

# Counselor's Corner

October 2022



On January 11, 2022, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy signed into law S-1790/A-1662, also known as "Mallory's Law," in honor of Mallory Rose Grossman, a Rockaway Township middle school student, who died by suicide after being cyberbullied by her peers. This legislation updates the state's Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights. Below are some facts about cyberbullying:

- About 37% of young people between the ages of 12 and 17 have been bullied online. 30% have had it happen more than once.
- 95% of teens in the U.S. are online, and the vast majority access the internet on their mobile device, making it the most common medium for cyber bullying.
- 23% of students reported that they've said or done something mean or cruel to another person online. 27% reported that they've experienced the same from someone else.
- Girls are more likely than boys to be both victims and perpetrators of cyber bullying. 15% of teen girls have been the target of at least four different kinds of abusive online behaviors, compared with 6% of boys.
- Young people who experience cyberbullying are at a greater risk than those who don't for both self-harm and suicidal behaviors.
- 60% of young people have witnessed online bullying. Most do not intervene.

- 83% of young people believe social media companies should be doing more to tackle cyberbullying on their platforms.
- Only 1 in 10 teen victims will inform a parent or trusted adult of their abuse.

What can you do as a parent?

- Have an on-going discussion with your child about social media sites
- Make sure that your child's social media is **ALL** on private, not public
- Follow your child on their social media platforms.
- Set *limits and rules around time* on cell phone and social media

For the 2022-23 school year, Warren School district will be offering monthly parent information sessions that focus on social media (open to parents of children in grades fourth through eighth). Please watch for more information to be shared in the next few weeks.

For further details or information, please contact your child's guidance counselor:

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