

The safety and well-being of Miami-Dade County Public Schools' students are of paramount importance. As such, we take every precaution to alert parents and responsible caregivers whenever we become aware of any possible dangers or concerns that may impact children.

International, national, and local media have been reporting on a disturbing Internet trend known as the "Momo Challenge". This challenge, which first surfaced last year, is regaining popularity, and involves a ghoulish character daring children through WhatsApp and YouTube Kids videos to participate in a series of dangerous and/or deadly acts.

While some reports indicate this is a wide-reaching hoax, there may be "copycat" videos circulating. Therefore, we feel it is important that parents and guardians be made aware of this concern and we highly recommend that this be used as an opportunity to talk to children about peer pressure, responsible internet use, and the importance of reporting suspicious and/or bizarre online content to an adult. Additionally, it is recommended that parents and guardians take time to set and/or review parental controls on children's electronic devices, as well as those they may have access to in the home.

Individuals who encounter questionable content or videos that appear to be related to the "Momo Challenge" are encouraged to report them to YouTube at:

<https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802027?co=GENIE.Platform%3DAndroid&hl=en>