

# Middle School Guidance



## Cyber Bullying

October 2010

Volume 8, Issue 3

What exactly is cyber bullying? The term "cyber bullying" is used to describe when a child, preteen or teen is tormented, threatened, harassed, humiliated, embarrassed or otherwise targeted by another child, preteen or teen using the Internet, interactive and digital technologies or mobile phones. It has to have a minor on both sides, or at least have been instigated by a minor against another minor. Once adults become involved, it is plain and simple cyber-harassment or cyber-stalking. Adult cyber-harassment or cyber-stalking is NEVER called cyber bullying. The Internet as well as smart phones have created a new world of social communications, while most interactions are positive, increasingly teens and kids are using the internet as well as text messaging to harass and embarrass others. Teen bullying are no longer restricted to the school yard and they are often online or on a cell phone, out of the sight of teachers and parents. According to

research, 75 percent of teens have been bullied online, as cyber-bullying is anonymous only 10 % of teens have reported the problem to parents or teachers. Some examples of cyber bullying might include: sending online threats, sending cruel or threatening e-mails or texts, using IM tools (Instant Messaging) harassing others, using someone else's e-mail to send incriminating e-mails, making sexual remarks via the Internet or SMS, revealing personal information, spreading lies and rumors about victims, posting pictures without the consent of the individual.

Due to the recent rise in cyber bullying among adolescents across the country, and to make students and parents aware of the dangers associated with cyber bullying, I contacted Mr. Richard Shaheen from the Attorney General's Office. Special Agent Shaheen conducts cyber bullying presentations for students and parents. Mr. Shaheen

will present three presentations to students at B.B.S.D. on November 4, 2010, as well as a parent presentation in the evening. The parent presentation will begin at 6:30 in the high school auditorium. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending this very informative meeting. If you have questions, please contact Mr. Smith in the guidance office.

### Quote of the month

"Don't go where the road leads, rather go where there is no road and make a trail."



**Stop Cyber  
Bullying!**

### Points of Interest:

- ✓ - Absent from school? Check out the teacher lesson plans by logging into the Logic House Parent Portal.
- ✓ - Excuses are due the day students return to school. A grace period of three days is allowed before becoming illegal.
- ✓ - Bullying information can be found at: <http://www.bbsd.com/bullying>

Contact Mr. Smith

Phone # 267 -6931

E-mail -  
[msmith@bbsd.com](mailto:msmith@bbsd.com)

Webpage - <http://www.bbsd.com/ms/faculty/marksmith>

## Important Upcoming Events

The following are a listing of important dates to remember:

**October 1, 2010** - First Nine Week Grading Mid-Term.

**October 8, 2010** - Homecoming.

**October 11, 2010** - ACT 80 Day. No school for students.

**November 2, 2010** - End of First Nine Week Grading Period.

**November 15, 2010** - ACT 80 Day. Parent/Teacher Conferences.

**November 24, 2010** - Early dismissal.

**November 25, 2010** - Happy Thanksgiving.

**November 26 through November 30, 2010** - Thanksgiving vacation.

**November 29, 2010** - Buck/doe

season begins.

**December 9, 2010** - Second Nine Week Grading Mid-Term.

**December 23, 2010** - Early dismissal.

**December 24, 2010** - Christmas Eve.

**December 25, 2010** - Merry Christmas.

