



Baldwin County Public Schools

Mr. Eddie Tyler, Superintendent

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Dear Parents:

As we all know, the Internet has drastically changed the way that children interact with the world. Not only do children have access to in-depth knowledge, but they also have unlimited access to people all across the world. Yet, in addition to offering a fascinating, new way of interacting with the world, the Internet also offers new risks: cyberbullying, exposure to inappropriate material, online predators, and the potential to reveal entirely too much personal information.

Learning to recognize the warning signs of these risks will allow children to potentially avoid some of the negative impacts of their use of the Internet. This is particularly needed since it is believed by some experts that cyber safety is one of the top health issues facing children today, ranking it just below drug abuse.

Compounding this problem is the fact that technology is rapidly evolving, which means that often times it is hard to keep pace with the latest cyber threats. Through the Baldwin County School System's partnership with the Baldwin County Child Advocacy Center, the Net Smartz curriculum, which is a multi-media Internet safety presentation, is taught to students in grades 2-8 as a way to empower them to be safer online.

Copies of the materials related to this program are in the counselor's office for you to preview prior to the presentation, or you may contact your child's school counselor if you have any questions.

SHOULD YOU DESIRE THAT YOUR CHILD NOT PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM, please feel free to contact the school so that alternate arrangements can be made for your child on the day of this presentation.

The program, which is entitled Net Smartz, will be presented at your child's school on

Sincerely,

Patrice Davis

Patrice Davis
Intervention Supervisor