

April 5, 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians:

As part of the middle school's anti-bullying initiative and continual focus on promoting digital citizenship, Canonsburg Middle School will hold a cyberbullying presentation for the students, faculty and staff tomorrow April 6<sup>th</sup>. Senior Supervisory Agent Richard Shaheen from the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office will be our guest presenter on the topic.

With the rapid advances in new communication tools (cell and data phones, iPads and iPod Touches, social networking sites – Facebook and Twitter, etc.), the exchange of information is instantaneous. Without adequate supervision and education, adolescent behavior, often impulsive in nature, results in misuse and abuse of such technologies.

At Canonsburg Middle School, we want to help you in that mission in as many ways as possible. All seventh grade students are taught a one-week unit on Internet safety and appropriate cyber conduct as part of our technology applications class. In addition, students learn about cyberbullying in their middle school issues class. This presentation will help reinforce the importance of appropriately using advanced technology tools.

Special Agent Shaheen will present a General Session on Cyberbullying. Using all of the resources available to the Attorney General's office, Mr. Shaheen will be sharing the most current and powerful information available to us. Special Agent Shaheen will focus on the identification, legal ramifications, and prevention of cyberbullying.

Please feel free to visit the Canonsburg Middle School website and select the district's Internet safety website link for more information about digital citizenship and appropriate use of the Internet.

Sincerely,

Dr. Taranto  
*Principal*