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“Before You Text” The Hazards of Digital Bullying and Sexting

Dear Parents of Bronte ISD Students:

As you may know, concerns began to emerge several years back across our nation around 2009, as researchers identified long-term consequences of sexual texting, better known as “sexting”. Sexting is defined as “the act of sending sexually explicit messages, photographs, or videos”. In an educational environment, sexting can result in both the bullying and harassment of individuals.

In an effort to educate parents and students regarding the consequences of sharing material that is of sexual content (or sexting), Bronte ISD is providing you with the information to complete an optional, free online course entitled “Before You Text” that parents and students can complete from your home.

Due to its content, the course is recommended by the Texas School Safety Center for parents and students who are ***at least 12 years old***. The training will cover such topics as: current culture, concerns, technology, laws, crimes, and individuals involved.

To access the FREE online course from your home computer, parents should email Jennifer Englert directly at jennifer.englert@bronteisd.net. Jennifer will reply to your email with a link for the course. In your email, please include the following statement: “My name is (parent’s name here), and I would like to request a link to the FREE online course “Before You Text”. I understand that, due to its content, the Texas School Safety Center has recommended this course for students 12 years old and older. I intend to provide the emailed link to access this course to (child’s name, age, and grade) and/or will use this course for myself as parent of a child at Bronte ISD.” Thank you for participating in your student’s development.

Sincerely,

Bronte ISD Administration