



December 10, 2020

Dear CCS High & Middle School Parents,

We want to alert you to a potentially dangerous internet/social media situation involving someone outside of our community trolling the internet and sending unidentified invitations through various social media platforms to students in West Michigan. Right now, the scheme appears to focus on adolescent boys, but we want to make sure that ALL students are aware.

We've heard from neighboring school districts that some of their students are being asked to enter these unidentified virtual chat rooms and are being exposed to nudity on the other end. The students are then asked to expose themselves on the video. If the students follow this direction, the people responsible record the video and begin to blackmail families and threaten to expose the potentially embarrassing videos.

At this time, we have not been made aware of this happening to any of our students, but it has affected students in neighboring districts around the region. We want to make sure that our Caledonia families are aware so we can protect our students from being taken advantage of when using social media or connecting to their classrooms.

We ask that you discuss the content of this email with your students and follow these steps:

- Never enter any unidentified virtual chat room (via video games, Zoom, Google Meet, WebEx, Skype, etc.) Only attend those posted in your Google classroom or someone that you are personally familiar with.
- Never expose yourself on camera for any reason.
- If you receive a suspicious email invite, report it to your parent or guardian and the school.
- Keep your Instagram and other social media accounts set to private and do not allow messages from those who you do not follow or do not follow you.

Thanks for your assistance in keeping our students safe by having this important conversation immediately with your child.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dr. Dedrick Martin'.

Dr. Dedrick Martin
Superintendent