



Quilcene School District #048

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PARTNERING WITH COMMUNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS

Superintendent

Ron Moag

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September 28, 2023

Dear Quilcene Families,

Quilcene School District is committed to keeping families informed about important information impacting students and our schools. We received concerning information from the Seattle FBI yesterday evening warning schools about violent online groups targeting young people on social media and other public platforms. While we are not aware of any local or Olympic Peninsula incidents, we are sharing this information to promote awareness, encourage preventative conversations, and help families identify warning signs.

According to the FBI, the group, which goes by many names (676, 764, CVLT, Court, Kaskar, Harm Nation, Leak Society, and H3ll) targets minors on publicly available messaging platforms and extorts them into recording or live-streaming acts of self-harm or producing child sexual abuse material. This footage is then circulated among members to further coerce and exert control.

In reported cases, the groups target young people between the ages of 8 and 17, specifically LGBTQ+ youth, racial minorities, and young people who are impacted by mental health challenges like depression and suicidal ideation.

Encouragement and Awareness for Families

Talk with your student(s) about the presence of these groups online and urge them to be cautious when posting photos, videos, or any identifying information on social media, dating apps, or other online sites. Publicly posted images and videos combined with advancements in technology provide bad actors with a supply of content to target and exploit young people and foster criminal activity.

Monitor the online activity of young people and discuss risks associated with sharing personal information online.

- Understand the warning signs of self-harm and/or suicidal ideations and provide immediate support.
- Sudden behavior changes such as becoming withdrawn, moody, or irritable.
- Sudden changes in appearance, especially neglect of appearance.
- Dropping out of activities and becoming more isolated and withdrawn.
- Scars, often in patterns.
- Fresh cuts, scratches, bruises, bite marks, burns, or other wounds.
- Wearing long sleeves or pants in hot weather.
- Threatening suicide and openly talking about death or not being wanted or needed.
 - [Resource: Preventing Suicide: A Toolkit for High Schools](#)
 - [Resource: American Foundation for Suicide Prevention](#)

If you or your student needs support, please reach out to your school's counselor or principal. I understand this information may be disturbing, and our goal in sharing it is to provide families with awareness, resources, and support when navigating difficult conversations.

Sincerely,

Ron Moag
Interim Superintendent
Quilcene School District