



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF HARPER WOODS
19851 Anita St., HARPER WOODS, MI 48225
313-245-3016 Tel. ~ 313-839-1249 Fax

March 1, 2019

Dear Parent(s) and Guardian(s),

As some of you may be aware, there has been recent media coverage about an internet challenge known as "The Momo Challenge." Allegedly, Momo targets children by encouraging them to text a number on various online applications which then sends them instructions to complete a series of increasingly bizarre and potentially dangerous tasks.

While there are reports that the threat of the Momo Challenge may be overstated, it is important that parents and guardians are aware of it. Please note, it is also being reported that the Momo Challenge may cause some students to feel afraid and/or anxious. We encourage parents and guardians to put safeguards in place to monitor websites and social media content your children are accessing.

Please contact building principals if additional information is needed. As always, your support and partnership is appreciated as we work together to keep Harper Woods children safe.

The critical takeaway from this is that parents are the best safeguard for children online.

Monitoring which websites and content your children view and continually talking with them about internet safety is the most effective way to increase online safety. Michigan's CyberSafety Initiative provides many resources that parents and educators can access, including age-specific information, online safety contracts, information about privacy settings, what parents should be aware of with hidden applications, and other safety information. You can access these resources at: [Michigan's CyberSafety Initiative](#). The [Internet Safety Online Resources](#) page has links to many helpful resources.

The following links include more information specific to the "Momo Challenge", along with additional suggestions for online safety:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/andyrobertson/2019/02/27/dont-panic-what-parents-really-need-to-know-about-momo-challenge/#6bc120463a4b>

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Other-Resources/News/Know-Momo-and-her-Deadly-Challenge-to-our-Youth>

Sincerely,

Mr. Steven McGhee
Superintendent

Providing all learners the tools needed to succeed in an ever changing world.

It is the policy of the School District of the City of Harper Woods that no discriminatory practices based on gender, race, religion, color, age, national origin, disability, height, weight, or any other status covered by federal, state or local law be allowed in providing instructional opportunities, programs, services, job placement assistance, employment or in policies governing student conduct and attendance. Any person suspecting a discriminatory practice should contact the Assistant Superintendent at the School District of the City of Harper Woods, 20225 Beaconsfield, Harper Woods, MI 48225 or call (313) 245-3000.