

# Flagstaff RSU/Eustis School Department Stratton School

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Michael P. Shea  
Superintendent

Barry London  
Principal

April 11, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Spring is upon us and April vacation is almost here! While it is time for vacation and a break from school, this is a quick reminder that even though school is not in session, our children still are communicating with one another through social media, face-time, texting and an occasional phone conversation. While some middle-schoolers do not have access to these means, the majority do and time out of school is spent communicating with peers this way.

Typically, most communications are positive, however, some can be negative and hurtful in nature. While these exchanges happen outside of school, these issues tend to come into school in the morning, with students upset about comments made the night before. The middle school is working on building empathy, becoming positive leaders, using effective communication and addressing bullying issues. We are asking parents to keep an eye on your children's communication with their peers via social media and technology and have discussions about how things are going with their friends.

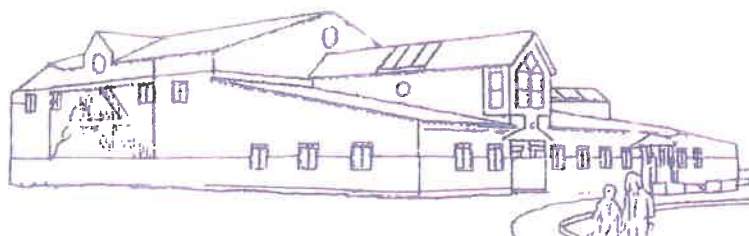
In today's society, cyberbullying and internet safety have become a pervasive concern. There are a variety of websites with good information on social media and children. I have provided two such sources for parents to review. They are; <http://kidshelath.org/en/parents/social-media-smarts>. and <http://internetsafety101.org/parentsguidetosocialmedia>. I strongly encourage you to use these sites to begin communication with your children about concerns regarding the use of technology and social media.

I am more than happy to provide guidance, information or resources to help with either parent and child communication on this subject. If your child is expressing concerns about bullying or cyberbullying we ask that you contact either Mr. London or myself so that we are aware and can address concerns here at school. Again while cyberbullying may happen outside of school, if it affects children in school then it must be addressed. Every student deserves to have a safe and comfortable school environment to learn and grow in. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Sincerely,



Andrea Drumstas, LSW  
School Social Worker



"A committed and caring community"