



# North Syracuse Central School District

**Annette Speach**

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Dear Parents:

*It takes a village to raise a child is certainly a fitting saying when it comes to policing the internet and our children's usage of social media. Each year the administrators and School Resource Officers assigned to our buildings spend more and more time investigating incidents involving social media. Although a vast majority of the posts, tweets, and chats are occurring outside the hours of the regular school day, the activity often impacts the school setting. It upsets the educational process and ultimately negatively impacts the learning opportunities for all students. We have seen an increase in inappropriate selfies and videos of school based incidents, such as fights, being posted. These actions can impede both school and a police investigation as well as continue to fuel emotions of those involved.*

*In the 2017-2018 school year, we are asking all North Syracuse Central School District families to assist both the district and Sheriff's Office in properly monitoring your child's internet and social media usage. Although our administrators like to have knowledge of potential issues from on-line activities, we cannot begin to be the only source to investigate. With that being said, involve law enforcement at the time of occurrence. More importantly, set parental controls as needed.*

*Due to such widespread misuse of social media by young people, the District Attorney's Office and the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office have instituted a Cyber Diversion Program. The North Syracuse Central School District will continue to utilize this program as an additional resource to educate students found in violation of the Student Code of Conduct. As parents and guardians, we ask for your continued support of our efforts in educating and keeping your children safe.*

Sincerely,

Annette Speach  
Superintendent of Schools