circulating online in the community.

We want to take proactive steps to educate our students about online use and exposure, and encourage parents/guardians to be aware of this challenge and monitor your children's use of social media and the Internet. The "Momo Challenge" can be found on Facebook, YouTube, and/or the "WhatsApp" and is disturbing in nature. The communications through the "Momo Challenge" begin with a chat that asks the receiver to perform small tasks and then escalates to more serious violent acts and request photographs for proof. The "MomoChallenge" is just one example of dangerous "games" through social media that has a negative impact on students and their social interactions.

The District does provide web filtering; however students accessing their own cellular network are not protected.

Please be warned that some of the images and stories related to this topic may be disturbing. [You can learn more about the "Momo Challenge" by visiting this link.](#)

Below are links that may be helpful in how you can ensure Cyber Safety.

1. [Common Sense Media](#)
2. [Media Guidelines for All Kids of All Ages](#)
3. [Safe Search Kids](#)

Sincerely,

Dr. Mary Suzuki,

Superintendent of Schools

Bear Valley Unified School District