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Hello AMS families,

We hope this message finds you and your family healthy, safe, and well. Thank you for the positive feedback on the “AMS Misses You” slideshow from our faculty and staff. While it is not the same as having the chance to interact with students in person, it was a chance for us to let students know how much we miss them.

Our intent in reaching out for a midweek update is to ask for your partnership in communicating a message to our student body. In addition to this correspondence, we will send an email directly to students’ Avon Public Schools Gmail accounts with the same message.

This reminder is intended to reiterate our expectation for students’ conduct in a remote learning setting. It is critical that students demonstrate responsibility, resilience, compassion and curiosity, our four pillars, throughout the course of their remote classes. It has come to our attention that there have been instances of students taking photos/videos of their google meet video screens, altering those images, and posting those images to various social media platforms. While these instances are minimal, we wanted to reiterate expectations to ensure such actions do not continue. Such conduct is unacceptable in remote and/or brick-and-mortar learning environments. Therefore, all reported incidents are investigated by building administration and dealt with accordingly.

This is a vulnerable time for everyone. When students and staff are engaged in learning through online platforms, engagement is predicated on trust. Both students and staff are opening up their homes to one another, and in order for teachers to provide the best learning experience for students, and for students to engage to their fullest potential, everyone needs to trust that “the classroom” remains a safe place. All our students expect the same level of respect and trust from their classmates. At a time when personal connection is crucial to everyone’s well-being, we would be heartbroken if any of our students were uncomfortable showing their faces in a Google Hangout for fear of being photographed. So please, remind your students that any video taping or photos of classes is not only against our rules, it is an action that is below them, and the standards of the Avon community.

Furthermore, students have access to various tools associated with our google suite, as part of their remote learning. All of the google tools within the Avon Public Schools suite are monitored through our Gaggle (student and school safety electronic monitoring) system. Emails, google drive documents, google hangout chats, google meet chats, etc. are included in this monitoring. Some students have initiated google hangout “chats” on their computers and through the Google

Hangout cell phone app. These accounts were made with their Avon Public Schools Gmail account, and are sometimes accessed on their personal devices. **The google hangout chat feature should only be used for academic purposes, not for individual or group personal group chats.** Language that is deemed inappropriate for school is flagged, and building administration is notified. In some instances, these alerts include the superintendent and other central office personnel. As you can see, something a student says in a personal text, which can be completely benign, can initiate a chain of alerts that sends several personnel into action. School and district administration will continue to monitor and follow up with families if there are concerning messages flagged within the various Google Suite tools, to ensure safety and supervision for our students. We simply want both our students and you aware that the monitoring that took place while students were in the physical building is still in place in our remote learning environment.

As always, we appreciate your continued partnership and are here to support in any way. If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to us at any time.

*Dave & Kristina*

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[APS Remote Learning Student Conduct Protocol](#)