WEST OSO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

5050 Rockford Drive Corpus Christi, Texas 78416 (361) 806-5992

Mrs. RJ Alvarado Executive Director of Safety, Security and Student Services

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are writing to inform you about the growing concern of 'sexting' among teenagers and to provide guidance on how to address this issue with your child. Sexting is the act of sending, posting, or sharing sexually explicit images or messages via electronic devices, which can have serious legal and social consequences for students.

Important points to remember:

Legal ramifications:

In Texas, sending or possessing explicit images of a minor is considered a crime. It is also against the West Oso ISD Student Code of Conduct and the Texas Education Code.

Privacy concerns:

Once an image is sent, it can be easily shared with others, even without the sender's consent.

How to talk to your child about sexting:

Open communication: Have honest conversations about online safety and responsible digital behavior.

Set clear expectations: Discuss the potential consequences of sharing explicit images.

Empower them to say no: Encourage your child to speak up if they feel pressured to send inappropriate content. If you have any concerns about your child's online activity, please contact your child's school counselor or administrator or the Office of Student Services at (361) 806-5992. You can also access additional resources on digital safety on the following websites:

Sexting: How to Talk With Kids About the Risks- from the American Academy of Pediatrics-healthychildren.org/English/family-life/Media/Pag....

Talking About Sexting, Common Sense Media, at: commonsensemedia.org/blog/talking-about-sexting

Say No to "Sexting" (Grades 7-12), Planet Nutshell, at: planetnutshell.com/portfolio/say-no-to-sexting-

The Texas School Safety Center- "Before You Text Bullying and Sexting Course-https://txssc.txstate.edu/tools/courses/before-you-text/

Respectfully,

Mrs. RJ Alvarado Executive Director of Safety, Security and Student Services West Oso ISD