

**North Shore Middle School
Parent Teacher Association
General Meeting**

11/14/11

Cyberbullying: What a Parent Should Know

Definitions

Drs. Hinduja and Patchin, the authors of the article found at <http://cyberbullying.org> define the term "cyberbully" as "when someone repeatedly harasses, mistreats, or makes fun of another person online or when using a cellphone or other electronic devices." The author of the article "Stopcyberbullying", WiredKids, Inc. provided this definition " Cyberbullying is when a child, preteen or teen is tormented, threatened, harassed, humiliated, embarrassed or other wise 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 been instigated by a minor against another minor. Once adults become involved, it is plain and simple cyberharassment or cyberstalking. Adult cyber-harassment or cyberstalking is never called cyberbullying".

Types of Cyberbullies

1. The Vengeful Angel
2. The Power Hungry Cyberbully
 - a. this includes the subgroup: Revenge of the Nerds
3. Mean Girls Cyberbully
4. The Inadvertent Cyberbully

What's a Parent to do?

1. Teach your children:
Stop: don't respond in anger
Block: block that account from ever contacting you again
Tell: an adult right away
2. Think before you click. use "JK" and "☺"
3. Teach your children to respect others
4. Keep your information private
5. Google your child's name and your own. Hopefully, nothing comes up.
6. Take 5. Take five minutes doing a pleasurable activity before going back to the computer or cell phone
7. Buy software for you to monitor your child's social media.

Tips

1. Find the place at school to report the cyberbullying.
2. Ask if reports can be given to school personnel anonymously.
3. Is there a peer counseling group at school that can address this issue?
4. Is cyberbullying taken seriously at your child's school?

References

www.cyberbullying.com. This website has a great deal of data on the subject.

www.WiredSafety.org This website has practical, hands-on information

www.stopcyberbullying.com This website is associated with WiredSafety.org and is totally devoted to the topic of cyberbullying.

Videos

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T38-9OCDrP4>

<http://www.slideshare.net/andymanj/a-parent-and-teacher-training-program-for-cyberbullying-detection-and-intervention>

Software

www.keylogger.com

www.eblaster.com

www.watchdogpc.com

www.spectorsoft.com