



CULVER CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

***El Marino Language School***

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Dr. Myrna Rivera-Coté  
*Superintendent*

Tracy Pumilia  
*Principal*

June 7, 2010

Dear Parents of 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Students,

As we wind down this school year, I would like to address a recent incident that involved a number of El Marino students using and/or being exposed to inappropriate content on the Internet, particularly on the social networking site, Facebook. While the situation occurred after school hours, it did impact our instructional program and required immediate attention by the proper authorities.

The information that was reported has raised an important issue that is facing us as parents, educators and students at the elementary level. As our children are growing up in the context of this fast-paced technological culture, we need more education about the world of the Internet and social networking, so that we can properly limit the forum and keep our children safe.

**This Thursday, on June 10<sup>th</sup>**, we are arranging to have safety expert, Patti Fitzgerald, of Safely Ever After, Inc., (<http://www.safelyeverafter.com/index.html>) visit the 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms for an Internet and cyber-bullying safety lesson. As part of her 35-minute presentation, she will be sending home literature as a reference on the topics discussed. In addition, there will also be a window of opportunity for parents to talk with Ms. Fitzgerald. **If you are interested and available, please join us in the Library between 10:20-11:00 for an opportunity to meet with her, address your questions and plan next steps.**

As principal, it is my duty to address this issue in order to help our students understand the serious nature involved, as well as to impact their choices as they move forward. I appreciate your cooperation and interest as we work together to ensure the safety of your children.

Sincerely,

Tracy Pumilia

*An excerpt about Pattie Fitzgerald from the website:*

...Pattie Fitzgerald has been successfully teaching Child Predator Safety Awareness since 2001. She is the founder and creator of Safely Ever After, Inc. and provides effective, non-fearful safety workshops, seminars, and keynote speeches at schools, community organizations, churches, and corporations throughout the United States. She has trained many crime prevention educators and children's advocacy groups with her specialized programs, curriculum, and educational materials...