



East Providence School Department

145 TAUNTON AVENUE
EAST PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02914-4505



Kathryn M. Crowley
Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Celeste Bowler, Asst. Supt.
Dr. Sandra Forand, Asst. Supt.

February 28, 2019

Dear Families of East Providence,

As you may have heard on the news or social media, there are some new videos involving scary content that are appearing on the web. The "Momo" character is alleged to provide harmful instructions to its victims, ranging from vandalism to suicide. The "Momo Challenge" is a viral scare story that aims to cause panic and harm among members of the public.

East Providence School Department utilizes multiple internet filtering solutions to help prevent students from accessing content that is not age appropriate. Some recently posted videos have circumvented all filtering (including Google/YouTube's content protection) and made it into videos intended for children. The District is actively working to identify and block these videos from being accessed within the School Department.

It is important to understand that these challenges are across multiple social platforms to include Whatsapp, Minecraft, Reddit, SMS/MMS Messaging, etc. Most of these applications are not allowed on the school computers but are accessible from a student's personal devices (mobile phones and at home). Please take care to educate your children about these threats as they can appear in all sorts on online content, apps and games they play.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathryn M. Crowley
Superintendent of Schools