

# Pikeville Independent Schools

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Pikeville Independent Families:

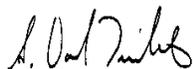
As we open this school year on red and follow our virtual learning model, we found it important to take the opportunity to discuss positive digital citizenship with our families. Technology is consistently changing and new methods of communication become available for our children almost weekly. It is important as adults that we work hard to assist our children in understanding the significance of using these means appropriately and in a positive manner. We continue as a district to explore additional teaching and training opportunities for our families and students to gain the best understanding of the safe and positive use of these methods of communication.

We want to encourage our families to consistently research these different platforms of communication being used by our children. We also encourage you to take the opportunity to examine your child's use of social media together, and share your expectations with them. Keep in mind, some of these are easy to find, but others are much more hidden and private. As a school district, we will continue to work hard to address anything that comes into our buildings and causes disruptions in the educational process, but we know that families have much greater access to these types of communication. Our hope is that you will share with your children that cyberbullying and other forms of harassment is not only unacceptable in your homes and our schools, but also against the law. When students engage in harassing communication, charges by other families can be filed and the situation can be addressed through the legal system, even when these behaviors are done in a way that they believe to be untraceable. In conversation with Chief Edmonds today, I assure you that our local authorities will continue to take any situation like this very seriously, and we will consistently work together to provide the children of our community with the safest possible environment.

During this time, whether it be social media or other concerns, it is important that we share with you that our counselors and other members of our team are available to assist with the social and emotional needs of our students. Please share this information with your children, as we want to assure they always know that we are available to assist them.

We appreciate the great start to the school year, and we appreciate the hard work that is taking place by our students, our team members and our families. We look forward to having our students in our classrooms and hallways very soon, and continue to value the opportunity to be your partners in educating our children in all necessary aspects of success. We hope each of you have a great evening!

Sincerely



S. David Trimble  
Superintendent